



Finding Care for School-Age Children as Schools Reopen Remotely Steps for Success: Partnering with Child Care and Schools

Make a Plan

1. Decide who will care for your child while the adults in the family are working. Families can consider multiple options including licensed child care or family, friends and neighbors or a combination of caregivers.
2. Learn about sources of financial help in paying for child care. Child Care Aware of Washington's Family Center can help. 1-800-446-1114
3. Find out from your child's school what they need for remote learning.

Choose a Child Care Provider

1. Contact Child Care Aware of Washington for free help finding child care providers who serve school-age children near you. See box at right for what to look for.
2. Visit with any child care provider you choose before your child's first day there, even if it is a virtual visit due to the pandemic.
3. Introduce your child to all their caregivers before the first day, even if it is a virtual introduction.

Partner With Your Child's Teacher

1. Let your child's teacher know who will be caring for your child during the hours when students are learning remotely. Make sure your child's teacher has the names and contact information for all of your child's caregivers.
2. Sign a release form allowing your child's teacher to discuss remote learning plans and instructions with your child's caregivers.
3. Share your child's school schedule with any caregivers caring for your child during remote learning times. Keep all caregivers informed about changes.

Prepare Your Child

1. Role model positive relationships with your child's caregivers and school staff. Emphasize that you are all on the same team.
2. Practice logging in for remote learning on the device your child will be using, and practice mask-wearing for extended period.
3. Explain to your child why you have chosen the care options you selected.

Child care providers can help working families with school-age children ages 5-12 who need care that can support remote learning.

Child Care Aware of Washington provides free help to families searching for child care. Families can search online for child care that serves school-age children at <https://childcareawarewa.org/families/> or they can call our Family Center for help in any language. 1-800-446-1114

What to look for in a child care provider:

COVID-19 Infection Prevention Strategies

- Is the program actively working to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by practicing physical distancing, mask wearing, hand washing and extra sanitizing?
- Are drop-offs and pick-ups handled in ways that minimize multiple family interactions and reduce the need for family members to enter the facility?
- Are health checks conducted for each child before entry to the program?

Learning Environment

- Can the program support my child's remote learning needs?
- Are the activities appropriate for my child's age and interest?
- Does the staff encourage language, social and problem-solving skills when talking with children?

License

- Licensing provides additional oversight and requirements. Make sure any provider you choose is licensed by visiting <https://www.findchildcarewa.org/>

