

FAQs about the CDL and COVID-19

9/23/2020

When a classroom closes due to COVID exposure, do the siblings in a non-affected classroom need to quarantine as well?

According to the CDC and information from our regional epidemiologist, only those children with direct exposure need to quarantine. A sibling in a non-affected classroom would be considered a contact of a contact and, as such, does not need to quarantine unless the sibling of the child in the closed classroom or any of their family members developed symptoms. If that happened, then all children and family members would need to quarantine. Their classroom would not be affected unless the child in the non-affected classroom who had developed symptoms was attending school when contagious.

Update to how notification will be given to families if a child or staff member has a positive COVID diagnosis:

The Department of Public Health (DPH) and Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) have created "Guidance for Georgia Child Care Facilities" which included notification letters that will be shared if a child or staff member has a positive COVID diagnosis. Notification to all will include the date the CDL administration was made aware and acknowledgement that your child has not been identified as a close contact and does not need to quarantine at home. In the affected classroom, a separate notification will be sent giving directives of the need to quarantine and additional relevant information.

Will a child have to self-quarantine if a parent or other family member is displaying any of the symptoms of COVID-19?

Yes. If anyone in the home is displaying any of the COVID symptoms (as indicated on the daily screening questions), all CDL children from that home will need to self-quarantine with them. Children will be required to remain at home until negative test results of the symptomatic family member(s) are received and provided to the CDL OR the 14-day quarantine period is over, with no symptoms presenting in the child(ren) or other family members. Families are encouraged to follow the advice of their medical providers regarding how long they should stay home in the absence of a COVID result.

Are UGA students going to in the CDL classrooms as subs or for the coursework?

Currently, we are not planning to have students in the CDL classrooms for coursework, internship placements, or observations for fall semester unless they are taking all classes on line and following outside of CDL social practices, as outlined in the Acknowledgement/Disclosure that will be agreed to and signed. Any subs, students or otherwise, will need to follow the same on site protocol, as well as the outside of programming practices to limit possible exposure to COVID-19. They will read and agree to follow the same Acknowledgment/Disclosure as our CDL staff.

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How will teacher absences be covered? Are students going to be used as subs for fall semester?

While we did the soft reopening, we were able to use our CDL teachers to provide coverage. Now that all the teachers have returned and a significant number of our CDL students, we are going to have to use students as substitutes in the classroom. Lori has reached out to those who were previously available and is having individual conversations with each who is still planning to sub. She is delivering the training to them that our teachers received, going over our protocol and procedures, and inquiring as to their social practices. Additionally, the student workers will sign the acknowledgement/disclosure and follow all safety measures that our regular staff are required to follow and implement at this time.

Will subs go to multiple classrooms or will there be assigned subs for each classroom so there is no floating between classrooms?

There will be no floating between classrooms within the same day. Pre-COVID, we were sometimes able to cover multiple classrooms' needs with the same sub, but we will not be doing that to prevent potential cross contamination. Lori is also intentionally working to try and assign the same sub to the same classroom for various days.

Back in July you had advised: "all substitutes will be required to meet the same requirements of CDL staff for health and safety and will, whenever possible, be assigned specific classrooms within which to work on a regular basis." Can you provide any assurances around "whenever possible"?

If a sub worked in infants on one day and then indicates they can be available to cover a shift in infants or YTs another day, Lori will assign them to infants again. Anytime it is possible to keep a sub within the same classroom, that will be the plan.

Will the CDL get notified if a substitute teaching student tests positive for COVID-19 and what will the CDL protocol be in that situation?

Anytime there is a positive COVID diagnosis of anyone who has been in a CDL classroom, the same protocol will be followed. Notification will be given to all that there has been a positive diagnosis and then families in the affected classroom will receive separate notification with specific guidance on needed actions.

We've seen numerous universities shut down in recent weeks as a result of the virus. Given this plan to use students as subs, what is the backup if UGA closes?

It would depend on if UGA just went to all on-line instruction or if students were not allowed to be on campus. Many of our subs are already only taking their classes on-line, thus limiting their possible exposure so, as long as it was permissible for them to be on campus to work at the CDL, then they would still be allowed in our classrooms. If they are not allowed on campus, the CDL

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would need to consider other options. What those options would be would depend on how many children remain in programming, what numbers of attendance are like on any given day, and other factors we would have to look at should this happen.

8/11/2020

What will happen if there is a diagnosed case of COVID-19 in a child or staff member?

- *Notification will be sent to the CDL parent listserv and specific directions, as given by our local health department, will be shared with the affected classroom. The means of notifying families will be the same as previously used with other reportable illnesses.*

What is the CDL's response to a suspected case of COVID-19?

- *If a child or teacher is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, they will need to seek medical advice and follow the doctor's orders around actions to be taken. There is also helpful information on the Georgia Department of Public Health's website regarding what to do if you are sick or exposed to COVID-19 <https://dph.georgia.gov/>*

What are the criteria for direct exposure to COVID-19?

- *There are three criteria that indicate direct exposure if you are in the presence of someone with COVID-19: less than six feet apart, with neither of you wearing masks, for more than 15 minutes.*

What do I do if I or my child have been exposed to someone with COVID-19?

- *Follow the guidelines as given by the Georgia Department of Public Health found here: <https://dph.georgia.gov/contact>*

What type of HVAC system does the CDL have and how does it account for proper ventilation?

- *The CDL's HVAC system was renovated completely in 2012-2013, primarily to meet requirements for NEAYC Accreditation. As part of the renovation, a modern HVAC system that consists of two components was installed- local units to cool/heat the spaces coupled with a building wide dedicated outdoor air unit to bring in fresh air and to provide ventilation. FMD is taking a deeper dive into the advanced controls of the system to see if we can increase the amount of outside air (called demand control ventilation); however doing so could increase the temperature and humidity in the space. We have to balance the percentage of outdoor air with the amount of air that the HVAC system can effectively cool and dehumidify.*

Does the CDL have HEPA filters? If not, can these be installed?

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- *Our HVAC system does not have HEPA, nor can it be added without a major and total HVAC renovation of both the air handler as well as all of your ductwork. HEPA filtration is usually indicated in very specific situations- hospital operating rooms and high containment laboratories are good examples. Given the age of our system, it would have been designed for MERV 11 filtration. Since this system operates with two parallel subsystems rather than a single centralized unit, UV devices are not present.*

Will children who have traveled be required to self-quarantine for 14 days before returning to programming?

- *Whether or not a child is required to self-quarantine after traveling is dependent on multiple factors (where the family went, how they traveled, what activities they participated in while out of town). The CDC after-travel precautions will be referred to, information gathered from the family, and a determination made with a health experts input. Information on traveling can be found here:*

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/after-travel-precautions.html>

It is critical that any family traveling inform the CDL Administration.

7/24/2020

What are the protocols for if/when a child or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19; what will happen to the rest of the classrooms if someone tests positive in another classroom? Will they remain open? What if the affected child has a sibling in another classroom at the CDL? Will the sibling's classroom also close?

- *If there is a positive diagnosis of COVID-19 in a child or staff member, there are three calls that will be made: 1. Bright from the Start: DECAL (licensing agency); 2. FACS (UGA has a contact tracing system so all diagnosed cases on campus must be reported); 3. Health Department who will ask questions, gather information, consider what is happening in the community, and direct us as to how to respond. The response given will depend on various, varying factors so there is no concrete plan that can be created.*

Will we be informed if someone from another classroom tests positive for COVID-19, the same way we are informed about other illnesses?

- *Our plan is to send notification to all families as we have in the past with all reportable illnesses (strep throat, conjunctivitis, etc)*

What are the criteria for if/when the CDL closes again due to COVID? If UGA classes end up being online and the campus remains closed or less staffed, will this impact the CDL?

- *Directives for UGA students would not dictate if the CDL remains opens or closes. We would close under the mandate of UGA as it relates to UGA staff, Bright from the Start: DECAL, or local or federal ordinances.*

What will happen if local schools close or operate virtually?

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- *The decisions of area school districts would not dictate the CDL's closure. In March, this factor had to be considered because it happened so quickly and affected a significant portion of our teachers. Those with children in area schools are making arrangements to be able to return to the CDL regardless of whether their children's school opens as scheduled, or not.*

Will there be additional support staff in case lead and assistant teachers need to self-quarantine or are unable to come to school for any reason (e.g., if their own children are out of school)?

- *Teacher absences, for whatever reason, will continue to be handled as they have in the past. Intentional efforts will be made to keep support staff and/or subs within the same group of children and the assigned administrator for the classroom may step in to assist as needed.*

Since we won't be allowed in the building anytime soon and will not be able to observe our children in the classroom, are there plans to add cameras in the classroom?

- *A quote has been acquired for a video/audio system, but there are no plans for that to be installed in the immediate future due to the financial climate of the university. Some teachers have suggested using Zoom or other live stream capabilities to share with parents particular parts of the day and "invite them into" the classroom.*

Why does *full*-tuition still need to be assessed in the event that the CDL closes?

- *Assessing full tuition in the event of a future closure ensures us that our teachers will continue to receive their salaries and benefits. While 80% of tuition is used to cover this cost, that is based on full enrollment across programming. Understandably, during the time of the past closure, several families withdrew their children from programming. Planning for this to happen in the event of a future closure, full tuition, rather than partial needs to be assessed to adequately and confidently cover our teachers.*