

## Sacred Heart Childcare Covid-19 Plan

### Frequent Handwashing

- Reinforce handwashing routines, especially upon arrival, after having been in a public place or after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not available, children/staff will use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Students will be supervised at all times when using hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer will be inaccessible to children when not in use.

### Practicing Healthy Hand Hygiene

- Arrival to the childcare
- Before and after eating or handling food
- After using the toilet or helping a child use the bathroom
- Before and after diapering
- After coming in contact with bodily fluid
- After playing outdoors or in sand
- After handling garbage

### Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Routine cleaning and disinfecting is key to maintaining a safe environment for our children and staff.
- High-touch surfaces such as doorknobs, light switches, stair rails, counters, table/chairs, shared toys and games, program equipment, sink handles, nap pads, toilet seats and potty chairs, desks and other items are regularly cleaned and disinfected.
- Staff will minimize the use of shared supplies such as crayons, markers, glue sticks, art & crafts, etc. that cannot be sanitized.
- Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized should not be used. Examples are use of sensory items such as playdough, sticky beads, putty, etc. that cannot be sanitized effectively.

- Provide pens in each child's parent's folders to be used only by that family when checking child in/out. The pens should be routinely sanitized.
- Toys that children have placed in their mouths or that are otherwise contaminated by body secretions or excretions should be set aside until they are cleaned by hand by a person wearing gloves.
- Bedding that touches a child's skin will be cleaned weekly
- Machine washable cloth toys will not be used at all.

### **Arrival and Departure**

- Pick up and drop off will occur with limiting the extent to which parents enter the childcare and interact with each other.
- We will screen children for symptoms, including taking each child's temperature with a no-touch thermometer. Children who have a fever of 100.4 F. or above or show other signs of illness will not be allowed to stay at the childcare.
- We will provide parents with information on the importance of monitoring symptoms and children staying home while ill along with written protocols from the MN Dept. of Health.

### **Plans for sick children and staff**

- Staff will conduct daily health checks. We want to make sure that anyone that exhibits any symptoms of illness are not present in the program.
- Symptoms: Fever of 100.4F or higher, chills, body aches, shortness of breath, fatigue, sore throat, loss of taste and smell, diarrhea, headache.
- If a staff member or child gets sick, the person will go to an area isolated from the rest of the children. They will wait there until they are able to be picked up. Any identified positive cases of COVID-19 will be reported to MDH.

- The childcare will communicate with families when someone in the program has tested positive for COVID-19, is exhibiting symptoms, and or exposed. The childcare will contact MDH with any questions

### **Social Distancing throughout the Day**

- Our Staff will limit group sizes as much as possible and create consistent groups of children.
- We will focus on small group or individual activities, rather than whole group whenever possible.
- We will have activities outdoors so children can spread out pending weather.
- During rest time cots or mats will be spaced out as much as possible.
- Staff and parents will maintain social distance while talking to each other.

### **Source Control and Cloth face coverings**

- Cloth face coverings are an important piece of mitigating the spread of the virus, but are only effective if it can stay in place without being pulled on or touched by the person wearing it or others. Staff members are encouraged to wear cloth face coverings during the work day as much as possible, recognizing the development needs of the children in their care.
- Children should not wear face coverings unless they can reliably wear, remove and handle the cloth face covering throughout the day. MDH does not recommend that children attending childcare programs wear cloth coverings.
- Parents are required to wear masks when indoors or not socially distanced outdoors at pick-up or drop-off.

### **Workplace Ventilation**

- Recognizing this may difficult in center or school buildings, where possible work to maximize the amount of fresh air being brought

in, limit air recirculation and make sure ventilation systems are being properly used and maintained. Take steps to minimize air flow blowing across people. It could mean keeping windows open where possible, removing or repositioning fans and encourage outdoor time.

- Open windows as much as possible pending weather conditions.
- Increased outdoor playtime pending weather conditions.

### **Playground use**

- We have a designated playground for childcare children only
- Children will wash hands before and after playing outside.

### **Meals and Snacks**

- Meals and snacks will be served in the classroom.
- Each meal and snack will be plated individually
- Children will wash hands before and after eating.
- Tables will be cleaned and sanitized before and after meal/snack service

### **Field trips and events**

Not applicable due to our facility does not go on field trips or hold events.

### **Communication and training**

- Communicate to families via e-mail
- Plan will be accessible to staff and family in the front of parent sign in/out folders
- Plan will be reviewed with staff and individuals will updated on any changes to the plan
- Staff with concerns about their employer's COVID-19 Preparedness Plan or questions about their rights should contact

MNOSHA Compliance at [osha.compliance@state.mn.us](mailto:osha.compliance@state.mn.us), 651-284-5050 or 877-470-6742.