

# China ECE Policy Response to COVID-19

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## 1. Government Responses to COVID-19 Concerning ECE

### 1.1 Establishing the National Leading Office

The Ministry of Education promptly established a *National Leading Office in Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak*, with Dengfeng Wang as the administrator who is also the director of *Department of Sports, Health and Arts Education of MOE*, and an expert on clinical psychology. The Leading Office has been taking charge of the overall anti-virus affairs concerning all sectors of education, including making and issuing the health guidelines, rearranging the schedule for the new semester, and reinforcing the inspection and supervision of health education and disease prevention. Meanwhile, governments at regional and local levels established corresponding counterparts.

(source:MOE. <http://www.moe.gov.cn/was5/web/search?channelid=244081>)

### 1.2 Building a Policy Framework to Precisely Control and Prevent COVID-19 Spread (including ECE)

The China Center for Disease Control and Prevention made an announcement and issued a series of policies concerning the specific measures, supervision process and working mechanism to implement anti-virus work on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020. There are 15 documents and two of them are directly related to ECE.

- 附件：1. 人员健康管理技术方案  
 2. 新冠肺炎“四早”技术方案  
 3. 医疗机构新冠肺炎防控技术方案  
 4. 社区（乡镇、村）新冠肺炎防控技术方案  
 5. 办公场所和公共场所新冠肺炎防控技术方案  
 6. 工业企业和建筑施工企业新冠肺炎防控技术方案  
 7. 商场、超市等场所新冠肺炎防控技术方案  
 8. 客运场站及交通运输工具新冠肺炎防控技术方案  
 9. 托幼机构新冠肺炎防控技术方案 → Technical Implementation Plan for Preschools and Kindergartens  
 10. 中小学校新冠肺炎防控技术方案  
 11. 大专院校新冠肺炎防控技术方案  
 12. 监狱新冠肺炎防控技术方案  
 13. 养老机构（老年福利院）老年人新冠肺炎防控技术方案 → Technical Implementation Plan for Child Welfare Center  
 14. 儿童福利院新冠肺炎防控技术方案  
 15. 精神卫生医疗机构新冠肺炎防控技术方案

(source: CDC China, <http://www.nhc.gov.cn/jkj/s3577/202002/69b3fdbcbb61f499ba50a25cdf1d5374e.shtml>)

The Maternal and Child Health Center of China also published a book named “*Prevention and Control of COVI-19 for the Pregnant and Children*” on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by the Chinese Population Publishing House. This book is filled with illustrations and is easy to understand and follow.

(Source: <https://baijiahao.baidu.com/s?id=1659033073631268574&wfr=spider&for=pc>)

### 1.3 Releasing the “Guidelines on COVID-19 Prevention and Control in Kindergartens”

Led and sponsored by the Ministry of Education’s National Leading Office in Response to the COVID-19, Beijing University organized 29 specialists, kindergarten (which serves children ages 3 to 6, in China) practitioners expert in children’s health and wellbeing, and experts from different levels of disease prevention and control institutions as well as colleges and universities, to write “*Guidelines on COVID-19 Prevention and Control in Kindergartens*” which were published on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020. It is also worth mentioning that the document’s whole content can be obtained and downloaded on Wechat, which is the largest social network platform in China with the public name of “Weiyan jiaoyu”, so that it can be effectively accessed by concerned people any place and any time.

Here is the Content of the “Guideline”:

## Content of the Guideline

1. Principles of Prevention and Control
2. Targets and Application
3. Basic Information of the Disease
4. Preparation for School
  - 4.1 Staff Responsibility
  - 4.2 Classroom Management
5. Reopening of School
  - 5.1 Staff Responsibility
  - 5.2 Classroom Management
  - 5.3 Key points for Parents

(Source: MOE Press Office. <https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/cOrOolfHeLBLOrwYXOOOnKg>)

### 1.4 Releasing the “COVID-19 Prevention and Control Handbook” in Foreign Languages

To facilitate communication with patients speaking only Hubei dialects, the MOE, in conjunction with the State Language Affairs Commission and a number of universities, developed a handbook in Hubei dialects. Recently, the MOE also developed a foreign language version, A Guide to the Prevention and Control of COVID-19 Epidemic in Foreign Languages on March 11th.

The Guide is available in 8 different languages, including Korean, Japanese, Farsi, Italian, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese and English and contains 50 sentences commonly used in daily life, at the customs and in the hospital. Although it is not directly related to ECE, it can also be a way to obtain more information.

(Source: MOE. [http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press\\_releases/202003/t20200313\\_430548.html](http://en.moe.gov.cn/news/press_releases/202003/t20200313_430548.html))

## 2. Provincial Government Responses to COVID-19 Concerning ECE (Shanghai as an example)

### 2.1 Establishing the Corresponding Leading Group in Response to COVID-19

Shanghai established the Leading Office in Response to COVID-19, which is a corresponding section at the provincial level to be responsible for the overall management.

### 2.2 Releasing “Regulations on Preventing and Controlling COVID-19”

The Shanghai Educational Committee released “*Regulations on Preventing and Controlling COVID-19*” both by website and WeChat platform on February 28<sup>th</sup>. The regulations set out general principles as well as concrete measures, such as disseminating important information,

enhancing prevention and control work in preschools and kindergartens, facilitating communication between kindergartens and parents, providing professional education instructions and guidelines, taking advantage of high-profile educational resources, and organizing online training on preventing and dealing with COVID19. Importantly, live online teaching and instruction is forbidden for children from birth through age six.

(source: [https://www.sohu.com/a/376715521\\_99909348](https://www.sohu.com/a/376715521_99909348))

## 2.2 Supporting Parents to Play and Educate in a Scientific Way at Home

### 2.2.1 Providing “Treasured Collection of Playing and Learning at Home”

Led and organized by Early Childhood Education Committee of Shanghai Educational Society, with the help of editors from Journal of Shanghai Early Childhood Education, experts and professional teachers presented a series of recommended activities and materials called “Treasured Collection of Playing and Learning at Home”. This series includes health, sports, play activities, and educational activities to continue schooling and prepare for reopening, with experts’ suggestions, activities, tips in each column in the form of pictures, videos and simple instructions.

**生活安排**

- 名称：劳动真快乐
- 材料：抹布、拖把、扫帚、面盆、浇水壶等各种家用物品
- 做法：
  - 1.自我服务类，如穿脱衣服、洗手刷牙、喝水吃饭、整理玩具、收拾书桌等。
  - 2.家庭服务类，如擦桌擦椅、端碗递筷、捡菜剥豆、浇花洒水、叠衣收纳等。



扫一扫，看视频

自己的事情自己做 (中国福利会托儿所 陆昱昕)



扫一扫，看视频

我能行 (浦东新区南门幼儿园 车承宇)

(source: [Wechat by public name is “parent-child LIFE”, Journal of Shanghai Early Childhood Education](#))

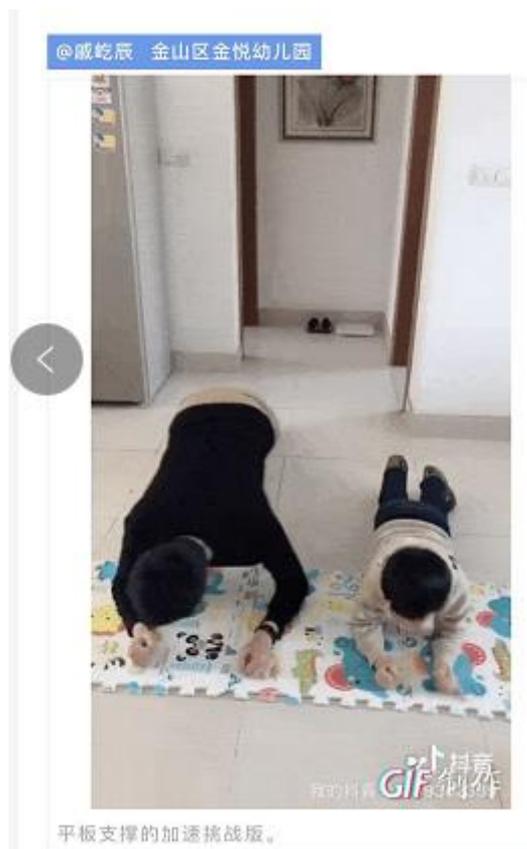
### 2.2.2 Providing Experts' Opinions Focused on Special Issues

The Journal of Shanghai Early Childhood Education organized several experts to discuss and provide their professional views on some special topics, such as “How to Face this Emergency with Your Kid” in the form of round table.

*(source: Wechat by public name is “parent-child LIFE”, Journal of Shanghai Early Childhood Education)*

### 2.2.3 Collecting Ideas and Cases from Parents and Publishing Brochures Online

Since the beginning of February (the Spring Festival Vacation), the Journal of Shanghai Early Childhood Education made an announcement and began to collect good ideas and examples of parent-child play and other activities. They received more than 3500 ideas within 4 days. After selecting some high quality and easy-to-follow cases, they published a series of brochures focusing on 8 topics, that were sports, play, science experiments, daily life, arts, construction, reading, and specific learning activities. All of these activities are illustrated and explained by pictures and videos in order to facilitate implementation. Here is an example:



*(source: Wechat by public name is “parent-child LIFE”, Journal of Shanghai Early Childhood Education)*

## **3. NGO and Professional Societies' Policies & Practices**

### 3.1 0-6 Program of “Morning Babies, Kangkang is Coming!”

Initiated by UNICEF China, in cooperation with the China National Society of Early Childhood Education, and China National Children's Center, a program was developed titled “Morning Babies, Kangkang is Coming!”.

This program is an educational resource package for 0-3 and 3-6 year-old children that is updated each week on WeChat. It contains four activities each day for a broad set of developmental domains including social emotional learning, sports, arts, and cognitive development.



栏目名称	活动名称	所需材料
Hello宝贝 Hello Baby	听我说谢 谢你	无
心灵体操 Mental yoga	腹式呼吸 放松法	无
聪明宝贝 Clever Baby Fine Arts	小蝌蚪找 妈妈	一张大白纸（可用四张打印 纸粘贴在一起、报纸、小黑 板、地砖等代替）； 油画棒两支（可用家中任意 两支笔代替或直接小手沾水 ）
跃动宝贝 Jumping Baby	多样玩棍	一根1-1.5米长的pvc棍（竹 棍或木棍均可）

(source: WeChat by public name is “UNICEF”).

3.2 Practices of China National Society of Early Childhood Education

3.2.1 CNSECE invited experts from several concerned committees and branches to write short articles discussing some important topic relevant to the current situation. Those topics included strategies for kindergarten-family cooperation, daily life education (e.g., cherishing the value of daily life, developing good habits, learning to manage their own lives), ecological education, communicating with and understanding young children, supporting and protecting teachers’ mental and psychological health, sports and self-care methods, reading together with parents, preparing for the school day, playing as a facilitator, prevention and control safeguarding for kindergartens, adjusting kindergarten curricula, establishing hygiene habits.

3.2.2 Concerned Committees Published Anti-Virus Guidelines

The Children's Health Committee worked out a "*Suggestions and Guidelines on Protecting Children's Health*" which included strategies for kindergartens and families.

The Children's Play Committee provided a "Guideline and Instruction for Playing at Home for 0-6 Children", and it is a useful and practical play resources for parents.

### 3.2.3 Q & A Column for Kindergarten Leaders and Teachers

CNSECE has collected questions of kindergarten leaders and teachers from 9 provinces, and is organizing experts to provide some specialized suggestions and advice.

*(source: WeChat by public name is "China National Society of Early Childhood Education".)*

## **4. Preschools and Kindergartens' Action Plan & Practices**

At the practical level, the head teachers and assistant teachers have established WeChat groups, for collecting everyday health status of each child, announcing emergency notices and policy changes, and communicating with children in groups using WeChat (e.g., 30 minutes discussing such things as how can you protect yourself from the virus, what is your daily schedule, what activities do you like best and why). They also provide a "Special Curriculum" each week for parents and answer parents' questions.