

COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN:

(Subject to change based on CDC and local guidelines.)

General Safety Guidelines

- Please contact the Preschool Office (828-884-9298) if you or your child have tested positive or have come into contact with a positive COVID-19 case. Your information will remain confidential.
- If there is a case of COVID-19 teachers and students in that classroom along with siblings will be exempted from our program for 14 days and asked to quarantine. Teachers will have prepared 'Learning Bags' that will include crafts, games and at home learning ideas for the 14 days of exemption. Teachers can also work together with families to have a virtual meeting once a week if they prefer.
- If we are notified of a case of COVID-19 within our school we will contact our families and report to the local health department to advise how to proceed pertaining to closure and cleaning of the school facilities. We will communicate with all our families the plan of action to return to school.
- Children will have their temperature taken each morning at drop off. If the child's temperature is 100° or higher, your child will not be allowed to attend school. They must be 24 hours fever free WITHOUT the use of medicine.
- We will be extra vigilant if a child shows the slightest sign of not feeling well. If we feel a child is becoming sick, we will immediately contact parents to pick up their child.
- Communication between parents and teachers will be especially important in monitoring if anyone in the home is sick or has any symptoms. Special attention to communication to parents will be key in keeping parents aware if someone in a classroom becomes sick.

Drop Off

- Children will have separate entrances to enter our preschool.
 - Infant parents will enter through the infant playground after temp check.
 - 2's and Toddlers will enter through the preschool front door (a teacher will meet you there to get your child) after their temp check.
 - 5 Day Four parents will enter through the playground on the back side of the church after temp check.
 - Combo and 5 Day Three parents will enter at back of the church through the outside classroom doors and will have their child's temp checked by their teacher.
- Parents are welcome to walk their child into the classroom. We ask that you make the drop off transition as quick as possible when inside the building. A quick transition not only helps prevent the spread of germs, but also helps your child with separation anxiety. Anyone in the building MUST wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status.

Pick Up

- Parents will not be allowed in the building during pick up.
- Infants will be picked up outside their outside classroom door.
- Toddlers and 2's will be picked up outside the front preschool door. Parents will need to be spaced 6' apart and waiting patiently for their child so that there is not a crowd at the door waiting. Only one parent can pick up.
- 3's and 4's will utilize the car line with students waiting in their classroom. The Director will be outside at the car line and will use a walkie talkie to let the 3's and 4's teacher

know what child to bring out. The assistant teacher will stay inside with the rest of the class while the teacher walks the child out. Parents of 3's and 4's must wait in the car rider line. Please refrain from walking up to pick up children.

Early Morning

- Our Early Morning Program will operate from 8:15AM to 8:50AM for our 3's and 4's. Early Morning will alternate each week between Ms. Cindi's, Ms. Kelly and Ms. Christina's classrooms. We will keep record of each child who uses Early Morning. If a COVID case is reported, we will take the correct measures to quarantine those who may have been in contact.

Volunteers/Therapists

- Volunteers and therapists needed for children with special needs will be allowed in the classrooms as long as they are adhering to the same safety procedures as the teachers. Each volunteer can only volunteer in one classroom and be with the same classroom throughout the year.

Cleaning Procedures

- Handwashing will occur upon entering and exiting the classroom, before and after snack, before and after the playground, and extra hand washing will be encouraged during the day.
- Each classroom has a daily cleaning checklist which includes sanitizing frequently touched surfaces and toys throughout the day.
- Sanitation stations will be included in each classroom using safe sanitation methods for use around children during the school day.

- Extra attention will be given to wiping down doors, sinks, toys, and light switches (high touch areas).

Outside Play

- Outside play and physical activity are an essential part to the growth and development of young children.
- Classes will not share outside times together.
- Children will play outside daily on the playground and black-top for bike day.
- We will include extra outside time for creative outdoor learning on campus.
- All playground equipment and outside materials will be routinely cleaned and sanitized after each class.

Chapel

- Chapel will continue with safety precautions in place.

Masks

- Recognizing that mask wearing for small children is encouraged but can also be a distraction and potentially spread more germs (i.e. sharing masks, using masks as tissues, excessive face touching), the committee recommends that mask wearing for children will be a part of the learning program. Children will be asked to bring a mask each day which will hang on a lanyard around their necks and the teachers will work on teaching them safe mask wearing and removal and will encourage them to wear them as much as possible in the classroom. This will include mask wearing at carpet time or when children are in centers playing closely together with friends as well as when sitting together to complete crafts.
- All adults entering the building must wear masks. This includes parents, teachers, volunteers and visitors.

Helping Your Child Wear a Mask

Here are some ways you can help prepare and support your child wearing a mask before the start of school.

- **Practice at home.** You can lead by example and model wearing masks at home or running errands. Show how to take it on and off and practice with them. Look in the mirror and talk about how it looks and feels.
- **Make it fun through play.** Use imagination and incorporate masks into playtime leaving them out for children to play and explore. Have their favorite stuffed animal wear a mask, draw about it, or color masks on favorite characters in coloring books. Decorate your practice mask by adding stickers.

- **Make it a part of their normal, everyday world.** A little practice a few days will help ease this transition. It will help your child feel less cautious and more curious about the world around them. Show pictures of other children wearing masks.
- **Give support and allow them to feel how they're feeling.** Offer reassurance and comfort. Let your child know "You are ok. I'm here." Even though some things may be different, you remain constant.
- **Use positive language and praise.** Simple phrases such as "I like how you're being safe by putting on your mask." Talk about how superheroes wear masks and you're a family of superheroes.

We kindly ask that you keep your child home for the following:

- If you or someone in your household has had any COVID, cold, or flu-like symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, GI upset or diarrhea
- If anyone in your household has been in contact with a person confirmed to be COVID-19 positive or until your child has been released from quarantine by the Transylvania County Health Department.
- If you have traveled outside of Western NC for an extended time.
- If you have administered Tylenol to your child for any reason (teething, aches, etc.)