

THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

Crèche Re-Opening in the Face of Covid-19

■ Frequently Asked Questions

January 2022



■ **Is it safe to reopen crèches in 2022?**

Despite being grappled by the negative health effects of covid-19, we have to carry on with our life. Childcare is an essential service.

Childcare workers must continue with their business to earn a livelihood and families especially women, need a safe space to leave their children as they go to work to earn a livelihood. We must reopen the economy.



■ **If we do open, what protocols should we put in place in the reopening to ensure everyone's safety?**

- Vaccination of childcare givers
- Provision of adequate water
- Provision of adequate handwashing equipment and soap
- Provision of adequate sanitizers in cases where there is no water (however, this is discouraged because sanitizers are flammable and therefore potentially hazardous)
- Improved nutrition and meals for children
- Increased vigilance and management of visitors
- Masking up of caregivers, visitors and children (for those of age)
- On site observation of Ministry of Health protocols and temperature checks
- Ensuring that no child or care giver exhibiting symptoms is allowed in the facility



■ What are the risk factors of reopening?

- Increased spread of the covid-19 infection
- Increased cost of running the facilities which may eventually be passed on to the women / families seeking the services

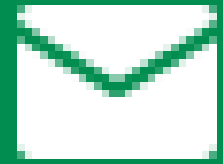


■ **Any other factors to consider and put in place including guidelines and policies?**

- Government to review the regulations on space, design and number of children in a facility
- Government to consider subsidies on the licenses and the cost of running these facilities
- Incentives to be considered to revamp the sector
- Continued sensitization of childcare givers/ workers on health protocols



For more information or questions kindly contact us via the channels below:



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