

Best Friends for Kidz: COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

We want to assure you that during this pandemic, your safety and the safety of your child(ren) is a top priority. As part of our commitment to providing a safe and enjoyable experience for all in our care, we have taken steps to implement a number of protocols for your protection. We have implemented additional health, safety and sanitation practices that follow public health and regulatory guidelines to prevent the spread of germs. We will continue to educate staff on the prevention and spread of all germs.

Please note that based according to the Centers for Disease Control ("CDC"), children do not appear to be at higher risk for COVID-19 than adults. While some children and infants have been sick with COVID-19, adults make up most of the known cases to date. The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar in children and adults. However, children with confirmed COVID-19 have generally shown mild symptoms. Reported symptoms in children include cold-like symptoms, such as fever, runny nose, and cough. Vomiting and diarrhea have also been reported. Rarely, some children have experienced severe illness and multisystem inflammatory syndrome.

COVID-19/PANDEMIC POLICY & PROTOCOL

- Only enrolled children and employed staff will be permitted in the building on a daily basis (until further notice)
- Daily arrival and departure procedures will take place at the front entrance
- Arrival procedures will include health check and handwashing.
- No visitor will enter the building unless they have a previously scheduled appointment
- Every visitor must comply with Arrival Procedures or will be refused admittance
- Enrollment packets and registration payment forms will be available online
- Newly enrolled families will schedule a visit to meet their child's teachers, submit completed enrollment packet, and drop off their child's belongings for the first week
- All enrolled families MUST sign a COVID-19 related Participation, Waiver and Release Agreement
- Any child or staff member that displays ANY sign or symptom of any illness, must be removed from the classroom and depart from the premises within a 30 minute time frame and will not be permitted to return to Best Friends for Kidz for a minimum of 48 hours
- No child or staff member will be permitted to return to Best Friends for Kidz until they are 100% sign and symptom free of any illness-NO EXCEPTION!
- No child or staff member will be permitted on site if they have been exposed to anyone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19; is under investigation for COVID-19 or is ill with a respiratory illness.

ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

- Family will use hand washing station at the front door before entering the school. (*Please wait outside if more than 2 people in office who are waiting. *)
- Children will be escorted to class one at a time after completing the morning check in procedure with a staff member who will:
 - Check child's temperature is between 96-98 degrees Fahrenheit
 - Complete daily health check with parent

Daily Health Checklist *NOTIFY OFFICE IMMEDIATELY if yes to any of these questions*****

- Are you or your child experiencing any of the following symptoms? Fever, fatigue, cough, headache, sore throat, shortness of breath, loss of appetite, vomiting or diarrhea
- In the previous 14 days, have you or your child had any contact with someone who: has a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19; is under investigation for COVID-19, or is ill with a respiratory illness? If yes, were you/ your child wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment?
- In the previous 14 days, have you or your child traveled to a state or international country with widespread, sustained community transmission?

DEPARTURE PROCEDURES

- Family will ring the bell and wait for their child outdoors at the front entrance
- Family will remain 6 ft apart from each other if they are waiting for their student
- If the front entrance is busy, parents can text or call the office at least 1 minute ahead to have the child escorted to them in the parking lot
- Child will be escorted to the parent

ILLNESS EXCLUSION POLICY

To ensure Best Friends for Kidz maintains a healthy environment, staff and families must share in the responsibility to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. Best Friends for Kidz uses the following three criteria to exclude children and staff with short term illnesses from the group care setting:

1. The child does not feel well enough to participate comfortably in the usual activities of the program.
2. The staff cannot care for the child without interfering with the care of the other children.
3. The child has any of the following that indicate an illness or an immediate need for medical evaluation:

-Fever and/or behavior changes

-Any signs or symptoms of a potentially contagious illness/disease

-Any signs or symptoms of a possible injury

-Any signs or symptoms of a possible serious condition that may require immediate medical evaluation

• Should a child become ill at school, BFF will promptly notify the parent. In the event that parent cannot be reached, BFF will begin calling individuals listed as emergency contacts.

• The child will immediately be removed from the classroom and placed in supervised isolation to await parent arrival

• The parent will be required to pick up the child upon notification (No longer than a 30-minute period)

• The parent will receive an Under the weather report indicating that the child may not return to for 48 hours ALONG with any additional requirements the child must meet before returning to the program

• This form will be signed by an administrator before the parent is notified

Guidelines for a child returning to the center:

1. The child may return once completely free of all signs and symptoms of fever (without fever-reducing medication).

2. The child may return once completely free of all signs and symptoms of vomiting or diarrhea.

3. The child may return once completely free of all signs and symptoms of a contagious skin condition

4. The child may return once completely free of all signs and symptoms head lice.

5. The child may return when once completely free of all signs and symptoms associated with a cold or flu (including ANY eye discharge, ear discharge, nasal discharge, sore throat, coughing, sneezing).

6. The child may return once completely free of all signs and symptoms of illness/disease.

Note: The child must be able to participate in all regularly scheduled activities, including outside play upon returning to school.

SANITATION PROTOCOLS

Before & After Transitions

- Tables, chairs & countertops
- Sinks & toilets
- Soap & paper towel dispensers
- Trashcans
- Door handles & light switches
- Any "mouthed" items
- Sensory table
- All outdoor materials and equipment after each play session

Daily

- Entrance shelves & furniture
- Great room shelves & furniture
- Classroom shelves
- Classroom cubbies
- Classroom materials
- Nap mats
- Classroom and Outdoor Water Pitchers

Weekly

- Nap sheets and blankets
- Classroom windows & doors
- Dramatic play clothing & materials
- Classroom carpets & rugs

CHANGE IN OPERATIONAL HOURS (Effective 6/15/20)

Our program hours have always been 6:30am-6:00pm, We will continue to open at 6:30am. However, due to the new protocols for intensified cleaning and disinfection practices that must be followed at the end of every day, we will now be closing at 6:00pm each day. Please feel free to talk with me if you have any questions or concerns regarding our new closing time.

TIPS FOR PARENTS WHILE YOUR CHILDREN ARE NOT WITH US:

- While your children are out of school, we encourage you to avoid having in-person play dates from other households. If children are playing outside their own homes, the CDC says it is essential that they remain 6 feet from anyone who is not in their own household. To help children maintain social connections while social distancing, help your children have supervised phone calls or video chats with their friends.
- Make sure children practice every day preventive behaviors, such as washing their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and covering their noses/mouths “batman cape style” when they sneeze or cough.
- Children 2 years and older should wear a cloth face covering over their nose and mouth when in public settings where it’s difficult to practice social distancing.
- Encourage your child to play outdoors—it’s great for physical and mental health.
- Be a good role model; your child should see you practicing hygiene, social distancing and wearing a mask.
- Watch your child for any signs of illness. If you are concerned your child may have COVID-19, stay at home, contact your healthcare provider and contact BFF Kidz.

We are closely monitoring updates and guidance from local, state, national, and international health agencies. The safety of your child(ren) is a top priority. We hope we can count on you to join us in doing everything possible to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you, Best Friends for Kidz Administration.

Participation, Waiver and Release Agreement Best Friends for Kidz

The safety of the children in our care is a top priority for Best Friends for Kidz. For their safety as well as our staff, we have implemented a number of protocols to try to limit the spread of COVID-19. On _____ you were furnished a copy of our COVID-19 Protocols. By enrolling or continuing to have your child enrolled at Best Friends for Kidz, you agree to follow our protocols and such other rules as we may advise you of from time to time.

LIABILITY RELEASE:

NOTICE: THIS IS A LEGALLY BINDING AGREEMENT. Read this document carefully and in entirety. By signing this agreement, you give up your right to bring a court action to recover compensation or obtain any other remedy for any personal injury or property damage however caused arising out of your enrollment and/ or participation in any of the program or activities of Best Friends for Kidz, now or at any time in the future.

I, on behalf of myself and minor children for whom I am the parent, guardian or authorized adult (such children are hereafter referred to as "my minor children"), hereby acknowledge and agree that participation in the pre-school at Best Friends for Kidz comes with inherent risks. I have full knowledge and understanding of the inherent risks associated with participation, including but not limited to: (1) slips, trips, and falls, (2) playground injuries, and (3) illness, including exposure to and infection with viruses or bacteria. I further acknowledge that the preceding list is not inclusive of all possible risks associated with participation and that said list in no way limits the scope of this Agreement.

In consideration of my minor children enrolling in the preschool at Best Friends for Kidz and /or being allowed access to its facilities and/or to participate in its activities and programs, I, individually and on behalf of my minor children, do hereby waive, relieve and forever discharge Best Friends for Kidz, and its directors, agents, employees, representatives, attorneys, executors and all others, of and from any and all responsibility or liability for any claims, causes of action, injuries, damages or losses that I or my minor children may suffer arising out of participating in any program or activities at Best Friends for Kidz. I, individually and on behalf of my minor children, further agree to adhere to all policies and protocols set by Best Friends for Kidz, including the COVID-19 Protocols.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE / COVID-19 WARNING & DISCLAIMER:

I understand that Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a contagious virus that spreads easily. Federal and state authorities recommend social distancing as a means to prevent the spread of the virus. COVID-19 can lead to severe illness, personal injury, permanent disability, and death. Participating in pre-schools or accessing programs or facilities such as Best Friends for Kidz could increase the risk of contracting COVID-19. I understand that Best Friends for Kidz in no way warrants that COVID-19 infection will not occur through participation in the preschool or use of facilities at Best Friends for Kidz. On behalf of myself and my minor children, I knowingly and voluntarily assume the risks of injury or loss suffered as a result of participating in the preschool or use of programs or facilities Best Friends for Kidz, including the risk of contracting COVID-19.

I have signed this document knowingly and voluntarily.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Child's Name: _____