

COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

One of United Church and the United Church Nursery School's goals is to promote the health, safety and welfare of students, staff and families. With the COVID-19 virus/variants, we strive to keep the risks low and reduce the spread of this disease.

To help keep everyone safe, the United Church board and UCNS have implemented some safety procedures. These policies and procedures are based on CDC guidelines, the Anderson County Health Department, American Academy of Pediatrics' recommendations, and information provided by local health care providers.

These policies and procedures are outlined as followed:

● **ARRIVAL & CHECK IN**

- The family needs to let us know if they or any members of their household have any of the following...
 - Have a fever?
 - Shortness of breath?
 - Cough?
 - Signs of respiratory illness?
- There will be one direction traffic through the building.
- Any and all people entering UCNS must follow the same procedures as staff and students:

● **MASKS:**

- All teachers, staff and parents will need to wear a face mask and/or shield inside the building.
- Children that are in the oldest classroom will wear a mask while inside the building unless medically unable to do so. Children in the middle classroom will have the option to wear a mask (this could change depending on the number of cases).
- Please remember that there are some children regardless of age that can NOT wear a mask due to a medical reason or a sensory issue.
- Adults and children will not be required to wear a mask while outside.
- If you choose to not wear a mask/face shield, you may not be permitted inside the building per the United Church. Someone will be at the door to take your child to class/return your child to you and you can sign them in/out with the director.
- Please remember that if you see an adult with a face shield instead of a mask, there may be a medical reason that they cannot wear one.

● **PICK-UP OF CHILD**

- If the adult has to enter the building, they must wear a mask/face covering.
- Once again, there will be one way traffic through the building.

● **HANDWASHING**

- Proper hand washing is one of the best ways to stop the spread of germs.
 - Upon arrival at the school, we will have hand sanitizer available to use at several locations in the building. Upon the child entering the classroom, they are required to wash hands. The teachers and staff will be monitoring students' hand washing, including using timers of some sort, as a way to help the students wash their hands properly.
- **SNACK TIME**
 - UCNS will still provide juice. Parents will still be responsible for bringing in a snack. These must be individually packaged items, this includes packaging the snacks at home and bringing them into the classroom.
- **CLEANING**
 - Ionizers with HEPA filters will be run in every classroom to help clean the air of germs.
 - Multi-touch areas, such as door knobs, handrails, light switches, chairs, etc., will be wiped throughout the day.
 - Toys will be sanitized frequently. Any toy (and surface) that is sneezed or coughed upon will be either cleaned and sanitized immediately or physically removed to be cleaned and sanitized at a later time. Any toy that a child puts in his or her mouth will be cleaned and sanitized before another child can play with it.
 - Bathrooms will be cleaned throughout the day. The bathrooms will be sprayed with bleach water after use by each classroom.
- **SICK AT SCHOOL (unknown illness)**
 - If a staff member gets sick at school, then he/she will immediately be sent home. Staff members may not be at UCNS if they are sick. Any persons in the staff member's household must also be healthy (same protocol as students).
 - If a student gets sick at school, he or she will be immediately removed from the classroom and will be isolated in the Nursery School office. The parents will be notified and will have to pick up their child immediately.
 - The classroom will be thoroughly sanitized.
 - Procedures for return, by student or staff member:
 - Fever free, WITHOUT the aid of medication for at least 24 hours.
 - No signs of respiratory illness
- **IF A STAFF MEMBER SHOWS SIGNS OF ILLNESS AFTER LEAVING THE SCHOOL**
 - The classroom could possibly be closed until the staff member gets tested for Covid and receives their results. The classroom will also be deep cleaned.
 - If the staff member tests positive for Covid then the protocols given by the Health Department will be followed.
 - If the staff member tests negative, then they may return as long as they are fever free, WITHOUT the aid of medication for at least 24 hours and they are showing no signs of respiratory illness.
- **IF A STAFF MEMBER TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19**
 - Anderson County Health Department and our DHS program evaluator will be notified.

- The adults and children that have had direct contact with the staff member will be notified first. Then an email will be sent to all families and staff. Strict confidentiality will be maintained.
 - UCNS will follow the guidance and recommendations of the Anderson County Health Department on how to handle this situation; which will likely include but not limited to closing classrooms and/or the center and strict cleaning and sanitation procedures.
- **IF A STUDENT TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19**
 - Anderson County Health Department and our DHS program evaluator will be notified.
 - All families and staff will be notified of a COVID-19 case. Strict confidentiality will be maintained.
 - UCNS will follow the guidance and recommendations of the Anderson County Health Department in how to handle this situation; which will likely include but not limited to closing classrooms and/or the center and strict cleaning and sanitation procedures.
- **DIRECT EXPOSURE TO COVID-19**
 - United Church Nursery School will be notified immediately if a household member or other direct contact of a student or teacher is quarantined for COVID-exposure, or isolated for COVID-illness.
 - If any person at UCNS has had direct contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, then the following procedures must be followed:
 - Quarantine for recommended number of days;
 - AND, have no symptoms (i.e. fever, cough, shortness of breath, etc.) for 3 days before returning;