

CIRCULAR

Date: May 5, 2020

CIRCULAR NUMBER: COVID-19: 2020-79

To: All school divisions, child care centres, ELCC program staff

Subject: Child care centres located in schools can operate

Program(s): All

Type: Policy For Internal Reference Only
 Procedure Information Only

Effective Date Immediately

Topic: Child care centres in schools can stay open or re-open

Child care centres located in schools or on school property in all provincial school divisions are able to stay open or re-open to provide temporary child care services in accordance with all existing public health and program guidelines. Temporary child care services are available to support any family requiring care as a result of the staged re-opening of Manitoba's economy.

For centres that are willing to re-open, please note:

- Programs are not required to provide evidence of provincial approval in order to have permits reinstated.
- Centres intending to re-open should notify the Early Learning and Child Care Program and complete the online form located at: <https://eswchildcare.ca/>

Centres that provide before, noon and after-school programs that wish to extend services and re-open as a full time child care centre under a provincial licence should contact their host school division to review any logistical requirements. This includes whether appropriate space is available, sanitation needs in bathrooms or other school spaces, and the removal of teaching materials or other items located in shared educational spaces.

Please note that all families are now eligible to access child care, and access is no longer restricted to critical workers. Please continue to direct parents to the online Temporary Licensed Child Care Search tool to connect them with child care facilities. Families can also access any available temporary spaces at a child care facility they have been using in the past.

- Parents can access this tool at: <https://eswchildcare.ca>
- Facility log-in can be accessed at: <https://eswchildcare.ca/Identity/Account/Manage>

If you have any questions, please email cdcinfo@gov.mb.ca or call Manitoba Government Inquiry at 204-945-3744 or toll free 1-866-MANITOBA (1-866-626-4862). Manitoba Government Inquiry staff are working with the ELCC program, including child care coordinators, to respond directly and refer calls and emails when needed.

Sincerely,

Early Learning and Child Care Program