

## COVID-19 – Parent Policies

**Updated: August 20, 2020**

**Effective Date: August 31, 2020**

The Oregon Department of Education, Early Learning Division released new policies and regulations that childcare centers must implement. Below are policy changes that will take effect on August 31, 2020 so that Grandma's Place can comply with the new regulations. Please speak to your director if you have any questions. This is new information for teachers as well, so please see directors for clarification.

### **TRAVEL:**

Please remember that Oregon is under a STAY AT HOME as much as possible order. We require families to notify Grandma's Place if your family travels outside of Oregon during the Pandemic. We reserve the right to ask children to quarantine for up to 14 days if they have traveled outside of Oregon. Regular tuition will be due during quarantine.

### **Drop off/Pick Up**

Parents may no longer enter the building for drop off and pick up. In the CFC main building parents can enter the foyer, but may not enter through the door that requires a key code to get in. Annex and Rose Quarter Families must wait outside. Please wait for a staff member to complete a health check and escort the kids to their classroom. We appreciate your patience with this process. We understand that this won't be easy for anybody and will take extra time.

Children must come with a zip up bag each day (like a backpack or diaper bag) that will contain everything they need to bring to school and everything that needs to go home. All bags must be CLEARLY labeled, or we can label the bags for you. This is to expedite pick up. We will have your child's bag ready to go after nap. EVERYTHING for the child's day must fit into this bag, including blanket and sheet (bring to school on the first day of the week and take home on your child's last day). If your child needs a naptime lovey or a toy to help transition to school, these items must too fit into their bag.

Drop off is between 8-9:30 am. Because of the teacher time it takes to do health checks and take children to their classroom, this time must be adhered to unless prior arrangements have been made.

**Pick Up:** Please pick up your child between 3:30-5, unless previous arrangements have been made.

Because parents cannot come into the center, we need to make sure someone is available to bring your children to you. Once children are picked up for the day, even for a pre-arranged appointment, they may not return to school.

**Cloth Diapers:** If your child uses cloth diapers please bring disposable diapers for use for the last diaper change. We will gather all your child's belongings at around 3:30, including the bag for cloth diapers.

This is a big change for all of us. We will try to add extra staff to assist with the drop off/pick up procedure, and we appreciate your patience as we work through these new regulations.

**Stroller/Car Seat Storage/Other:** Because parents cannot enter the center, we can no longer store car seats, strollers, scooters, bikes etc. at the center.

## Communication:

**Infant Dailies:** Infant dailies can be:

- Printed off the website ([www.gpelc.net](http://www.gpelc.net)) and filled out and left in the child's bag
- Write a note and leave in the bag
- Fill out while waiting for your child to be taken to their class

**Texting/email:** Each classroom will have a tablet to communicate with parents. We will be using the APP "Remind" and you will get information later how to connect with your teacher via that App. Please note that teachers cannot always stop what they are doing to read/answer text messages, nor do we want them to. Teachers will check their messages at the beginning of the day for important communications and at quiet time.

In the event of an emergency or urgent communication you can reach a director at the phone numbers below. These messages do not go to the teachers. Again, text and voice mail messages are not private or confidential.

VOICEMAIL: CFC/Annex: 503-249-7533

Rose Quarter: (503) 281-4800

TEXT MSG: CFC/Annex: 503-732-8677

Rose Quarter: (503) 732-8704

[Amy@gpelc.net](mailto:Amy@gpelc.net)

[Cassie@gpelc.net](mailto:Cassie@gpelc.net)

[Becca@gpelc.net](mailto:Becca@gpelc.net)

[Molly@gpelc.net](mailto:Molly@gpelc.net)

## Health Checks:

Health checks will continue outside the center. The questions we ask will be different. We will be asking:

**1. Has the adult or child been exposed to a person with a positive case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?** If the answer is yes, the child must be excluded from childcare for 14 days following the last day of exposure. This cannot be shortened even with a doctor's note and/or negative COVID-19 test.

**2. Has the adult or child been exposed to a person with a presumptive case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?** If the answer is yes, the child must be excluded from childcare for 14 days following the last day of exposure. This cannot be shortened even with a doctor's note and/or negative COVID-19 test.

**3. Is the adult or child experiencing unusual cough, shortness of breath, or fever? "Unusual cough" means something not normal for this person (e.g., allergies, asthma)**

If yes to question 3, that person must be excluded from the program for 10 days, and 24 hours symptom-free. Under some circumstances a doctor's clearance will allow a child to enter care.

**4. Does the child or adult have symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting, headache, sore throat, or rash?**

If yes to question 4, that person must be excluded as follows. • If seen by a medical professional and is cleared, they can remain in or return to the program following the documented direction of the medical professional. • If not seen by a medical professional, they may return 24 hours after resolution of symptoms.

## **Masks**

Please review these policies carefully and talk to your school age kids. Please practice these policies at home.

- Children in Kindergarten and older must wear face coverings or masks. If a child refuses to wear a mask the child may remove their mask and the teacher must then try to re-engage the child to put their mask back on. Children not wearing a mask must social-distance from other children. Masks must be changed if it gets soiled.
- Parents will provide masks. A minimum of 2 masks should be sent every day in case one gets soiled. Clean masks should be brought each day.
- Children with a disability or doctors note do not have to wear a mask.
- Parents will be notified if their child refuses to wear a mask and we will ask parents to help with education and compliance. Continual refusal to wear a mask, without a doctor's note, may result in dis-enrollment.
- Hands should be washed or sanitized with hand sanitizer when a mask is touched. Hand sanitizer will be supervised by a teacher.
- Masks should be removed before eating and kept in a designated spot. Hands should be sanitized or washed after removing mask and before eating.
- Hands must be washed/sanitized when putting a mask on, and after removing a mask.

## **Breast Feeding/Health Concerns:**

Breast feeding moms may enter the center to breastfeed, after passing a health check. Please talk to the director if breastfeeding arrangements need to be made. We will provide quiet time in the office or empty classroom for breastfeeding. Disinfectant wipes or spray will be available. Please wipe down the area before and after use, or let your teacher know if you were not able to so we can get the area cleaned.

Please talk to your director at drop off or pick up if you have health or safety concern that need to be discussed. We can plan for a conference call with your child's teacher or, if necessary, a face to face meeting. You may also email a director (see above for email addresses).

## **PODS:**

In order to stabilize class groups and teachers, our classrooms operate in Pods. Each classroom has stable teachers, and each Pod has stable break people and subs. We believe this increases safety and decrease potential exposure to your children.

In the event of an ill teacher or an emergency, we may have to close a classroom rather than introducing a new teacher to the Pod. We will notify you via text by 6:30 am if your classroom must close. We may also need to limit the amount of kids we can care for in your classroom due to staff illness. If situation occurs, we will again notify you by text and ask for volunteers to keep their child home. If necessary, we will prioritize care for children whose parents are essential workers.