

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Policies, Protocols, & Procedures



Messiah Child Enrichment Program (CEP)

Revised – with Addendum AUG 2022

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Welcome and Addendum

Welcome to CEP's 38th year! We are taking all appropriate measures to provide a safe environment as we continue to implement the latest guidance put forth by the local, state, and national health officials and trust your family will also be doing your part to keep our CEP safe and healthy. The plan is to begin the school year as "Mask Optional" for all staff and students— meaning it is up to the parent's discretion whether or not you send your child to school in a mask. We ask that if you are choosing to send your child to school in mask that you have them wearing it at drop off, that the child is able to manage the wearing of it properly, and that parents communicate with their child's teacher if you would prefer they wear a mask at school. As we did throughout the school year last year, we will adapt and make changes to our Coronavirus (COVID-19) Policies, Protocols, & Procedures as necessary based on the current community levels and guidelines given to us by the Fairfax County Health Department (FCHD), CDC (Center for Disease Control) and Virginia Department of Health (VDH). Thank you for entrusting us with your children and we look forward to working together in order to have the best preschool year possible with your children!

Julie Wells

Director, Messiah CEP

**PLEASE Refer to the latest information and helpful links here:

[COVID FAQ for Childcare.pdf](#)

[Infected or Exposed to COVID-19? | Health \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)

****In the event that the protocol and guidelines by the FCHD change and we need to revert back to mask-wearing by all staff and students (3 years and up), please refer to the information on the next page re: MASKS.****

Hygiene Practices

CEP is taking reasonable and extensive steps to minimize the risk of transmission, while ensuring that the program objectives are still met to the maximum degree. All of our CEP staff has been vaccinated! Although we know it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of COVID-19 infection, we know that it is most easily transmitted through droplets in the air. The church has installed a new air filtration system in the HVAC which will help to circulate and clean the air. Some degree of risk will remain, despite all the efforts taken to minimize the spread of COVID-19. Below are hygiene practices we are implementing.

Face Masks (Face Masks optional for all as of SEPT 2022)

****In the event that the protocol and guidelines by the FCHD change and we need to revert back to mask-wearing by all staff and students (3 years and up), please refer to the information on face masks below** 8/1/22**

- Face Masks will be worn (regardless of whether vaccinated) by all adults (parents and staff) at drop-off/pick-up and while indoors at all times.
- Students in 3 year and 4 year classes will wear a mask inside the building. Whenever possible activities will be done outdoors (music, snack, circle time, etc.) in order to give everyone several “mask breaks” throughout the day.
- Parents of students in the 2 year old classes will have the option of deciding whether their child will wear a mask while at school. Many students at this age are not developmentally ready to manage mask wearing.
- A mask lanyard will be provided for each child in order to secure it on them during the day so that they can remove during eating, drinking and outdoor and/or socially distanced activities.
- Please put the child’s name on their masks and provide extras in their red bag. CEP will provide disposable masks if a cloth one is not available.
- Students will be frequently reminded not to touch the mask/face and to wash their hands often.

Personal Hygiene

Students and staff must wash or sanitize hands...

- upon arrival at the facility.
- before and after any transition to or from the classroom.
- before and after eating.
- before and after using outdoor play equipment.
- before exiting the facility.
- We will teach and reinforce hand-washing for at least 20 seconds with soap and water and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students and staff.
- If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer will be used.

Health Screenings

Students demonstrating any of the following symptoms will be sent home from school:

Fever (100.4 or greater) - Chills - Cough - Shortness of breath - Loss of taste/smell - Sore throat – Fatigue - Muscle aches - Runny Nose/Congestion - Stomachache - Diarrhea - Nausea/Vomiting – Headaches

If a child has seasonal allergies, this must be previously noted by the parent and health care provider in the child's health form on file.

Students who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, may not return until:

- It has been at least ten (10) days since my child first had symptoms **AND**
 - My child has had no fever off anti-fever medicines (ex: Tylenol, Ibuprofen) for 24 hours **AND**
 - My child's symptoms are getting better
- ADDENDUM:
- After 6 days from the onset of symptoms, if the child is symptom free **AND** tests negative they may return to school.

Drop-off and Pick-Up

We will continue our drop-off and pick-up procedure as we did last year with the use of the 3 outer doors in our CEP Wing. We will use the outer doorways on our wing of the school in order to check students in and out of their classrooms each morning and afternoon.

- Parents of 2s classes T/TH and W/F will check their child in and out at the *outside doorway* of their classroom (outside, 2nd door/sidewalk on the left when arriving at the CEP wing).
- Parent's of 3s will check their child in and out at the *outside doorway* to room 165 (outside, 1st doorway/sidewalk on the left when arriving at CEP wing.)
- Parent's of 4s will check their child in and out *outside the main CEP double doors* (doors marked number 3). Students will be led to their classrooms by a staff member and parents will remain outside the building during this process.
- We ask that families not congregate/gather closely during the drop-off and pick-up process but use the grassy area or wait in their cars until their allotted drop-off/pick-up time.
- The parents or adults dropping off the child/ren will check in their child using the Procare application on their cell phones. This can be done from the parking lot, before leaving your car in order to expedite the process. If a caregiver other than the parent is dropping off they can be added to the child's Procare profile by sending their name, email and cell phone number to director@messiahcep.org to be added to the Procare App.
- When checking in on the Procare app the parent/guardian dropping off will be asked a series of questions pertaining to the health/symptoms of their child/ren and the possibility of exposure to COVID19 or any illness. If any of the questions are answered in the affirmative, the child will not be permitted to come to school.
- Each day at check-in, Students will be given a visual "daily health check" by the staff member/teacher. Staff has been trained to identify signs and symptoms of COVID19 and other sickness. If any symptoms are present the child/ren will not be allowed admittance to school that day. For example, if the child presents with a new runny nose/cough, the child will be sent home and cannot return to the program until they have had either a negative COVID19 test (at home test is permitted) or a written doctors note.

In order to keep everyone safe and healthy, we will all need to continue be diligent with this process. If your child is sick please keep them at home!

HEALTH SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Feeling feverish and/or having chills – documented temperature of 100.4°F or higher?
2. Has there been any use of fever reducing medication within the last three days?
3. A new cough that is not due to another health condition?
4. New shortness of breath or difficulty breathing that is not due to another health condition?
5. New chills that are not due to another health condition?
6. A new sore throat that is not due to another health condition?
7. New muscle aches that are not due to another health condition, or that may have been caused by a specific activity (such as physical exercise)?
8. A new loss of taste or smell?
9. Have you had a positive test for the virus that causes COVID-19 disease within the past 14 days?
10. In the past 14 days, have you had close contact (within about 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) with someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19

Closing Statement

As we begin the new school year, we are hopeful that we can get back to “normal” operations so that our children can benefit from social interactions with one another each day. Please continue to be diligent on keeping sick children at home in order to keep our school safe and healthy for all to attend!

Thank you for your cooperation!

I have read, understand and agree to follow the above guidelines and procedures.

Parent/Guardian signature

Date