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**Family Handbook**

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**Policy Manual**

**12 Rowell Drive**

**Franklin, New Hampshire 03235**

**(603) 671-1109 fax (603) 671-1103**

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**Tiny Twisters Child Care Center** was developed in 2006 by eight local community members and the Franklin School District looking to fill a number needs our community:

* Establish a program that would be able to provide care for infants of teenage mothers that need to finish their high school educations;
* Establish a program where the districts early intervention pre-school could obtain child care for the developmentally challenged children where they could be easily accessible to their therapy teams; and
* Fill a need for quality early childhood programming in their community.

The Center was originally housed in the Franklin High School, home of the “Golden Tornadoes” hence our name – Tiny Twisters. Tiny Twisters expanded and relocated to the Bessie Rowell Community Center in July 2012. We are a nonprofit organization offering early educational opportunities to children in our community, community service and volunteer opportunities to high school students, and child care to teen parents looking to finish their high school education. We are dedicated and committed to providing top quality childcare within a safe, nurturing, and developmentally appropriate environment.

We are a Child Care Licensed agency, licensed by the State of New Hampshire, Department of Health and Human Services, and Bureau of Child Care Licensing.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

“The mission of the ‘Tiny Twisters’ Child Care Center is that children have opportunities to grow up knowing they are important and unique individuals. They will develop confidence in their abilities and a sense of connectedness in the community. Families will be offered information and education to support their children in this journey.”

**OUR PHILOSOPHY**

It is the philosophy of Tiny Twisters Child Care Center that children need to be treated as individuals, and to feel safe and secure. We strive to provide our children with opportunities for learning through play, interacting with others, and being involved and engaged in the process of how they are growing.We believe that children learn best through meaningful play. Our play-based, child centered learning and development program reflects the integration of physical, cognitive, social, emotional and language areas for the development of the whole child. Meaningful play encourages curiosity, discovery and problem solving which allows for individual growth, development of a positive self- image and ensures that our children are kindergarten ready. We are committed to providing high quality and affordable child care. We expect and encourage all staff to work effectively as a team and caring teachers of our center’s children, while they continually work to update their skills and knowledge through formal education, training and center initiated learning opportunities. We strive to foster a positive and fulfilling relationship between staff, children, families and our community based on mutual respect and support as we continually work together on the important task of building a bigger and brighter future through our children.

**FACILITIES**

Tiny Twisters is located at the Bessie C. Rowell Community Center and we currently offer four classrooms where the natural course of learning is nurtured in our stimulating environment where the children and their families are our number one priority.

* Non-mobile Raindrops (6wks – 1yr)
* Dancing Raindrops (1 - 2 yrs.)
* The Puddle Jumpers (2 - 3 yrs.)
* Hurricane Hunters (3 - 4 yrs.)
* Mini Monsoons (4 - 5 yrs.)

We do not discriminate based on a child’s race, ethnicity, gender or religion.

*\* Programming guidelines may be adjusted based on developmental disabilities and the special needs of its children. Approved by Board of Directors 6/8/2016*

**Please Note:** we are located in a “Drug Free Zone” and all facilities, including outdoor spaces, are smoke-free.

**CHILD CARE STAFF**

Our well-trained professional child care teachers meet our standards of 18 professional development training hours per year and they follow the Code of Ethical Conduct as set forth by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Our organization works as a team and we encourage collaboration among team members on policies, classroom management, behavioral techniques and curriculum planning.

The Child Care Teachers prepare the daily curriculum which is reviewed monthly by the Director. All concerns and/or questions pertaining to your child's care should be addressed to the Child Care Teacher(s) first, then to the Director.

**DAYS & TIMES OF OPERATION/HOLIDAYS**

The Child Care Program is open Monday through Friday, 52 weeks a year from 6:30am to 5:30pm. We ask that children do not exceed 9 ½ hours per day. The Child Care Program will observe State of New Hampshire holidays, and will therefore be closed on the following days:

* New Year’s Day
* Martin Luther King Day
* Memorial Day
* Independence day
* Labor Day
* Columbus Day
* Veteran’s Day
* Thanksgiving and the following Friday
* Christmas Eve close at 3:00
* Christmas Day

\* Tiny Twisters reserves the right to alter the days in which we are closed based on the days of the week holiday’s fall upon. We will ensure to give ample notice for any changes to the holiday schedule.

**SNOW DAYS AND DELAYED OPENINGS**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

If Tiny Twisters were to close for the day you will be informed by message on the center communication apps(Facebook/Brightwheel).

Tiny Twisters will be closed if the State or City Municipality calls an emergency.

If Tiny Twisters were to close early we would close by 3:00pm and all parents would be notified by phone and on the center communications apps. If we were unable to reach you, we would contact the person(s) listed by you on your emergency contact forms.

Tiny Twisters policy is that we have up to two paid inclement weather days each year. Anything over and above two inclement weather days will be prorated.

**ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES**

*Approved by Board of Directors 4/22/14*

The Child Care program opens at 6:30am and closes at 5:30 pm. To ensure the safety of your child, we require that an adult walk your child into the Child Care Center and sign-in. All parents/caregivers must sign in/out daily when dropping off and picking up your child, this is a State Licensing Requirement. We also ask that you please make contact with the teacher to acknowledge your child's arrival and touch base with them about how your child has been doing that morning to help us gauge how their day will be. Your teachers in response will contact you on our center communication app(Facebook/Brightwheel) if she has any questions or concerns over the course of the day.

We encourage you to have your child here by 9:30am each day to take full advantage of the many planned activities and to provide the larger group with stability and continuity of curriculum.

If your child will be absent, please call the Center by 9:30am.

671-1109

* + - Office x 1
    - Non-mobile Raindrops/Dancing Raindrops x 2
    - Puddle Jumpers x 5
    - Hurricane Hunters x 4
    - Mini Monsoons X 3

In order to properly staff our center (as outlined in the NH Child Care Licensing Handbook) we require contracted hours for each child enrolled. You will indicate the hours your child will attend when you fill out the registration packet. In order to maintain our staff to child ratios your child may not attend the center before or after the indicated hours. (Special requests for schedule changes must be approved by the **Director** ahead of time.) Please call (or have someone on your emergency contact list call) the center if circumstances delay the pick-up of your child.

Additionally, if a person other than the parent/guardian is to pick up your child, you must give written/verbal notice to child care staff. Please inform the person you designate that we will request photo identification prior to the release of your child.

**PAYMENTS**

*Approved by Board of Directors 6/20/2023*

Payment is due the MONDAY of the week of service (with the exception of children receiving State Scholarship, Parent co payments are due on Tuesday, after receiving their statement). Tiny Twisters has a strict payment policy. There will be a $25.00 late fee applied to payments made after the due date.Please make sure that your child’s account is paid in full, or your child will not be able to attend. Failure to pay your child’s bill in full at the time it is due will result in termination of child care services.

The fees for the Child Care Programs are as follows:

**Non-mobile Raindrops** 6wks – 1yr $250.00/week

**Dancing Raindrops** 1-2yrs $235.00/week

**Puddle Jumpers** 2-3yrs $220.00/week

**Hurricane Hunters** 3-4yrs $215.00/week

**Mini Monsoons** 4-5yrs $205.00/week

*Approved by the Board of Directors 7/18/2023*

Payments made by using our communication app(Brightwheel), cash or check, Please make checks payable to Tiny Twisters and print your child’s name in the “memo” portion of your check. **Please note**: if your child is sick or misses child care, payment is still required as we have to base our staff, preparation, and purchasing of supplies, materials, snacks, etc. on full attendance.

**A two-week written notice to the Director is required for withdrawal from the program or tuition will be due in full for those two weeks**. **If you are past due with your tuition payment, you are responsible for paying the total tuition prior to your child's last day of attendance**.

At tax time, upon your request, the business office shall furnish you with a financial statement of child-care payments you made in a calendar year. The Center's federal identification number is 20-5118396.

**SUSPENSION AND DISMISSAL**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

The following will be considered grounds for a child's suspension or dismissal:

1. Repeated late or non-payment of tuition.( you will receive 3 warnings, 1 verbal, 2 written prior to dismissal.)

2. Failing to comply with policies as stated in this manual.

3. Failing to provide essential emergency and medical information as required by the State of New Hampshire.

**BEHAVIORAL MANAGEMENT SUPPORTS / DISCIPLINE**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

Discipline is teaching children to gain self-control while building self-esteem. Our goal is to support each child with positive guidance and clear limit setting. We strive to enhance the child's ability to be self-disciplined. Our child care staff serve as role models for appropriate behavior and teach children to respect themselves and others by demonstrating respect for each other.

Appropriate behaviors are encouraged with verbal praise; i.e. "You did a nice job telling John that you were upset with him for taking your chair.” This reinforces the child's self-esteem about his/her behavior by asking the child to stop and think about how she/he used self-control to handle the situation.

Positive reinforcement will be employed at every juncture. This includes providing choices, redirection, and social teaching. During conflict situations, we always stress that it is the child's *choice* of action that is not acceptable, not the child.

When a conflict occurs between children, we have the children interface or "talk it over" by each voicing his/her opinions. We then help the children to find a solution to their problem that is acceptable to both parties. This strategy minimizes the potential for disruption and allows children to maintain a positive self-image.

If there is a conflict that cannot be resolved by interfacing, the child may be removed from the area and asked to have time to think. The staff will then speak with each child, and talk to them about their choices, behaviors, and appropriate expectations. The child will be allowed to rejoin the group when he/she feels they are ready.

Critical Incident Reports are a method of tracking behavioral issues. Critical Incidents Reports are used to inform parents of any negative or aggressive behaviors (i.e. hitting, kicking, verbal abuse, etc.) We feel strongly about a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment and strive to ensure that each child that participates in our program learns appropriate behaviors and the effects that their choices have on their peers.

Injury Reports are used for first aid related accidents. If a child has more than a minor bump or bruise associated from day to day play, an injury report will be filled out and a parent will be notified either at time of pick up or with a phone call during the day depending on the extent of the injury and how it occurred.

**BITING**

*Approved by Board of Directors*

Our center acknowledges that biting is, regrettably, a normal developmental stage for toddlers. It is a form of expression when children are frustrated, tired, teething or trying to get another person’s attention. Toddlers are very impulsive and are just starting to learn self-control. Though they have a limited vocabulary, our staff will encourage the children to say, “No thank you” and “Mine” when experiencing a moment of frustration. We also use sign language to help the children while they are building their vocabulary.

Our center does not punish for biting but uses effective techniques that address the specific reasons for the biting. We express a strong disapproval of biting. Our staff teaches the children a more appropriate behavior that keeps all children safe.

We will take the following measures if a biting incident occurs at our center:

1. We will interrupt the biting with a firm “No biting…biting hurts.”
2. Staff will stay calm.
3. The child who is bitten will be comforted, helped and given first aid if needed.
4. A biting report will be filled out and parents of both children will be informed that same day.
5. We will work with the child who bit and their parents on steps to prevent future incidents.

When we experience continuous biting by a child in our toddler room we will develop a plan of action that will include strategies, techniques and a timeline for working on the problem. We have resources on biting that are available to parents and teachers. Communication is crucial in order to help children learn not to bite. Any concerns parents may have can be brought to the classroom teacher or the center director.

**OUTDOOR PLAY**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

Tiny Twisters believes that a large quantity of social-emotional and experiential learning takes place outside in our natural environment. As a result Tiny Twisters urges the programs to spend time outdoors on a daily basis. Because we live in New England our weather can be unpredictable. As a result our outdoor play guidelines are as follows:

Winter Months:

* For children 6 mos. and younger: outdoor play is not recommended during winter months.
* For children 6 mos. – 3 yrs.: outdoor play is encouraged when weather is 32 degrees or greater.
* For children 3 – 6 yrs.: outdoor play is encouraged when weather is 10 degrees or greater.

Rainy Months:

* For children 6 mos. and younger: outdoor play is not encouraged during rainy weather.
* For children 6 mos. – 6 yrs.: outdoor play is encouraged when children are equipped with rain gear, and when the rain does not hinder play.

Summer Months:

* For children 12 mos. and younger: outdoor play is encouraged when the infants have shade available to decrease their exposure to the sun.
* For children 12 mos. – 6 yrs.: outdoor play is encouraged when sunscreen has been applied and when water and shade are available to decrease exposure to the sun.

**EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

Each parent must fill out an Emergency Information sheet, as well as a Medical Release form, prior to attending the Child Care Program. We must have the name of at least one emergency contact person other than a parent or guardian. Please make sure that all contact numbers are correct and up to date. This information will be used in the event we need to get in touch with you due to the onset of illness or injury or in any emergency situation. Updated schedule, employment, and/or change of address information are critical for prompt, effective responses to emergency and health care situations. *All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential.*

Also, listed on this form are the names of other individuals to whom your child may be released. No child will be released to anyone whose name is not listed as an alternate pick-up person, unless we are notified by a parent or guardian.

In case of an emergency evacuation, you will be contacted and our meeting place shall be either the Concord Hospital-Franklin 15 Aiken Avenue or the Franklin Middle school 200 Sanborn Street, depending on where the emergency is located.

**CUSTODY ISSUES**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

Parents or guardians are asked to notify the Director of any custody arrangements involving their enrolled child which may affect a child's participation in our program. We ask that you furnish documents, such as a divorce decree or restraining order, that state to whom your child may be released to. Law enforcement officers require this information in the event an unauthorized person seeks to remove your child from our program.

**INSURANCE**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

The Child Care Program does not provide accident insurance coverage for individuals and groups. Tiny Twisters Child Care Center is unable to take responsibility for injuries suffered as a result of participating in program activities.

**BREAKFAST/LUNCHES/SNACKS**

*Approved by Board of Directors 7/3/2023*

* Early morning snack is served from 6:30-7:30am. \*If your child arrives after 7:30am please make sure they have eaten before they arrive, since we do not eat again until 9:00am\*
* Breakfast is served from 9:00-9:30am. \*If your child arrives after 9:30am please make sure they have eaten before they arrive, since we do not eat again until 11:30am\*
* The lunch you provide is served from 11:30am-12:00pm.
* Afternoon snacks are served from 2:30-3:00pm.

Tiny Twisters is a nonprofit child care center that desires to serve the Franklin community and the surrounding area with early enrichment and education. We strive to develop the whole child: academically, socially and physically. We are teaching children how to live a productive, successful and healthy life.

We are working with the Child and Adult Care Food Program to offer the children in our care better and healthier food choices; which will be a life skill they need as they grow into adulthood. One thing required to work with the CACFP is that we get families to fill out forms, annually, for the government funding that helps us pay for the healthy food we can offer the children at Tiny Twisters. These forms let the CACFP know how many kids we serve; and the services given to our low income families. If you have questions or concerns, You may call USDA toll free: 1-866-873-2263, or visit their website at [www.fns.usda.gov/cnd](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd)

“AND JUSTICE FOR ALL”

We serve cereal or crackers and raisins for morning snack; cereal, pancakes, toast, or english muffins with fruit and milk for breakfast; and then afternoon snack is created of 2 food groups (grain, protein, fruit, vegetable and dairy).

Parents and/or guardians must provide daily nutritional lunches, to include milk or fruit juice, for their children. Please do not send your child to Child Care with gum or candy. The Child Care Program provides a morning and afternoon snack and breakfast in accordance with guidelines set forth by the State of New Hampshire, Department of Health and Human Services and the USDA Food Program.

We are Breastfeeding friendly, Mom’s are welcome to nurse their infants in our infant area, as needed.

*\*\*Please make sure to disclose any food allergies to your child’s teacher to ensure their safety.\*\**

Nutrition information:

* We offer fruit/vegetables to children at least 2 times per day.
* We only offer fruit canned in its own juice (no syrup) or fresh
* We only offer vegetables raw or steamed.
* We offer high fiber, whole grain foods at least once a day.
* We offer sweets or salty foods less than once a week.
* We make drinking water freely available so children can serve themselves both inside and outdoors.
* We serve only 1% milk to children age 2 and older.
* We have a 2 week cycle on our breakfast and snack menu.
* Our menus include a combination of new and familiar foods.
* Our staff gently and positively encourage children to try a new or less favorite food.
* We do not use food to encourage positive behavior.

**REST TIME**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

We are required by the State of New Hampshire Bureau of Child Care Licensing to provide a rest time period for your child. Children are assigned a sleeping mat, a sheet, and a light blanket for their mat for this resting period. We ask that you do NOT send in blankets from home.

Mats, sheets and blankets are cleaned by Tiny Twisters every Friday, to ensure a clean and healthy environment for your child.

Our policy is that if a child does not fall asleep after thirty minutes, he/she shall be given the opportunity to do a quiet activity on his/her sleeping mat, i.e., looking at books or making puzzles.

During sleepy time in the Puddle Jumpers, Hurricane Hunters and Mini Monsoon classrooms for one hour of rest time there may be one less staff person present in the classroom that is required to meet ratio. The total number of child care personnel required to maintain all ratios will be on the premises of the program, but not directly in the classroom. This is to allow for staff lunch breaks. A safety plan has been developed to ensure the safety of the children during this period in reduction of staff and is posted in these classrooms and is available for your review at any time.”

**CLOTHING**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

Our Child Care Center is a very busy place; children should not be worried about getting dirty or be hampered by restrictive clothing. From time to time spills and accidents will happen. For this reason it is our policy that all children have a change of clothing, appropriate to the season, at the child care at all times.

Parents of potty training toddlers ask that you provide multiple changes of clothes on a daily basis.

Additionally, as children engage in outside play on a daily basis, appropriate clothing is required for all seasons. Winter clothing should include a daily snowsuit, boots, mittens (an extra pair is helpful!) and hat. Summer clothing should include daily footwear, and on occasion swimsuit, towel, and clothing appropriate to temperature.

Please label all clothing items with your child's name as we are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

**PERSONAL BELONGINGS**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

We ask that all toys be kept at home to ensure that those special toys do not get broken or lost. The only exception is that your child may regularly bring in one small stuffed animal or doll for rest time. This is to be kept in his/her cubby.

**ILLNESS POLICY**

*Approved by Board of Directors 4/22/14*

The following criteria are intended to protect all children and staff at the Center. They reflect physical, as well as behavioral symptoms, which reflect the well-being of children.

Each day upon arrival and throughout their time with us, each child shall be observed by staff for injuries and/or symptoms of illness. If your child exhibits any of the following symptoms upon arrival or any time during the day, we will notify you so that the child can be picked up from the Child Care Program and be given proper health care until symptoms have subsided. The child shall be given an opportunity to rest or to do a quiet activity in a comfortable, private area until a parent or guardian arrives to pick the child up. Any child sent home because of illness should not return until the illness has gone. Your child must be picked up as soon as possible after our phone call. If we are unable to reach you, we will contact the person(s) listed by you on your emergency forms.

Symptoms of Illness:

* Vomiting: 2 or more episodes
* Diarrhea: 2 or more episodes
* Severe coughing
* Persistent sore throat
* Conjunctivitis
* Jaundice: yellowing of the skin or white part of eye
* Rash with a fever
* Unidentified rash
* Any contagious disease
* Fever greater than 100 degrees F.
* Lethargy
* Head lice/bed bugs

If a child exhibits any of the above symptoms in the previous 12 hours preceding his/her attendance, we ask that an alternative arrangement for the child's care is found. **Keep in mind that a good rule of thumb is that if your child is not feeling well enough to participate in all regular activities, including outdoor play, he/she should not be brought to the Child Care Program.**

We place a high value on maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all children and staff members. We strongly advise that you have a contingency plan for days when your child is ill. The list below indicates the recommended time that should be allowed before re-entry into the Child Care Program after certain illnesses.

* Strep Throat: 24 hours after medication is administered.
* Conjunctivitis: 12 hours after medication is administered and eyes are free of discharge.
* Chicken Pox: all sores must be scabbed and dried over.
* Impetigo: 48 hours after medication is administered and sores are scabbed over.
* Measles: 5 days after a rash appears and a note from a physician.
* Mumps: 9 days after swelling starts and a note from a physician.
* Scabies: after 2 days of treatment on successive days.
* Head Lice: Twenty-four (24) hours after first treatment and **all** eggs have been removed.
* Bed Bugs: Twenty four hours after home has been heat treated.
* Fever, Vomiting, and Diarrhea: 24 hours after symptoms have disappeared and the child feels well enough to participate in regular activities, including outdoor play.

If a child contracts a communicable disease and exposes other children, a notice of exposure will be posted. Therefore, please notify us if your child has contracted a communicable disease. This is for the general well-being of the Center's staff, children and their respective families/ We are required to report any communicable diseases in accordance with Administrative Rules He-P 301.

**MEDICATION**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

We will not administer any prescription medication to a child unless the medication is accompanied by written authorization from the parent, the written order of a licensed health practitioner, and the original prescription bottle labeled with the name of the medication, dosage, name of child, and the name of the physician. Please ask the Director or your child’s Teacher for a copy of the medication authorization form.

An authorized child care staff will **not** administer non-prescription cold medication to a child unless accompanied by written authorization from the child’s licensed health practitioner. Please note that Tiny Twisters staff will **not** administer Tylenol, Motrin or other fever reducers for a fever based on the idea that such fever reducers will mask other symptoms of illness. Once again, please **keep in mind that a good rule of thumb is that if your child is not feeling well enough to participate in all regular activities, including outdoor play, he/she should not be brought to the Child Care Program.**

Cough drops will not be given to children while at the Center. All non-prescription medications should be clearly labeled with the child's name and should be given directly to a Teacher so that it is stored in a safe place, and should not be placed in a child’s bag.

All medications will be given by the parent to the Child Care Teacher(s). The Director and/or Teacher(s) will discuss with parents any problems concerning the medication or dispensing of (side effects, etc.).

**IMMUNIZATION RECORDS & HEALTH FORMS**

*Approved by Board of Directors 4/22/14*

Child Health forms need to be filled out by your child's physician and returned to the Child Care Program prior to enrollment. We must have this information on file in accordance with regulations set forth by the state of New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. If a child's health care summary is not complete at time of enrollment, or within 30 days after enrollment, the child will be excluded from the Child Care program. Also if a child needs an updated physical, this needs to be completed within 30 days of our written notification or the child will be excluded from the Child Care program.

The State of New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services requires updated health forms and immunizations records kept on file at licensed Child Care facilities.

We require that children ages five and under have their physical examinations updated annually.

*\*\*Please disclose any allergies your child has when registering them, to ensure their safety\*\**

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

Occasionally photographs are taken for program displays, newsletters, and/or media use. Permission forms are provided in your child's registration packet. We will respect all expressed written parental consent or non-consent requests.

# SUNSCREEN AND BUG SPRAY

# *Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

The Child Care staff is required to apply sunscreen on the children six (6) months old and older from the months of May through September if they are going to be outdoors for any period of time longer than 15 minutes. Tiny Twisters will supply “No-Ad” children’s sunscreen for each of the children at the cost of $2.00/season (due in April of each year) unless otherwise instructed not to. If you would prefer an alternative sunscreen, please inform the teachers and supply the desired sunscreen.

The Child Care staff is also asked to use bug spray at their discretion for children six (6) months old and older. We provide DEET free bug spray for each of the children on buggy days. If you would prefer a specific bug spray for your child, please inform the teachers and supply the desired bug spray.

# CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

# *Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

New Hampshire Law requires that *anyone* who suspects that a child is being abused and/or neglected report their concerns to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF). “Anyone” means any individual or organization, therefore if you suspect that a child is being abused and/or neglected, you are to call (anonymously, if you so choose) 1-800-894-5533 or (603) 271-6556.

**PARENT COMMUNICATION**

*Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/12*

The Child Care program provides parent mail boxes and a monthly newsletter describing the program's curriculum and/or various activities or special events. There are dry erase boards on-site where we note daily messages, post special events and important information.

The Child Care program maintains an open door policy. This means that parents may visit their children at any time during the day and we encourage new families to drop in and take a tour at their convenience.

**Covid-19 Guidelines**

Out of caution, Tiny Twisters Child Care is implementing an action plan to address evolving circumstances involving the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). We believe these guidelines align with our commitment to ensure the health and safety of our staff, children and their families. We will communicate any updates to this plan.

<https://www.cdc.gov/earlycare/infectious-diseases/isolation-and-precautions-in-ECE.html#print>

1/24/2024

Quick Guide: Isolation

What to do when a child in your early care and education (ECE) program might have COVID-19.

DAY 0  
Child is sick with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or has a positive COVID-19 test.

DAYS 1–5  
Child stays home and isolates away from other people to the extent possible.

DAY 6  
Is the child fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication?

AND

Is the child free of symptoms or have symptoms improved?

AND

Is the child 2 years of age or older and able to consistently wear a mask in the ECE program? OR Did the child have two negative antigen tests 48 hours apart?

* YES: [Return to the ECE program](https://www.cdc.gov/earlycare/infectious-diseases/isolation-and-precautions-in-ECE.html#ece)
* NO: Continue to days 6–10

DAYS 6–10  
It is safest to continue isolation until the end of day 10 [[ 1 ]](https://www.cdc.gov/earlycare/infectious-diseases/isolation-and-precautions-in-ECE.html#footnote-1).

* For children who have symptoms, continue isolation until the child is fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved.
* If ECE is using a test-based strategy, a child who has two negative antigen tests 48 hours apart can return to the ECE program without needing to wear a mask.

AFTER DAY 10  
[Return to the ECE program](https://www.cdc.gov/earlycare/infectious-diseases/isolation-and-precautions-in-ECE.html#ece). For children who were severely ill, or whose fever persists past day 10, or who continue to test positive using an antigen test, consult a healthcare professional before returning to the ECE program.