

COVID-19 Health Policies and Procedures

Updated February 25, 2022

The following policies and procedures will be implemented until further notice, and are subject to change as more information becomes available. We will continue to follow and implement the policies listed in our [Family Handbook](#), however, the policies listed in this document and any attachments supersede the policies listed in the Family Handbook.

1. General - *Social Distancing will be maintained as much as possible.*

- Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and social distancing will be made a priority as much as possible.
- Visitors, volunteers, and meetings will be limited and when they do occur will go through the entry point procedure.
- Should a COVID-19 case be founded within our program, we will follow the guidance of the local health department and/or child care nurse. Procedures are subject to change based on the state health department.
 - Iowa classrooms will not close due to a positive case.
 - Illinois classrooms - children who are in close contact to a positive case should not be onsite. They need to quarantine for 5 days and if no symptoms appear, they can return on day 6.
- SAL Family and Community Services requires all employees to be vaccinated.
- All travel restrictions have been lifted.
- Illinois site families will need to complete our [Health Screening](#) form each day.
 - If parents/family members cannot pass the health screen, then they cannot be let into the building and must make other arrangement for pick up/drop off for their child(ren).
- Families will drop their child off at the classroom door, but we ask that families not enter the classroom.

2. Center-Wide Cleaning – *The center will continue to be cleaned and sanitized daily.*

- All classrooms, restrooms, hallways, and offices are deep cleaned and disinfected using soap and water, Sanabet (sanitizer) and Oxivir (disinfectant).
- All staff are trained on cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting procedures and expectations.
- The building are cleaned, sanitized and disinfected at the end of each day.

3. Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) – *PPE and supplies will be in use as necessary.*

- Facial masks will be required for all staff, family members, and for children ages two and older (to the extent practicable). Children under two and those with lung issues will not be allowed to wear masks due to possible suffocation.
- All families and visitors entering the center are required to wear a facial covering that covers their mouth and nose.
- Gloves, tissue, alcohol wipes, hand sanitizer, paper towels, bleach, sanitizer, disinfectant, will be available for staff use throughout the day.

4. Social Distancing – *Children and staff will remain in the same classroom and with the same group of children throughout the day.*

- Children will start in their home room with the same teaching team and end in the same homeroom with the same teaching team. Classrooms will not mix and children.
- Children will play outdoors in the morning and the afternoon. We will stagger playground times so there is not more than one classroom in a play space at one time.
- Hand washing, and sneezing and coughing into a tissue will be made a priority throughout the day to help eliminate the transmission of germs.

5. Classroom Protocol – *Classroom staff will follow additional health and safety protocols.*

- **Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting**
 - We will follow a classroom cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting protocol, using a [Cleaning Checklist](#) to mark off and initial completion.
 - All children and staff will wash hands for 20 seconds and rinse for 10 seconds throughout the day – following our [Handwashing](#) procedures.
 - Classroom windows will be opened in the morning and afternoon for ventilation.
- **Daily Health Checks**
 - A [Daily Health Check](#) will be completed on each child every morning. If any symptoms are noted, parents will be notified.
 - In keeping with center policies, children will be sent home with a fever, diarrhea, vomiting, coughing, difficulty breathing, flushed, rash, itchy skin or scalp, red and/or draining eyes, not eating as typically does, and complaints of not feeling well.
- **Health & Safety**
 - We will not brush teeth (if applicable).
 - Pacifiers will only be used when the infant is being held or in the crib.
 - Cots and cribs will be spaced 6 feet apart if possible and positioned head-to-toe.
 - Teachers will design daily lessons around [preventing the spread of germs](#), including hand washing, coughing into your elbow/tissue, sneezing into a tissue, wiping your nose, and proper tissue disposal.
- **Meal Time**
 - The teachers will serve the children and family style will not be an option (until May 2022).
 - When at all possible, we will provide distance at meal time. For example, having children sit in every other chair (until May 2022).
 - No food will be allowed to be brought from home, no exceptions.
 - No food will be made in the room.
- **Activities**
 - We will not use shared materials such as sand, water, or play dough (until April 2022)
 - We will remove stuffed animals, dress up clothes, hats, wigs, pillows—anything that cannot be easily sanitized (until March 2022).
 - All field trips, inter-group events, parent events and extracurricular activities are canceled.