

February 28, 2022

Dear families,

We have received updated guidance from the Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning (OECOSL) regarding COVID. Because of the rapid changes to guidance, these might change again based on the spread of COVID in our area, but the current guidance effective February 28, 2022:

- <u>Isolation of close contacts of someone testing positive for COVID is no longer required</u>. However, those who have been exposed to a diagnosed case of COVID should monitor for developing symptoms. *This means, no more closing of classrooms!*
- If a child tests positive for COVID, we must still be notified immediately to let close contacts know of possible exposure.
  - If positive, a child must be isolate at home for (day one starts the day after testing positive):
    - Ages 5+, must be out for 5 days and may return on day 6 if fever free for at least 24
      - hours without medication and wear a mask for an additional 5 days
    - Infants up until age 5, must be out for 7 days and may return on day 8 if fever free for at least 24 hours without medication and symptoms are improving.
- "The overlap between COVID-19 symptoms with other common illnesses means that some people with symptoms of COVID-19 could be ill with something else. This is even more likely in young children, who typically have multiple viral illnesses each year. Although COVID-19, colds and flu illnesses have similar symptoms, they are different diseases. Children who have symptoms of infectious illness or certain symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend." We will ask that they are cleared by a doctor to be here if they have any of the following symptoms:
  - Fever (temperature of 100.4°F or higher)
  - Sore throat
  - Diarrhea, vomiting or stomachache
  - New onset of severe headache
  - New cough that causes difficulty breathing (for a child with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, is t different than their normal cough)
- We are asking that PreK (3's,4's,5's) and School Age continue to wear masks while they are here until Easter, and we will reassess then.
- Naptime items must be taken home to be washed weekly if your child is sick, we ask that these items be washed daily or every other day.

Any questions, please refer them to Courtney or me. Thank you for your assistance with helping to keep everyone heathy.

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