

## COVID-19 Policies and Safety Procedures

Created 5/26/2020 Updated 6/19/2020

Please find our safety policies outlined below. This document will change periodically as new fact based information becomes available and as Community Care Licensing updates their own guidelines that govern our child care practices.

These policies are based on current knowledge about the transmission of the coronavirus and what is practical in a child care setting. Our philosophy for early childhood education is Reggio Emilia which is a philosophy that takes into account the community in which we serve. In Placer County the incidence of coronavirus is extremely low (.04% of the population has tested positive over 3 months). While the disease affects all ages, those with underlying health conditions and those over the age of 60 are the ones that generally experience severe symptoms. There are very few [pediatric cases](#) of COVID-19 worldwide and even fewer that have complications. In short the overall risk to children under 18 is very low when compared to any other age group.

Due to the Governor Gavin Newsoms order and CDPH guidelines issued on June 18, all adults are now required to wear face masks. Children are not required to wear facemasks. For a good article with preliminary information about how COVID-19 affects children read here: [Children and COVID](#). Essentially, if children get COVID-19, they fight it off quickly, are likely asymptomatic and are unlikely to spread it because their immune systems are so efficient.

### Parent Responsibilities and Precautions

- Parents are expected to continue to bring children into the facility and drop off at the door of their child's room. Our hallway is 8 feet wide and allows for ample passage while still maintaining 6 feet of distancing.
- ~~We do not currently require parents to wear face masks.~~ All persons entering the facility must now wear facemasks.
- We expect parents and their children to stay home if any member of the household tests positive for COVID-19 and self-quarantine for 14 days. Your spot will be held and no tuition will be due. Proof of a positive test must be provided to the Center.
- We expect parents to help their children wash their hands upon entering the facility and when exiting.

### Teacher Responsibilities and Precautions

- We expect teachers to self-quarantine for 14 days if they have knowledge that they have come into contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19.
- ~~We recommend teachers wear face masks during their breaks.~~ Teachers must wear fask masks at all times. Practically speaking, working with children relies heavily on communication and facial expressions are a large part of that communication. Teachers work with a child group size of 10 or less, are with the same group every day and primarily work alone with that group so the risk of transmission is limited.

- We have an outside Teacher patio with ample space, a break room and wide hallways where 6 feet of distancing is easily achieved.
- Regular hand washing is standard practice at our facility for teachers and children.

#### Facility Responsibilities and Precautions

- Many parents enrolled with us due to the cleanliness of our facility. We have modified our already extensive cleaning procedures to ensure the safety of children by increasing the frequency of cleaning and the extensiveness.
- We are over staffed to ensure proper cleaning and care for children.
- We are not temperature screening all persons entering the facility at this time. Many people with COVID-19 are [asymptomatic](#) which reduces the effectiveness of this method of detection. We do temperature screen children who feel warm or are exhibiting fever symptoms and if they have a temperature we send them home immediately.
- Our facility was designed with contactless entry; no transfer of germs.
- Our facility has automatic hand washing sinks that are motion activated; no transfer of germs.
- Check-in is contactless; no transfer of germs
- We have opening windows in every room for fresh air exchange. Teachers are required to open windows during the day to circulate air through each room. When the lights are on the exhaust air fans automatically suck air from the room and deposit it outside above the roof.
- We have glass walls in every classroom so parents can see their child at pick up and drop off so the parent does not need to enter the room.
- We have 5 playgrounds total so we can maintain group size while playing outside.

We are also implementing plastic barriers in some of our classrooms to facilitate the rapid return of students. We are making our best efforts to accommodate all families as they return to work.

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