

Dear Care Center Families and Staff,

We were notified today, January 8, 2021, that an individual who was in the West Chester Care Center facility is showing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and is considered presumptive positive for COVID-19. We have contacted the Chester County Health Department (CCHD) regarding this incident, and we are following their guidelines. The individual will quarantine at home for 14 days per the CCHD's guidance.

At this time, it was determined that the individual had direct contact with eight people. **Based on the recommendations provided by the CCHD, the West Chester Care Center will close and have virtual instruction, with a return to in-person learning on Tuesday, January 19. It is recommended that all students and staff self-quarantine during this time.**

Per the established protocol, we are completing deep cleanings and will sanitize all the affected areas, including using an electrostatic mist sprayer to disinfect. Please know that our protocols include daily deep cleaning of our facilities, and cleaning of high-touch surfaces throughout the day.

We understand that news such as this is alarming during the pandemic. Please know we are taking every precaution in the interest of staff and students' safety, as informed by the Chester County Health Department and the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services. If you have any questions regarding your health, please contact your health care provider. If you have further questions about the safety and precautions that we are taking at the CCIU, please contact me.

The Chester County Intermediate Unit considers our staff and students' health and well-being to be of the utmost importance. We are committed to providing timely and transparent information to the greatest extent possible to continue making informed decisions regarding your health.

Your support by wearing a mask (for those that are able), washing your hands frequently, and smart social distancing, among other precautionary steps, is critical to help mitigate risk for yourself and others.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on their assigned return date!

Sincerely,

Tamara Acuna

Head Start and Related Services Supervisor