

Parent Handbook Pandemic Addendum for the 2021 - 2022 School Year

While these changes to our Parent Handbook are current with the Health Department requirements and mandates at the time of this writing, please understand that these can and probably will have to change to adjust and accommodate the constant changes going on in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Denver Department of Public Health and Environment under whose jurisdiction we fall.

Hours of Operation: We will operate from 7:30 AM until 5:30 PM, in order to comply with the current requirement to keep children within the same group daily.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up: We will utilize curbside drop-off and pick-up via the Legacy Park field that is right off the parking lot. Only students and staff will be allowed to enter the building. We will have 2 drop-off windows: one at 7:30 AM and the other option will be at 8:30 AM. We will offer 3 pick-up windows: 3:30 PM, 4:30 PM and 5:30 PM. All students must be picked up no later than 5:30 PM. Preferences will be signed-up for, via Sign-up Genius as we can only accommodate a limited number of students for each time slot.

Chapel: Chapel will still be held weekly; we will try to do it outside or utilize a Zoom or YouTube format.

Ratios: We will work to keep children in their classroom groups. We will work to allow for social distancing as often as possible.

Face Coverings: Staff and children age 3 and older will be wearing masks or face coverings inside. Face coverings will not be worn outside, while eating, or during rest times.

No Outside Visitors: As per regulations, no outside visitors will be allowed in the ELC. This would include but not be limited to; parent observations, soccer, Jump Bunch, Musikgarten, story tellers, occupation visitors, etc. At this time, parents are not allowed in the building. This is to limit possible exposures. We will let you know when guidance from CDPHE and DDPHE changes. We can't wait to get our extra-curricular activities back!!

Meals/Snacks: A nutritional lunch and afternoon snack will be provided each day for the children as part of the tuition.

Health Checks: All students and staff will have a temperature check upon arrival and answer the required health statements for fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle aches, sore throat and new loss of taste or smell. These must all be negative. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 or above will not be permitted to attend/remain at school. We will let you know when or if guidance from CDPHE and DDPHE changes.

Personal Items: We will be limiting personal items from home to a change of clothing, the tot cot, and a small lovey and blanket. All items must fit into a child size backpack. Of course, clothing items needed for weather are also allowed. Please keep extra toys at home.

Tuition: There will be no change in tuition if we are required to close for 14 consecutive days or less. Closure longer than 14 consecutive days will result in 50% of tuition being charged and we will convert to remote/on-line learning activities. This could include but are not limited to: Zoom lessons, YouTube video instruction, emails and attachments of items to print from home and websites to access learning instructional materials and or activities. These will be led by our teachers from each classroom. Should you choose to withdraw, please understand that your spot will not be held and students from the waitlist will be given the opportunity to fill any open positions.

Waiver: All students attending must have a signed "Waiver and Release of Liability by Parents" on file with the office in order to be permitted into the program.

Some quick thoughts:

Pandemics are a new thing to us who live in the 21st century. COVID-19 might be the only pandemic we encounter, or it might be the first of more to come. Whatever happens, we know that nothing is too big for our God who knows each of us by name, the number of hairs on our heads, (Matthew 10:30) and what we need (Matthew 6: 25-34). While we live in a fallen world where there is trouble, we remember Jesus' words in John 16:33 "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart for I have overcome the world!"

There will be a day when things will be better. For now, we have some strict guidelines to follow. You may not like them. You may not believe they are important. I may even agree with you about some of your thoughts and ideas. However, for this time, we are required to follow these guidelines. I know that you want to be healthy and your children to be healthy. In order to provide the best possible outcomes for one another, together, we must commit to care for each other by following the health department directives and guidance. If you go to a COVID-19 hotspot, we kindly request that you do what is necessary to assure you have not been exposed including self-quarantining if necessary. If you are exposed to COVID-19, it is imperative that you share that information with the school. It is important for us to be able to track any exposures or confirmed cases. While we hope to not have any cases, we know that the guidance for a confirmed case or probable exposure is to close for 24 hours of cleaning. If a classroom is required to quarantine, it is usually for 7-10 days. The Health Department may have other requirements including a longer closure. This means that we may have to close multiple times for deep cleanings. There will be no change in tuition for these types of closures. The better job that we all do to follow guidance, communicate any exposures, wear face coverings, and do a good job of cleaning, we will have the best opportunity to avoid a closure of more than 24 hours. We hope that we do not have a city-wide shutdown again.