

COVID-19 Policy

My Little Shine Home Daycare (Updated 2/16/2021)

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to announce changes that needed to be made to our program due to the current pandemic. It is vital that we work together with parents to create a better and safer environment for all the children and their families. Therefore, this policy will outline the changes we have made, as well as certain points that we will require parents to follow. If there are any questions or comments concerning this policy, please feel free to communicate with us.

Our Goals

Our main goal with this policy is to maintain the health and well-being of the children under our care. We strive to provide each child with a loving and safe environment in which they can grow. As difficult as this pandemic has made things, we will continue to follow through with this mission, making the proper changes in order to do so. Your children are our top priority and we commit to creating that safe environment that they deserve.

What We Will Do

In accordance with the Arlington Child Care Office and the Commonwealth of Virginia, certain changes are necessary in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to promote the health of infants and children. With this in mind, we will adhere to the following modifications:

- ALL staff will be subject to daily temperature checks.
- ALL staff will be required to wear a face mask and proper PPE.
- ALL staff will practice proper handwashing when necessary.
- ANY staff member presenting symptoms will not be allowed to work with children.
- ALL touchable surfaces will be thoroughly sanitized after every use.
- ANY toy or item accessible to children will be disinfected after every use.
- At this time, sharing toys, snacks and personal items will be discouraged.
- At this time, parental visits during working hours will be discouraged.
- Pick up and Drop off will be held OUTSIDE.

- Children will have their own individual places to play, sleep, and eat.
- Proper social distancing will be implemented, between children and/or staff whenever safely possible.

We realize that these changes may be especially difficult for children to understand, therefore, we ask that parents help their children to adapt to these changes by practicing them at home.

What Parents Can Do

As a provider, I will do my best to safely care for the children entrusted to me, however, we will also need parent's help to keep the disease from transmitting to others. The following guidelines are REQUIRED by all parents who choose to bring their child to daycare:

- We ask that ALL parents wear face masks or face coverings when picking up or dropping off their child.
- As announced by the Commonwealth of Virginia, ANY child over the age of two must wear a face mask. (Please note that face masks will not be used during naps, as it is a suffocating hazard for small children)
- We ask that parents abstain from entering the play area.
- We ask that parents bring an extra change of clothes for their child to change into after drop off.
- Parents and children will be subject to a temperature check every day.
- ANY child presenting symptoms will not be admitted or will be asked to be picked up immediately.
- If a parent presents symptoms, we will ask that they abstain from bringing their child to daycare.
- A sick child who does NOT have COVID-19 will be asked to stay at home for a certain period of time. Once the child recovers, he or she will ONLY be admitted with *a signed, stamped, and dated doctor's note, specifying what illness they had, and that the illness that they had was not COVID-19.*

In addition, parents will be asked to fill out a bi-weekly questionnaire asking whether or not they or their child have been in contact with someone who has had or has symptoms of COVID-19. If a parent or child chooses to vaccinate, we ask that they please stay at home for the first two weeks.

If ANY child or parent is experiencing*:

- Loss of taste/smell
- Cough
- Fever (100.4F or more) or chills
- Difficulty Breathing or shortness of breath

- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- Nausea or vomiting
- Congestion or runny nose
- Headache or muscle/body aches
- Diarrhea

We will kindly ask that they please stay at home and monitor their symptoms in order to prevent spreading of the virus. (In the case that it is not COVID, we ask that parents provide adequate verification).

**according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

Emergency Procedures

In the case that a staff member or ANYONE within the household has been exposed or has contracted the virus, all parents will be notified immediately and be asked to pick up their child as soon as possible.

The staff member will be asked:

- To take a COVID test
- Will not be allowed to return to work unless they receive a negative result *and*, if COVID positive, they must be cleared by a medical professional.

A household member will be asked:

- To take a COVID test
- Go into quarantine (the quarantine will not be lifted until they receive negative results *and*, if COVID positive, they must be cleared by a medical professional)

If someone within the household has been exposed or has contracted the virus, a quarantine will be effective immediately and the daycare will close until the household member has received a negative result and cleared by a medical professional.

We will ALWAYS notify parents immediately of ANY possible case or if we suspect someone may have been exposed or contracted COVID.

In the case that the daycare closes, all contaminated clothing, toys, etc. that may have come in contact with the person suspected to have or been exposed to COVID, will immediately be set apart and quarantined for 14 days. After this period has elapsed, they will be disinfected and sanitized

THOROUGHLY, as well as the entire daycare area. The daycare will not reopen until these procedures have been followed.

Additional Suggestions

Children learn habits from those around them. Because of this, we would like to share some helpful tips with parents.

- Practice proper handwashing (singing two “happy birthdays” should be enough)
- Help them to avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth as much as possible.
- Accustom them to seeing others wearing masks (as this can be a bit scary for them).
- Practice social distancing whenever possible.



Just like you, we will also be working with them to establish healthy habits. We understand that adjusting to the changes the pandemic has brought will take time but we know that it will be for the better. We ask that parents please sign this policy with us to help us flatten the curve and keep children safe.

X

Childcare Provider

Date: _____

X

Parent

Date: _____

Contact us!

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