

## **SICK CHILD AND SICK TEACHER POLICIES THIS SCHOOL YEAR**

### **COVID financial responsibility**

The below policies have been put into effect for the current school year. The policies have been created with the assistance of our Nurse Consultant, the Department of Public Health as well as the Office of Early Childhood.

Please thoroughly read each item and once finished, you will sign your signature on the Parent Consent Form (part of the Registration Packet).

**\*\*If your child has two symptoms at minimum, please do not bring them to school\*. They will most likely require a doctor's note for return. We are leaving it up to the doctor to decide if a covid test is necessary.**

#### **If a child has a fever:**

- Child will remain out of school for 72 hours AFTER the last symptom (temperature) associated with the fever goes away. Ideally the child would also get COVID swabbed and then follow the protocol for a positive COVID test (see below). If there are no other symptoms other than a fever, a COVID test does not have to be performed and the child can return to school based on the above.

#### **If a child has diarrhea:**

- Diarrhea is very common in kids and they should be able to come back after 24 hours from the last time they had diarrhea (as long as the diarrhea is not associated with other symptoms). If the child also has a fever with diarrhea, the child will need to get a COVID swab. They may only return upon a negative COVID test or a doctor's note.

#### **If a child has a rash:**

- Most rashes should not require the child to be home longer than the rash takes to improve. However, if the rash is associated with a COVID related symptom, then we require a COVID swab to be done. The child may return upon negative test results.

#### **If a child has Strep Throat:**

- If child has a positive strep test from the pediatrician as well as confirmed positive by a throat culture the child should be on antibiotics for 24 hours as well as be fever free for 24 hours prior to returning to school. If child has a sore throat and a fever, but has a negative strep test and throat culture, then follow fever protocol – no return to school until after 72 hours AFTER the last symptoms associated with the fever goes away.

#### **If a child has Pink Eye:**

- Children with pink eye should remain out of school until they have been on eye drops for 24 hours as well as improved symptoms and no fever.

### **If a child has positive COVID test:**

Child should remain out of school until:

- They have completed a 10-day quarantine from their first symptom. Children must be completely symptom free prior to returning to school.

### **If a teacher wakes up with a fever AND another related COVID related symptom:**

- The teacher will stay home that day and the teacher will get COVID swabbed the same day. The teacher will follow the same COVID protocol as the children would if they tested positive. It is less common for adults to have a fever, therefore, we will assume the fever is COVID related. If the test comes back negative, then the teacher may return after 72 hours of being fever/symptom free.
- The following are reported symptoms per the CDC (last updated May 13<sup>th</sup> 2020) of COVID:
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea

**We may potentially have to exclude the children and teacher who were in contact with a positive child from the program for 14 days based on the DPH's recommendations.**

**If a parent tests positive and does not quarantine from the rest of the family, the child will be able to return after the parent's quarantine ends (10 days from first symptom) plus 14 days (if the child is a close contact). If the parent isolates from the rest of the family, wears a mask outside of the room for any reasons and uses their own bathroom, then the child can return after 14 days of last exposure to that parent. If anyone else in the family tests positive and does not quarantine away from the family the above rules apply. Children must be tested if parent's have tested positive.**

**If a parent is exposed at work or elsewhere to a confirmed positive person, then they must quarantine for 14 days. Children are then considered a contact of a close contact, therefore, do not need to be excluded from school unless the parent isn't quarantining away from the child then the above rules apply.**

**If a child wakes up on an off day of school or on the weekend with COVID symptoms and tests positive, we will communicate with the DPH on how to handle that situation – we likely will not have to exclude anyone at that time if the child wasn't in direct contact with anyone at least two days prior. Again, the Department of Public Health will have to guide us on what decision to make each case.**

We will communicate if a child has tested positive for COVID.

If you do not want to get your child covid tested, they will just then be excluded from the program for a 10 day quarantine (starts at the first day of their symptoms). You are financially responsible for their time away from school.

**Please read and understand our policies regarding tuition this year:**

- **If we have to make the decision to close the center entirely**, you will be responsible for 50% of your tuition during that time period as we will continue learning through ZOOM school (online). If you've already paid in full for the month, you'll receive a credit on your account towards your balance for the next month (unless you'd like to continue to make full tuition payments in support of the program). If we experience closure come June 2021 and we won't be returning to school for you to use the credit), then you'll receive a refund for any days of closure during that month.
- **If we have to exclude a single group** and your child was in that group, you will responsible for 50% of tuition during that time as we'll continue with ZOOM school.
- **If you make the decision to pull your child out of the program completely due to the state's increase in COVID cases**, you will be responsible for tuition for 14 days following your written notice of withdrawal for the purpose of covering payroll.
- **If your child is out sick (with anything other than COVID)**, you are responsible for your tuition payments in full. We can offer make up days based on our availability. Make up time is not always guaranteed, but we will do our best to accommodate you.
- **If your child has a confirmed case of COVID**, and they are not feeling well at home, then you will not be responsible for tuition payments from the time you have removed your child from school, until the time they receive a negative test result (and their quarantine period ends). If your child's case of COVID is the result of our partial group closure and if they are going to participate in ZOOM school due to being asymptomatic, then you'll be responsible for 50% of tuition during that period. We need proof of all testing being done.
- **If a parent tests positive for COVID**, it is absolutely expected that you keep your child out of school and notify the director as soon as you learn of your results. You will be responsible for tuition during this period and we will offer make up days in return for the absences. We will need proof of all testing being done.

**Groups** – We are going to do our best to group children with the same group of kids each visit and keep them with the same teacher. Though, everyone has a different schedule so this does create some minimal mixing of groups. We will simply have to take each case as it comes and make decisions that are in the best interest of everyone's health and along side the DPH.

**Our goal is to create a safe environment where children can continue their education and receive the social interaction necessary for their development. Our priority and main concern is the health of everyone involved at Little Farmers. While we have no control what everyone is doing outside**

**of the school, please keep in mind that your actions have potential to cause our school closure. Everyone's definition of what is "safe" differs greatly. Please, wear a mask when in public and around those who don't practice social distancing. Let's do everything we can to keep this small business operating on a normal schedule and do what we can to keep everyone's children healthy during this tough time. We have a total of 43 families at this time.**