



Strengthening the early learning and child care community through vaccinations and infection protection and control (IPAC) measures

The Children's Services Division was extremely pleased with the province's announcement to prioritize child care workers for vaccinations effective April 29, 2021. This is a vital step in protecting both staff and children in the early learning and child care community. We encourage all eligible child care workers to [book their vaccines](#).

Continued infection protection and control measures

As vaccinations of child care workers proceed, the battle against COVID-19 continues. Getting vaccinated is one of the most important tools to fight COVID-19, but it is not 100 per cent effective. It is important that the community remains diligent in following all health and safety protocols as well as all public health guidance, even after staff are vaccinated. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Screening all, staff, children, and essential visitors before entering the child care facility.
- Following all cleaning and disinfection protocols.
- Wearing required personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Following physical distancing and cohort protocols.
- Following all protocols outlined in the [Operational Guidance for Child Care During COVID-19 Outbreak](#), as well as Durham Region's Health Department requirements.

Available resources

Various resources are available to support the ELCC community with health and safety protocols during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- [Sample health and safety policies](#) are updated regularly to support the development of required operator policies and procedures.
- The [Durham Region Screening for Licensed Child Care](#) tool is available for use to screen children, staff, and essential visitors.
- Durham Region's website, including both the [Early Learning and Child Care](#) and [Health Department](#) web pages, provides a wide range of information related to COVID-19.
- Operators can contact their Quality Assurance Advisor for questions and support.
- The Durham Region Health Department can be contacted at 905-668-2020 or through Durham Region's [website](#).
- Parents can reference the [parent FAQ](#) on the Durham Region website