

ENHANCED COVID-19 POLICIES:

Please note these policies are subject to change based on guidelines given by local health officials, the CDC and the Office of Early Childhood.

Enhanced Health Checks

The program will follow OEC licensing regulations. Medication (prescription/over the counter) must be brought in by the parent in the original bottle and given to staff accompanied by a medication order. Staff cannot give the first dose of any medication. Staff will monitor children for signs of illness and children who become ill will be placed in a designated space away from other children. Staff will be diligent with cleaning and sanitizing procedures. In addition, the following practices will be in place:

Handwashing Procedures

All staff and children must adhere to regular hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as follows:

- Before coming in contact with any child;
- Before and after eating;
- After sneezing, coughing or nose blowing;
- After using the restroom;
- Before handling food;
- After touching or cleaning surfaces that may be contaminated; and
- After using any shared equipment like toys, computer keyboards, mouse.

If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol based sanitizer. Adults should always supervise use of alcohol based sanitizers. Likewise, all handwashing activities will be supervised by adults to verify that children are properly washing their hands for twenty seconds.

All staff must cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or the corner of the elbow. All staff must also encourage children, when appropriate, to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or the corner of the elbow. All soiled tissues must be disposed of immediately after use.

COVID-19 Precautions

If a child presents with symptoms of COVID-19 either at home or while at the program (e.g. uncontrolled cough, chills, fever of 100 degrees or higher, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing, or loss of taste or smell), the parent should consult with the child's medical provider. Children will not be able to return to the program until symptoms have improved and if possible, a negative COVID-19 test has been confirmed. If a child or family member is diagnosed with COVID-19, this MUST be reported to staff immediately.

Cleaning Protocols

All protocols for routine cleaning and disinfection of the child care center including the sanitization and disinfection of tables and equipment are in accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the State Department of Public Health guidelines as well as guidelines of Best Practice set forth the Office of Early Childhood (OEC).

Requirement that all sick children and staff are to stay home:

We are required to communicate to parents the importance of keeping children home when they are sick.

We are required to communicate to staff the importance of being vigilant for symptoms and staying in touch with the Program Director if or when they start to feel sick.

Person to Person Spread:

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
- Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

Maintaining good social distance (at least 6 feet) is very important in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Spread from Contact with Contaminated Surfaces or Objects:

It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes. This is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads, but we are still learning more about the virus. Staff and children will sanitize their hands immediately upon arrival at a YMCA program.

Face Masks & Cloth Face Coverings:

All staff and children will adhere to the Governor's Executive Order requiring face masks/coverings. Staff and children must wear masks/coverings at all times while indoors. While outside, children may remove the face covering as long as they can maintain social distancing.

It is the parent's responsibility to provide a clean and appropriately fitting face mask for the child to wear while at school each day. Parents should also provide spare masks to keep in your child's backpack in the event that their mask becomes contaminated or soiled. All face masks should be clearly labeled with your child's name in a plastic Ziploc baggie. Cloth face masks must be brought home and washed each day. If a child's masks become soiled, staff will provide children with an additional disposable mask.

Cleaning & Disinfection Protocols:

All protocols for routine cleaning and disinfection of the child care center including the sanitization and disinfection of tables and equipment are in accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the State Department of Public Health guidelines as well as guidelines of Best Practice set forth the Office of Early Childhood (OEC).

All surfaces including tables, benches, chairs, and countertops will be sprayed or wiped down with disinfectant throughout the day.

Response and Management of Case(s) or Probable Case(s):

- In the event someone feels ill, they should report to the School Age Program Director immediately.
- The Head Teacher will assess the child, while wearing appropriate PPE.
- A sick individual will be isolated; children or staff will be required to leave the program if temp is over 100.
- All parents of the group, and anyone who meets the definition of close contact will be contacted, to inform them that a child or staff member from their group has left camp due to a probable case.
- If we are informed of a positive COVID-19 test, an email will be sent to the families from that program. All parents of the group, and anyone who meets the definition of close contact will be contacted, to inform them that a child or staff member from their group has tested positive for COVID-19.
- The YMCA programs will follow CDC guidance on how to disinfect our building or facility if someone is sick.
- If your child shows symptoms of COVID-19 and tests positive within one week of leaving the program, please inform us so we are able to help with community contact tracing.

Reporting:

In February 2020, COVID-19 was added to the List of Reportable Diseases. Those required to report such diseases must report cases of COVID-19 infection immediately to the Connecticut Department of Public Health and to the local department of health in the town of residence of the case-patient by telephone on the day of recognition or strong suspicion of the disease. The COVID-19 report form is available on the DPH website at <https://dphsubmissions.ct.gov/Covid/InitiateCovidReport>

- Additional practices to those below may be recommended to the provider in consultation with the local health department or the CT Department of Public Health.
- We will contact our local health department or the CT Department of Public Health.
- We will determine the date of symptom onset for the child/staff member.
- We will determine if the child/staff member attended/worked at the program while symptomatic or during the two days before symptoms began.
- We will identify what days the child/staff member attended/worked during that time.
- We will determine who had close contact with the child/staff member at the program during those days (staff and other children)

- We will exclude the children and staff members who are determined to have had close contact with the affected child/staff member for 14 days after the last day they had contact with the affected child/staff members.
- We will conduct appropriate cleaning and disinfection:
 - Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
 - Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the areas.
 - Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning and disinfecting.
 - Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms, and common areas.
 - If more than 7 days have passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
 - Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.

A child/staff will be unable to attend until the following conditions are met:

- If you have not had a test to determine if you are still contagious, you can leave home after these three things have happened:
 - You have had no fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers)
 - AND
 - Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved)
 - AND
 - At least 10 days have passed since your symptoms first appeared
- If you have had a test to determine if you are still contagious, you can leave home after these three things have happened:
 - You no longer have a fever (without the use of medicine that reduces fevers)
 - AND
 - Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved)
 - AND
 - You received two negative tests in a row, at least 24 hours apart. Your doctor will follow CDC guidelines.

Contact Tracing:

Assessing and informing those with potential exposure is a fundamental control strategy for minimizing spread within a group or camp population.

CDC defines this as *“Based on our current knowledge, a close contact is someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before illness onset until the time the patient is isolated. They should stay home, maintain social distancing, and self- monitor until 14 days from the last date of exposure.”*