

## Health and Safety Policy-COVID 19

Updated 1/30/2023

**Ensure that the facility has a sufficient number of employees to perform all measures listed here effectively and in a manner that ensures the safety of the public and employees**

- Any child that has a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, or other symptoms of COVID-19, will be moved to a classroom where there are no other children until the parents arrive to pickup.
- Any child with a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, or other symptoms of COVID-19, or a child sent home ill will be excluded from the center for 48 hours and can return when fever and symptom free or can return with a doctors note. If the child being sent home has a sibling that also attends the center, the sibling must also be sent home for the 48 hour period.
- If a child is kept home for illness, the sibling must also stay home.
- Staff are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated and receive booster shots.
- All staff and children will participate in regular hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and should be done:
  1. Before coming in contact with any child;
  2. Before and after eating;
  3. After sneezing, coughing or nose blowing;
  4. After using the rest room;
  5. Before handling food;
  6. After touching or cleaning surfaces that may be contaminated.
  7. After using any shared equipment like toys, computer keyboards, mouse.
  8. Upon entry into the building.
- All staff: cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or the corner of the elbow;
  - Encourage children, when appropriate to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or the corner of the elbow; and
  - Dispose of soiled tissues immediately after use

## **Cleaning/Sanitizing**

- Routinely clean, sanitize, and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched, especially toys.
- Cleaning objects/surfaces not ordinarily cleaned daily such as: doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops, nap pads, toilet training potties, desks, chairs, cubbies, and playground structures. Use the bleach/water solution.
- If a sick employee or child is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, follow the CDC cleaning and disinfection recommendations.

## **Masks or Cloth Face Coverings Required**

- Each employee shall have the option to wear a mask or other cloth material that covers his or her mouth and nose while in close contact with an unvaccinated child.
- Each child in the preschool classroom has the option to wear a mask or other cloth material that covers his or her mouth and nose while in the center. Masks are no longer required. If a family chooses to have their child wear a mask, the teachers and staff will encourage the child to do so.
  - When children remove their masks, they will be placed in a pocket chart that is labeled with the child's name
  - Upon removal and prior to putting on of the masks, children will wash their hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer with adult supervision.

## **Drop off and Pick Up for Parents/Guardians**

- Parents or guardians who are fully vaccinated are not required to wear a mask during drop off or pick up. All unvaccinated parents/guardians are still required to wear face masks inside the building.

## **Guidelines if an Employee is Exposed to or Diagnosed with COVID-19**

- Employees who have symptoms (i.e., fever, cough, or shortness of breath) should notify their supervisor and stay home.

- Sick employees should follow CDC-recommended steps. Employees should not return to work until the criteria to discontinue home isolation are met, in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments.
- Employees who are well but who have a sick family member at home with COVID-19 should notify their supervisor and follow CDC recommended precautions.

**If an employee is confirmed to have COVID-19 infection, employers should:**

1. Inform fellow employees of their possible exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace but maintain confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The fellow employees should then self-monitor for symptoms (i.e., fever, cough, or shortness of breath).
  2. Ventilate areas visited by that individual.
  3. Clean and disinfect all impacted spaces, especially commonly used rooms and shared equipment.
- Employees should not return to work until the criteria to end home isolation is met as instructed in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments.

**Guidelines for vaccinated individuals who had close contact with a person with symptoms of COVID 19 or has close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19**

- If individual is asymptomatic, they may come to work or school.
- If individual develops symptoms, they must notify the director and stay home.

**Guidelines if any unvaccinated person is Exposed to or Diagnosed with COVID-19**

- Parents of children who have symptoms (i.e., fever, cough, or shortness of breath) should notify the director and stay home.
- No quarantine will be required if the exposure happened at our center. We will contact all close contacts when we have a positive case. For the next 10 days after last exposure to a positive case, families will have the option to attend with a screen and stay process. The process will consist of a form that each family will complete daily stating their child/children have **ZERO** COVID19 symptoms. A signature will be required at the bottom of the form. If any symptom, including a runny nose, develops within 10 days of exposure, a PCR test will be required to return.

- If a child has been exposed, and has one or more symptoms, they may return to the center only after a negative PCR test has been supplied to the director. If symptoms continue, the director may ask the family to be tested again to ensure the safety of others.
- All children are expected to be tested on Day 5 of their last exposure. Test results shall be submitted to the director. Any child with a fever over 100.4 will be excluded until fever free for 48 hours regardless of a test.
- Children who are not close contacts will be excluded from care with any fever over 100.4 or any two COVID19 symptoms.
- **Tests-** A home test will be accepted if no symptoms are present. If symptoms are present, a child must have a PCR test or be 48 hours symptom free before returning. A doctor's note stating that they child is not contagious will also be accepted.
- If a child is excluded for COVID symptoms, is waiting on test results, or tests positive, any sibling must also remain at home until all requirements for quarantine or isolation are met.
- If someone in a child's home tests positive, the child must remain at home 10 days and be experiencing ZERO symptoms to return.
- To schedule a PCR test, here is one option.  
[YNHH COVID-19 Test Scheduler \(ynhhs.org\)](http://YNHH.COVID-19.Test.Scheduler(ynhhs.org))
- Sick Children should follow CDC- recommended steps. Children should not return to school until isolation of 10 days from the onset of symptoms or a positive COVID-19 test, have been met.
- If a child is confirmed to have COVID-19 infection, directors should:

Inform members of the center of their possible exposure to COVID-19 but maintain confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Ventilate areas visited by that individual.

Clean and disinfect all impacted spaces, especially commonly used rooms and shared equipment.

## RSV

- When a child tests positive for RSV Little Learners will follow the CDC recommendations. All positive cases will remain home for 8 days from their test date. On the 9<sup>th</sup> day, children may return to school, as long as symptoms are improving, and they are fever free. If a case of RSV has been reported to the center, we will notify all families and ask that families monitor their children for symptoms and keep them home if they are exhibiting them. A fact sheet will also be posted and sent to families. Our goal is to minimize the spread and to keep our littlest ones safe from this potentially dangerous virus.