

Considerations for Cleaning Facilities

In addition, the CDE offers the following considerations for cleaning ELC classrooms:

- Consider removing materials from the classroom that are difficult to clean (e.g., soft toys).
- Follow regular cleaning protocols and use a disinfectant recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as being effective against coronavirus. A list of such disinfectants can be found on the EPA website at <https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus>.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, including but not limited to:
 - ❖ Door handles, crash bars, and doorknobs
 - ❖ Entry windows
 - ❖ Office counters and surfaces
 - ❖ Handrails
 - ❖ Sinks and drinking fountains
 - ❖ Dispensers
 - ❖ Desks and tables
 - ❖ Restrooms
 - ❖ Anything else that is handled frequently by multiple children and staff.
- Clean and sanitize all toys at the end of the day.
- Clean any machine-washable items safely at the warmest setting possible.
- Keep a designated bin for separating toys that have been in children's mouths. When a child is done with a mouthed toy, place it in a bin that is inaccessible to other children and wash hands. Clean and sanitize toys prior to returning them to the children's play area.
- Increase the ELC program's cleaning and disinfection routine to multiple times per day, including measures to ensure children do not come in contact with cleaning supplies.

The California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety and Health released the Safety & Health Guidance: COVID-19 Infection Prevention in Childcare Programs, which offers additional guidance and can be found at <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Infection-Prevention-in-Childcare-Programs-Guidance.pdf>.

The California Childcare Health Program offers a Health and Safety Manual, which is located at <https://cchp.ucsf.edu/content/cchp-health-and-safety-checklist-users-manual> and Checklist, which is located at <https://cchp.ucsf.edu/content/cchp-health-and-safety-checklist-users-manual>. These are associated with the Caring for Our Children national health and safety performance standards and guidelines for early care and education programs located at <https://nrckids.org/CFOC>, which includes guidance on Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting at <https://nrckids.org/CFOC/Database/3.3.0.1> and Prevention of Exposure to Body Fluids located at <https://nrckids.org/CFOC/Database/3.2.3.4>.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) offers a page of guidance for the following: For Child Care Programs That Remain Open located at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html#clean> and Interim Guidance for Administrators of US K-12 Schools and Child Care Programs located at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools.html>.

CDC also has a guide on How to Clean and Disinfect Schools with information relevant to early learning and care providers which can be found at https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/freeresources/updated/cleaning_disinfecting_schools.pdf.