



**Department of Health
& Mental Hygiene**

**Department of
Education**

May 29, 2020

Dear Families,

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide resources for your child at our Regional Enrichment Centers (REC). The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) and the Department of Education (DOE) continue to collaborate on keeping students, families and staff members safe, healthy, and informed as the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic evolves. The health and safety of our communities remains our top priority and we will continue to provide guidance and take all appropriate measures to keep our students, families, and staff members safe.

Two weeks ago, we shared some information with you regarding the Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (PMIS), a rare condition that is potentially life-threatening in children. Last week, we learned from DOHMH that the condition was renamed Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C). Guidance issued by DOHMH remains in place, and we urge you to visit nyc.gov/health at any time for this important information related to MIS-C. There, you will also find the MIS-C [Fact Sheet](#), provided last week and newly translated into multiple languages [here](#).

Although MIS-C is a rare condition and not contagious, it is potentially life-threatening. It is important to know the signs and symptoms of MIS-C, which include persistent and high temperature lasting several days as well as:

- Irritability or sluggishness
- Abdominal pain without another explanation
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Rash
- Conjunctivitis, or red or pink eyes
- Enlarged lymph node (“gland”) on one side of the neck
- Red, cracked lips or red tongue that looks like a strawberry
- Swollen hands and feet, which might also be red

We will continue to take precautions to prevent your child from being exposed to COVID-19 while attending a REC site. Your REC site will continue to provide face coverings which is for each child in attendance, and all children will continue to be required to wear face coverings while in attendance. Students and staff will continue to practice good hand hygiene and physical distancing. Staff will continue to teach and reinforce these habits to all in attendance.



**Department of Health
& Mental Hygiene**

**Department of
Education**

Children with chronic medical conditions can be at higher risk for poor outcomes of COVID-19 and should take special care to adhere to prevention measures. If your child becomes ill with a continued fever, please call your doctor. Please make sure you document all of your child's symptoms since your doctor will use the information to recommend next steps. If your child is severely ill, please visit the nearest emergency room or call 911 immediately.

Please visit nyc.gov/health at any time for the latest information on MIS-C, and contact 311 with any questions. Please contact your REC site supervisor with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Carranza
Chancellor
NYC Department of Education

Oxiris Barbot, MD
Commissioner
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene