



Parent Information about COVID-19 Measures

With concerns about the prevention and spread of COVID-19, our agency is implementing several measures in an effort to reduce exposure opportunities. Many of these steps are mandated from Arkansas Department of Human Services' Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Arkansas Department of Health. These measures will be in effect with the commencement of the 2020-2021 school year, and will remain until further notice. They are subject to being amended, based upon evolving directives.

Classroom Size and Social Distancing

While a classroom may contain up to its authorized capacity of students, group sizes are limited to ten, including the teacher/assistant. So, for example, a teacher and up to 9 students may be in a group on one side of a classroom learning about a planned unit of study, meanwhile the classroom assistant may have another group of up to 9 students in another area of the room who are engaged in center time. Our staff will be masked, and the children will remain within their assigned group, to limit contact. During outside play, assigned groups and separate areas will also be observed.

Pick Up/Drop Off, Screening, and Exclusion

- Pick up and drop off shall take place outside of the facility when possible, to reduce the number of individuals entering the facility. We request that those awaiting their child's entry please observe appropriate distancing and please be patient, as our staff will be conducting a quick, required screening of each child entering the facility each morning.
- Before entry, students will be screened per the following criteria, and will not be admitted in any of the following conditions exist:
 - a. A temperature of 100.4°F or above
 - b. Have had a temperature of 100.4°F or above in the last 48 hours?
 - c. Any signs or symptoms of current pandemic? COVID-19 signs/symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, sore throat, headache, new loss of taste or smell
 - d. In the previous 14 days has had contact with someone who has a confirmed diagnosis of the current pandemic?
- Sick children shall not be cared for at the facility. If a child becomes sick while at the facility, the parents shall immediately be contacted to pick the child up.
- Clipboard(s) for signatures will be at hand, along with disinfectant wipes, which will be used to wipe pens and touched surfaces between each transaction. **Parents/guardians are**

encouraged to use the Authorized Representative Sign-In/Out Form which allows a staff member to sign on behalf of the parent/guardian, reducing contact on multiple surfaces.

Additional Information

- In order to reduce items which may have the potential for allowing contaminants into and out of classrooms, individual blankets, pillows, and/or plush items sometimes used during nap time will not be allowed in the center. Each student is provided with a cot (or crib, if age appropriate) to sleep on with a cot cover and towel to cover up with. These bedding items will be stored in individual containers each day to prevent cross contamination, and are laundered at regular intervals.
- Arkansas DHS Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education has long mandated several requirements which we have carried out for cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting classrooms. With present COVID-19 concerns, we will be increasing the frequency of cleaning routines, using approved effective and safe products, based upon classifications by the Environmental Protection Agency, Centers for Disease Control, and in accordance with guidance contained in the publications: “Minimum Licensing Requirements for Child Care Centers”, Rev. 1/1/2020, and “Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards Guidelines for Early Care and Educating Programs”, 4th edition.