

Registration – Indoor and Outdoor Programs

- Registration is required to participate in all programs.
- Registration will be done via the MCRC website.
- Participants will receive the Health Screen and EarlyOn Program Participation Guidelines via email upon registration.
- Registration information will include names of adults and children, phone number, email, and address to facilitate contact tracing in the event of a confirmed COVID-19. The collection of personal information will be limited to what is essential and will only be used for the purpose for which it was collected. Personal information will not be shared without the explicit written permission of the individual. Registration information will be securely stored on site electronically.
- EarlyOn staff will have an attendance list for each program and only those on it will be permitted into the program.
- Registration will close the day prior to the program, at 4 pm.
- No dropping in or last-minute registrations will be permitted.
- Attendance lists will include time of arrival and departure from the program. Staff will mark off the attendance as opposed to the parent/caregivers signing in.

Screening Process

- Educators/staff have completed MCRC's Returning to Child Care Operations Staff Training and passed a daily Health Screen prior to program.
- Additional staff will be present to screen participants and ensure non-participants do not engage in the outdoor program areas.
- MCRC screening staff will wear PPE as required, (face shield, mask and gloves) while in proximity of participants. The Screener will review participant's Health Screens and complete the attendance.
- Participants will receive a copy of the Health Screen upon registration for their review and be required to complete a paper copy of the Health Screen onsite. All paper copies will be kept onsite during program and transferred to appropriate office files after program in case there is a need for contact tracing.
- Multiple pens will be available to use when completing the Health Screen and will be sanitized in between each use.

- While waiting to be screened, participants will stay 6 ft apart, marked appropriately where possible.
- Anyone who answers “yes” to a question on the Health Screen will be refused entry to the program and referred to contact Halton Region at 311.
- Participants are required to sanitize hands before entering the outdoor areas. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol content will be provided at the screening station, out of the reach of children. For indoor programs, sanitizer will be required before entering the elevator and handwashing required upon entry to the program room.

Program Guidelines for Outdoor Programs

- The designated program area will be identified with pylons and signage to avoid entry without prior registration.
- Physical distancing of at least 2 metres between families is required and will be supported with marked designated seating areas for each family. Any equipment used to mark the designated areas will be disinfected before and after program.
- Singing activities will occur outdoors only, with the 6 feet physical distancing in place.
- While physical distancing measures will be in place, it can be challenging to enforce with children, so masks are also encouraged for anyone over the age of 2.
- MCRC understands that face coverings may not be tolerated by everyone based on underlying issues. Consideration will be given to any possible physical and psychological issues that may be caused by wearing a face covering.
- Masks will not be required in the Mother Goose program as those children are non-mobile and physical distancing can be ensured.
- Face coverings will be requested to be changed if they are visibly soiled, damp, or damaged.
- Full PPE (face shield, mask, gloves) will be used in the case of an EarlyOn staff needing to be closer than acceptable to another person (First Aid, CPR).
- Minimal, if any, materials or equipment will be used to reduce risk of contact. If materials are used, they will be provided directly to each family to use independently and placed in a bin after program to be disinfected by the EarlyOn staff according to MCRC’s COVID Enhanced Health and Sanitary Procedures.
- Families will be encouraged to bring their own blanket and fidget toys or infant toys for their children, if required.
- Families will be notified that playground equipment and washroom facilities are not available at the park.

Program Guidelines for Indoor Programs

- Program rooms will be set up to allow for physical distancing, but while these measures will be in place, it can be challenging to enforce with children, so masks are also encouraged for anyone over the age of 2 and mandatory for anyone over the age of 5.
- MCRC understands that face coverings may not be tolerated by everyone based on underlying issues. Consideration will be given to any possible physical and psychological issues that may be caused by wearing a face covering.
- Face coverings will be requested to be changed if they are visibly soiled, damp, or damaged.
- Full PPE (face shield, mask, gloves) will be used in the case of an Educator needing to be closer than acceptable to another person (First Aid, CPR).
- All EarlyOn staff will be wearing appropriate PPE, a face mask and eye protection (face shield or goggles).
- Adults will be required to use hand sanitizer (provided) before using the elevator. Use of the elevators will be one family at a time.
- All participants will be required to wash hands with soap and water upon entering the program rooms.
- Participants are asked to only bring essential items to the program and will be given a space to put their personal belongings, spaced apart from others.
- Food is not permitted in the programs as it creates a challenge for health and safety practices. Labelled drink containers may be brought in and kept with the participants belongings.
- Any creative or sensory materials will be provided and used individually, on a one time use basis.
- All toys and materials are one use only and are to be put in a marked bin to be sanitized after each use.
- Plush, porous and non-washable materials have been removed from the rooms.
- Numbers of participants permitted in each room have been reduced to allow for physical distancing.
- There will be no singing indoors, clean up and goodbye will be signalled with a bell or music instead of the usual singing and circle time.
- Washrooms will be sanitized after each use by an EarlyOn staff.
- Cleaning and Sanitizing of high contact surfaces will occur at least twice a day. Other areas will be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- To avoid unnecessary cross over contamination, program times are spaced apart appropriately.

For additional information please see MCRC's COVID Response Policies and Procedures on our website.