

Reach For The Stars Learning Center

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New Guidelines and Procedures in place – Response to the Covid-19 Global Pandemic

As we all are aware, our world has been turned upside down. There is so much fear and distress. But, we must do what we can to provide consistency and safety as we navigate our new normal, while caring for our little ones. We, at Reach For the Stars, have everyone and their families safety and health at the forefront of our concern. As we reopen, we have chosen to take new measures and precautions to keep all of us safe, especially our most vulnerable populations. We have outlined the new procedures we will be implementing to help bring comfort at a time of such uncertainty.

Modified drop off and pick up procedures:

* We ask that parents drop off and pick up, one at a time. A canopy will be set up as a waiting area, for one family, as another is at the door for active drop off and pick up. But, if possible, please wait downstairs and proceed one at a time.
* A hand hygiene station will be provided at the door for your convenience.
* Please do not touch the door. The window will be open during normal drop off and pick up. Otherwise, please call upon arrival.
* All adults are required to wear a mask.
* All children will be screened at drop off and the illness policy will be strictly enforced. Adults will be asked to confirm that the child does not have a fever, shortness of breath, cough, or excessive drainage.
* We ask that if possible, your child come straight from home before drop off. They will be taken directly to the bathroom to wash hands, face and change clothing.
* If possible, designate a parent for drop off and pick up.

Cleaning and disinfecting:

* Frequently touched surfaces such as door knobs, tables, chairs, and the like will be wiped down with a diluted bleach solution multiple times a day, or before and after each child’s use.
* Toys will not be shared. Each child will choose a set of toys for the day. Those over the age of two will be strictly monitored while being allowed to interact. They will be allowed to wear masks during play time, upon parent request or if the child will comply.
* Toys that cannot be easily cleaned will not be in use during this time.
* Machine washable toys will be laundered at the end of each day in hot water.
* All other toys will be sanitized at the end of each day. Parents may provide their own toys if they wish, and they will be packed and sent home daily for sanitation.

Daily routine:

* Children will be separated into two groups, determined by age.
* They will remain in their group until the end of the crisis. No cross-interaction.
* Those under 2 will not be allowed to play together.

Washing, feeding, and holding children:

* We will continue to provide a safe and loving environment for all children.
* We will wash, our hands, arms, and face frequently to minimize the spread of secretions. We will be changing our clothing as necessary to protect all involved, but we are working on getting aprons or other easily changing over wear.
* Children will continue to keep a distance during feeding times.

Nap Time:

* All bedding are to be stored in a sealed bag and sent home weekly.
* The chlidren will be separated as far as possible during this time. We have set up the lunch room to hold a group all day, as well as for naps.
* Those not in play pens will also be laid down head-to-toe, then toe-to head to minimize risks.

Healthy Hygiene Behavior:

* We will continue to practice excellent hand hygiene behavior.
* We will continue to assist the children as well, in participating in hand hygiene behavior.

Visitors:

* No visitors or outside staff will be allowed entrance. Only government officials, who present identification and justify inspections will be allowed.
* Activities involving mixing groups, such as birthday parties are restricted at this time.
* Those who have taken trips, or have household members who have taken trips will not be allowed to attend until the 14-day quarantine period has been completed.

We have taken these steps and used the guidelines provided by the Center of Disease Control when developing these procedures. If you have any questions or input you would like to share, please feel free.

Thank you for your continued support during this uncertain time, and we look forward to seeing you again.