

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

INFORMATION BULLETIN, APRIL 29, 2020

FOR EDUCATIONAL CHILDCARE PROVIDERS

The Ministère de la Famille (the “Ministère”) is aware that the most recent announcements about the gradual reopening of Québec’s childcare services network have raised many questions for childcare establishments and parents alike.

This information bulletin and the following ones will try to answer as many of these questions as possible. The FAQs, available online (<https://www.mfa.gouv.qc.ca/fr/services-de-garde/coronavirus-fermeture-sdg/Pages/index.aspx>), will also be updated frequently.

Planning tool regarding parents’ childcare needs and the Ministère de la Famille survey

As mentioned in the two latest bulletins, you will also find enclosed the **Planning Tool for the Gradual Resumption of Educational Childcare Services** (designed to help you find out the childcare needs of the parents who use your services and to organize and plan the children’s reintegration according to the government-established priorities), and the **procedure for using the tool and for the weekly survey**.

Administrative tolerance

As was announced on March 12, 2020, the Ministère instituted a degree of administrative tolerance for all standards that may be affected by staff absences, provided that the children’s health and safety is not compromised. It also suspended certain inspection follow-ups and maintained the processing of complaints. These measures are now extended until further notice.

The Ministère asks the home childcare coordinating offices to apply similar measures with respect to home childcare providers (HCPs).

HCPs and number of children

Regarding the number of children you are permitted to receive during one or another of the phases, this number includes your own children under nine years of age as well as any children under nine years of age who normally live with you and who are present when you provide services.

Committees working with associations and labour relations committees

Beginning this week, the Ministère will be holding work sessions with various groups to discuss the different questions and concerns raised by the return to normal.

These work sessions will allow all the specific realities in the various types of childcare settings to be taken into account in the responses being prepared at the Ministère, and ultimately ensure a safe return to work and quality services for the public during these exceptional times. We thank all participants in advance.

Reminder – Public health recommendations

As mentioned in the email sent with the April 28, 2020 information bulletin, the interim recommendations regarding childcare workers issued by the Institut national de santé publique du Québec (INSPQ) are available online (in French) at <https://www.inspq.gc.ca/sites/default/files/covid/2984-travailleuses-services-garde-covid19.pdf>

Information on the procedure for obtaining protective equipment will be sent to you shortly.

Funding, labour relations and the workforce

Information on funding, labour relations and the workforce will be sent to you in an upcoming bulletin.

Additional information

If you have any questions, we refer you to the following pages:

- <https://www.mfa.gouv.qc.ca/fr/services-de-garde/coronavirus-fermeture-sdg/Pages/index.aspx>
- <https://www.quebec.ca/sante/problemes-de-sante/a-z/coronavirus-2019/>

If you do not find the answers to your questions on these websites, please call the Centre des services à la clientèle et des plaintes of the Ministère at the toll-free number 1-855-336-8568, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.