

## **WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE**

We have been partnering with all of our school districts to assure families have the essential before and after school and full day care they need and to provide that care in the safest way possible.

Below are our plans that were formulated using guidelines from the CDC, Department of Health, Department of Children and Families, and each school district.

### **Arrival/Drop off Procedures for Before Care:**

- To limit exposure, parents will not be allowed into school buildings.
- Children will be temperature checked using a touchless thermometer, observed for signs of illness and parents asked a series of questions each day.
- Children with a fever of in excess of 100.4 F or who are or exhibiting other symptoms of COVID-19, shall not be allowed to enter the facility, nor will persons that have been exposed to persons known to have COVID-19 during the preceding 14 days.
- Once a child is cleared, they will be signed into program.
- Parents must social distance if there is a line waiting to check in.
- PLEASE do not send your child to program if they are sick. One sick child can stop an entire program from running.
- All children will be required to wash hands upon entering building.
- Staff will also be health screened before starting their shift

### **Group Sizes:**

- Children will be assigned to groups of no more than 10 and interactions between groups will be limited. Siblings will be assigned to the same group. Group must be separated by 10 feet or by a barrier if separation is not possible.

### **Outdoors:**

- The Y plans on spending as much time as possible outside.
- Outdoor playtime may be staggered to prevent mixing between groups.
- Simultaneous use of outdoor play spaces is permissible if at least six feet of separation can be maintained between groups. Playground equipment will not be used.
- Children and staff must wash their hands upon returning from outdoor play.

### **Indoors:**

- The use of shared spaces (entryways, restrooms) shall be carefully controlled to ensure that children and staff maintain at least six feet of separation from children or staff from other groups. Floor markings, physical partitions, or other safeguards will be used as necessary.

### **Snacks and meals:**

- Until further notice, parents must provide all snacks and lunches for their children.
- No sharing of food will be allowed.
- The Y will have individually wrapped back up snacks if needed.

- Parents will be reminded of this policy if snacks are not being provided.
- Children will wash hands before and after meals and snacks.

**Activities:**

- Sharing of supplies toys, and other items will be strictly limited.
- No toys from home will be permitted.
- The Y shall ensure an adequate supply of school, art, and other supplies to preclude the need for sharing of items.
- If items must be shared, they shall be used by one group at a time and cleaned and disinfected between uses.
- Close person to person contact will not be allowed.

**Masks:**

- Staff shall be required to wear masks while working unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health.
- Children will be required to wear masks. We will follow NJ Childcare Guidelines regarding face coverings as well as adhere to specific district requests. Families will be asked to provide a mask for their child however we will keep a supply of masks if needed for emergencies.
- Children will be frequently reminded not to touch the face covering.
- Please make sure masks are washed each night.

**Cleaning and Sanitation Practices:**

- The Y will increase the frequency of cleaning toys, equipment, and surfaces.
- On a daily basis, The Y shall clean and then disinfect surfaces and objects that are touched often. This includes tables, desks, countertops, doorknobs, hands-on learning items, faucet handles, phones and toys. Disinfecting methods shall utilize the Environmental Protection Agency approved disinfectants for use against COVID-19.
- Cleaning shall be in accordance with the CDC's Guidance for Cleaning & Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes, a summary poster of which is attached to these standards and required to be posted prominently. The complete guidance is on the CDC website at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/cleaning-disinfecting-decision-tool.html>

- If groups of children are moving from one area to another in shifts, cleaning measures will be completed prior to the new group entering the area.
- Toys and items that are not easily cleaned or disinfected will be removed from program.
- A final sanitizing will take place at the end of each day.

**Departure/Pick up Procedures:**

- To limit exposure, parents will not be allowed into school buildings.
- Staff will help children pack up and will bring them out to you.
- Children will use hand sanitizer prior to departure.
- Parents must social distance if there is a line.

#### **Children or staff members who develop symptoms of COVID-19 while at the facility:**

- If a child or staff member develops symptoms of COVID-19 while at the program they will be immediately separated from the group in a designated isolation area until they can leave program. Parents will be required to pick up with 60 minutes. The caregiver waiting with the child will remain 6 feet away from the child.
- If symptoms persist or worsen, parent should call health care provider for further guidance.
- The Y should be informed immediately if the person is diagnosed with COVID-19.
- The Y shall immediately notify their county department of health and the DCF Office of Licensing of any known or suspected COVID-19 exposure in the program facility.

#### **Children or staff members who test positive for COVID-19:**

- If the Y becomes aware of a COVID-19 positive case in their facility they will contact their local health department for guidance.
- Parents must notify the Y of any positive case, exposure or suspected exposure.
- Health officials will provide direction on whether a program should cease operations following the identification of a positive case in the facility. The duration may be dependent on staffing levels, outbreak levels in the community, and severity of illness in the infected individual. Symptom- free children and staff should not attend or work at another facility during the closure.
- All rooms and equipment used by the infected person, will be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with CDC guidance. If the Y uncertain about the extent of potential exposure we shall clean and sanitize all rooms.

#### **Returning to Child Care After COVID-19 Diagnosis or Exposure:**

- If a staff member or child contracts or is exposed to COVID-19, they cannot be admitted to program until the criteria for lifting transmission-based precautions and home isolation have been met. Those criteria are included in the Department of Health's guidance available here:

[https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID-QuickRef\\_Discont\\_Isolation\\_and\\_TBP.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID-QuickRef_Discont_Isolation_and_TBP.pdf)

#### **Staff Training**

- In addition to the ongoing training in the areas of child development and child abuse prevention, prior to returning to work, staff will be required to attend virtual and onsite training on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), cleaning and disinfecting, social distancing and additional health and safety procedures.