



ST. PATRICK'S PRESCHOOL

Health and Safety Plan
(New policies and procedures)

2850 Quebec Street
Vancouver BC
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CONTENTS

ABOUT COVID 19
ASSESSING RISK
ACCESS TO ST. PATRICK'S PRESCHOOL
PICK UP AND DROP OFF
HAND HYGIENE AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE
PHYSICAL DISTANCING
IF CHILD/STAFF DEVELOP SYMPTOMS WHILE AT PRESCHOOL
CLEANING AND SANITIZING
USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)
MEALS AND SNACKS
DOCUMENTATION AND TRAINING
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MONITORING

Things may change when preschool re-opens. If and when a new area of concern is addressed steps will be taken to update these policies and procedures.

WHAT IS COVID 19

Covid 19 is a respiratory illness caused by the novel coronavirus symptoms may include

- Fever
- Chills
- Cough or worsening of chronic cough
- Breathing difficulties (breathing fast or working hard to breathe)
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Gastrointestinal issues such as diarrhea, nausea or vomiting

(Public Health Guidance for Child Care Settings During the COVID-19 based on known evidence as of September 25th 2020)

Self assessment tool [BC COVID 19](#)

ASSESS THE RISKS

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads in several ways. It can spread in droplets when a person coughs or sneezes. It can also spread if you touch a contaminated surface and then touch your face. The risk of person-to-person transmission increases the closer you come to other people, the more time you spend near them, and the more people you come near. The risk of surface transmission increases when many people contact the same surface and when those contacts happen over short periods of time.

ACCESS TO ST. PATRICK'S PRESCHOOL

Staff, children, parents, and caregivers must NOT enter the workplace if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or have travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days or have been identified by public health as a close contact of a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19.

- Parents and caregivers are required to assess their children daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease prior to drop off. Parents and caregivers must keep their children at home until they have been

assessed by a health care provider to exclude COVID-19 or other infectious diseases, and their symptoms have resolved.

★ Families are asked to use the self-assessment tool at <https://bc.thrive.health/> to assess symptoms or call 8-1-1

- Staff with symptoms of COVID-19 will be excluded from work, stay home, and self-isolate until they have been assessed by a health care provider to exclude COVID-19 or other infectious disease, and their symptoms have resolved.

DROP OFF (Please wait in your car until 8:45 am)

- Please arrive no earlier than 8:45am and wait in your car until you see the preschool teachers.
- Please line up near the ramp (in the parking lot against the eastside of the school) keeping yourself physically distanced from other families.
- Returning students are encouraged to say “goodbye” and enter the preschool with their teacher. Teachers will ensure children wash their hands before playing.
- New students are encouraged to say “goodbye” and enter the preschool with their teachers. However, if needed, one parent or caregiver can come into the preschool and leave once your child has hung up their coat and washed their hands. Only 2 families will enter the building at a time remaining socially distant from the teachers and other parents. **Please wear a mask when distancing yourself isn't possible. (Especially in the “coat room” which is a very small area).**
- Teachers will sign your child “in and out” everyday.
- It is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to access their children **DAILY** for symptoms of COVID-19 or respiratory illness. Please contact the preschool if you have been diagnosed with Covid 19 or has been in direct contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19.

- If you are running late, please knock on the preschool door located near the ramp on the east side of the school.

PICK UP

PLEASE WAIT IN YOUR CAR UNTIL YOU SEE THE PRESCHOOL TEACHERS AND CHILDREN.

- Children will be dismissed outside. Please wait outside near the ramp (in the parking lot against the eastside of the school) and we will dismiss children one at a time. We ask that you leave promptly. There is no socializing on the school property.
- If you are running late please meet us at the preschool door. If you are unsure where the door is please call the school office (604) 879-4411 and they will direct your call to preschool.

HAND HYGIENE AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

CHILDREN WILL WASH THEIR HANDS REGULARLY THROUGHOUT THE DAY INCLUDING,

- Children will wash their hands as soon as they have hung up their coats. A teacher will be there to guide them in proper hand washing.
- Children will wash their hands regularly. Upon arrival, after using the washroom, blowing their nose or coughing, playing outside and before and after eating, whenever hands are visibly dirty. Children will wash their hands at the end of the day before going home.

STAFF WILL WASH THEIR HANDS REGULARLY THROUGHOUT THE DAY INCLUDING,

- When they arrive at the workplace and before they go home
- Before and after handling food
- Before and after giving or applying medication or ointment to a child or self
- After changing diapers
- After assisting a child to use the toilet
- After using the toilet
- After contact with body fluids (e.g., runny noses, spit, vomit, blood)
- Before donning and after doffing personal protective equipment
- After cleaning tasks
- After handling garbage

- Whenever hands are visibly dirty
- Before and after eating and drinking

- After a diaper change
- After using the toilet
- After playing outside
- After sneezing or coughing
- Whenever hands are visibly dirty

WE WILL PROVIDE EDUCATION AND DIRECTION TO STAFF AND CHILDREN TO:

- Cough or sneeze into their elbow or a tissue
- Throw away used tissues and immediately wash their hands.
- Not touch their eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- Staff will maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from each other and wear masks when distancing isn't possible.
- Occupancy limits for common areas such as the staffroom have been established.
- Only 2 families (at a time if needed) will enter the school building maintaining at least 2 meters distance.
- Staff will minimize the frequency of direct physical contact with children.
- We will have a number of separate play areas in order to minimize the number of children in one area.
- Children will be spaced out during snack time limiting how many children sit at one table.

IF A CHILD DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS WHILE AT PRESCHOOL

- A staff member will supervise the child and immediately separate the symptomatic child from others in a supervised area until they can go home.
- Staff will contact the child's parent or caregiver to pick them up right away.
- If possible, staff will maintain a distance of 2 metres from the ill child. If this is not possible, the staff member may use a mask and or face shield.

- The child will be provided with tissues, and support as necessary so they can practice respiratory hygiene.
- We will open the windows to increase air circulation in the area.
- Once the child is picked up, we will wash our hands, clean and disinfect the space where the child was resting and any areas used by the child (e.g., bathroom, common areas).

PARENTS OR CAREGIVERS MUST PICK UP THEIR CHILD PROMPTLY ONCE NOTIFIED THAT THEIR CHILD IS ILL.

CLEANING AND SANITIZING

- Staff will make sure all common areas are cleaned before, during and after children arrive. For example: washrooms, frequently touched surfaces like door knobs, cupboard handles, light switches, faucet handles, tables, chairs, and toys.
- Toys and objects that children have placed in their mouths will be set aside and or cleaned and disinfected immediately.
- Garbage will be emptied daily at a minimum
- If a worker or child leaves the preschool due to symptoms of COVID-19, we will clean areas those individuals were in, including surfaces they may have touched, immediately upon their departure.
- Children will be kept at a distance when staff are disinfecting tables, chairs or areas needed to be cleaned during preschool hours.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Staff will use masks and or shields when social distancing is unavailable, or when a child is showing signs of illness.
- We will use gloves when cleaning body fluids such as runny nose, vomit, stool, urine and when diapering. Hands will be washed immediately after.
- Children DO NOT need to wear masks or gloves

SNACK TIME

- Staff will follow proper hand hygiene procedures when preparing snack for the children
- Tables will be cleaned and disinfected before snack time
- We will serve the children their food and drink
- Children will be unable to help with snack preparation at this time.
- Children will be spaced out during snack time limiting how many children sit at one table.
- Plates, cups, and utensils will be washed and disinfected daily.

DOCUMENTATION AND TRAINING

Staff have been trained on:

- The risk of exposure to COVID-19 and the signs and symptoms of the disease
- Safe work procedure or instructions to be followed, including hand washing and cough/sneeze etiquette.
- How to report an exposure to or symptoms of COVID-19
- Changes made to work policies, practices and procedures due to COVID-19

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Infection Prevention and Exposure Control Measures

Infection prevention and control measures can help create a safe environment for children and staff. The Hierarchy of Infection Prevention and Exposure Control Measures for Communicable Disease describes the measures that can be taken to reduce the transmission of COVID-19.

Public Health Measures are actions taken across society to limit the spread and reduce the impact of COVID-19. The Provincial Health Officer has implemented public health measures, including: prohibiting mass gatherings, requiring travellers to self-isolate upon arrival in B.C., effective case finding and contact tracing, and emphasizing the need for people to stay home when they are sick.

Environmental Measures are physical changes in the setting that reduce risk of exposure by isolation or ventilation. Examples include being in outdoor spaces, having good ventilation and

air exchange, using visual cues for maintaining physical distance, erecting physical barriers where appropriate and frequent cleaning and disinfection.

Administrative Measures are measures enabled through the implementation of policies, procedures, training and education. Examples of these include changes in scheduling and work practices, and decreased density of individuals.

Personal Measures are actions individuals can take to both protect themselves and others. These include staying home when sick, physical distancing, minimizing direct physical contact, respiratory hygiene, and hand hygiene.