

Health and Safety Guidelines – Bethlehem Preschool

It is not possible to care for our preschoolers from a distance. Our main goal with these new health and safety guidelines is to reduce the spread of sickness. While we cannot prevent all infections, we can focus on health practices to reduce the risk of sickness and decrease the spread of sickness.

General Preparedness and Planning for Preschool

1. Our *Beginning of the Year* study for each classroom will include good hygiene, health, and safety practices. We will incorporate some new guidelines suggested by the CDC for preschools that may include, but are not limited to: proper hand washing, social distancing while being socially engaged, and avoiding germs. The teachers will use creative and imaginative methods to teach your child and make their preschool a safe and fun place to learn.
2. During drop-off, all students will have a health screening. Children's temperature will be taken with an **infrared no-contact** thermometer (5-8 cm from the forehead). Staff members will wear a mask during this screening.
3. The following social distancing strategies have been put in place to ensure your child has more space to move around the preschool:
 - a. Furniture has been rearranged to give children more space in the classroom.
 - b. Children will have their own cubbies for school items and personal items.
 - c. Children will have personal space when seated during snack time, lunch time, and other classroom activities.
 - d. More outdoor activities are being planned.
 - e. Classes will have rotating days for their children to use the MPR during inclement weather.
4. Teachers will continue to follow the sanitation guidelines for cleaning classrooms during school hours and at the end of each day to ensure that your child has a safe and healthy environment at preschool.

Staff will also check for the following signs of illness periodically throughout the day:

- Changes in behavior or mood
- Looking different from normal
- Complaining of not feeling well
- Pulling at ear(s)
- Runny nose or eyes
- Cough
- Unusually warm skin
- Eating or drinking more than usual
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Not urinating
- Being off balance or walking unevenly

5. Parents will be notified immediately if their child displays symptoms of illness. The child must be picked up by an approved adult as soon as possible. A quarantine room has been established for children who display symptoms of sickness.

Staff will be required to wear a mask while supervising the sick child until an approved adult picks him/her up. Sick children will be picked up at the Bethlehem Preschool door.

Parents will be asked to keep their child home if he/she is displaying any of the previously listed symptoms, until the symptoms have been gone for 24 hours without administering symptom-reducing medications, or until a doctor clears the child to return to class.

Any child or staff member with a known or suspected Covid-19 diagnosis will not be allowed to participate until they have 72 hours of no fever without using fever-reducing medications AND at least 8 school days without symptoms.

6. A local contact at the Union County Health Dept. will advise the preschool of any quarantines or closures that might be necessary.
7. Learning packets will be prepared for your child in the event of a necessary quarantine of your child or the entire preschool, due to a diagnosed case of Covid-19, flu, or other childhood illnesses.
8. Staff will be monitored for symptoms and will follow the same guidelines for illnesses.

General Preparedness and Planning for Families

1. If you would like your child to wear a face covering during school hours, you must provide it.
2. Please monitor your child at home and do a visual health check of your child **before** leaving home.

STOP and take temperature. Require sick child to stay at home. **IMPORTANT: Be aware that the health screenings are made outside of the preschool during drop-off times, and BCP reserves the right to exclude your child from the preschool if they are displaying any of the following symptoms or have had these symptoms in the past 24 hours without the administration of symptom reducing medication:**

- Fever above 100.4
- Chills
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Rash
- Muscle aches
- Pink eye
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Display of discomfort or sickness during the visual check

3. If traveling abroad or in areas that have a high volume of Covid-19 cases, or if a family member is diagnosed with or exposed to Covid-19, please self-quarantine your family and your preschooler for 14 days before returning to school.
4. If a family member has been diagnosed or exposed to the flu or any other infectious illnesses, please quarantine your child until no one in the household exhibits symptoms without taking symptom reducing medications.
5. Following HIPPA guidelines, preschool families will be notified of any infectious illnesses associated with the preschool.

Pledge Between Parents and Bethlehem Church Preschool (BCP) For School Year 2020-2021

As a parent or caregiver of a child/children of BCP:

I understand that it is not possible to care for preschoolers from a distance and that the preschool cannot prevent illnesses. I have read and agree to all the **General Preparedness and Planning** BCP has implemented to reduce the risk of infection and illness.

I pledge to follow the **General Preparedness and Planning for Families** guidelines to do my part to reduce and prevent the risk of infections and illness.

I pledge to do health checks on my child before bringing them to preschool. I agree that BCP has the right to exempt my child from preschool if he/she is displaying any symptoms of infection or illness at the time of drop-off or during the school day.

I understand that if my child displays any symptoms of infection or illness during the preschool hours, my child will need to be picked up immediately.

I pledge to communicate with the preschool if my child has an infectious illness that could possibly result in the spread of infection and illness at the preschool.

I pledge to keep my child home if they are displaying any symptoms of illness until the symptoms have been gone for 24 hours without administering symptom-reducing medications or until a doctor clears them to return to class.

I pledge to follow the CDC guidelines if my child or a family member has a known or suspected diagnosis of Covid-19, and I understand that my child will be exempt from the program until they have 72 hours of no fever without using fever-reducing medication **AND** at least 8 school days after symptoms started.

I understand that decisions about closures due to infectious illnesses at BCP may be dependent on the status of outbreak in the community, the number of infected persons within the program, staffing availability, and NC governor orders that mandate the entire state. I understand the financial policies of the preschool and that monthly tuition will **NOT** be refunded in the case of these events.

I pledge to share this information with other caretakers in our family that will be involved in my child's education at BCP.

Signature

Date