



Sexsmith Community Preschool

"Serving the diverse needs of our community"

Welcome to Sexsmith Community Preschool 2020-2021

The new school year will be a new beginning of a new approach in learning space that you left in March 2020. Naturally, we are all uneasy and have a sense of worry with Covid 19. As caregivers, we are our children's first line of defence in the face of sickness and harm. As a team we are honoured to be apart of your defence when you trust your child in our care. We will have several measures put in place as recommended by BC Centre of Control and Disease and Ministry of Health. We will be ready and eagerly await your return to school.

Is it safe for my child to return to school?

Guidelines issued by the Provincial Health Officer indicate that most children and youth are not at high risk for COVID-19 infection. COVID-19 virus has a very low infection rate in children and youth. In BC, less than 1 per cent of children and youth tested have been COVID-19 positive.

Does my child need to wear a mask to school?

- Personal protective equipment, such as masks and gloves are not needed in the child care setting, beyond those used by staff as part of regular precautions for the hazards normally encountered in their regular course of work. They should only be used when all other controls have been fully explored.
- Staff do wear disposable gloves when cleaning blood or body fluids (e.g., runny nose, vomit, stool, urine) and when diapering. Remember to wash your hands before wearing, and after removing gloves.
- Cloth or non-medical homemade masks are not recommended. Wearing one is a personal choice. More information about COVID-related mask use is available here.
- In young children in particular, masks can be irritating and may lead to increased touching of the face and eyes. There is no evidence to support the use of medical grade, cloth, or homemade masks in child care setting at his time. Wearing one is a personal choice. It is important to treat people wearing masks with respect.

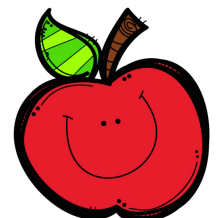
Your Teaching Team



Susan Judge
Lead Early Childhood Educator



Jenna Escobido
Early Childhood Educator



Upgraded Cleaning Measures

Children will be instructed to wash their hands upon arrival to preschool. Regular hand hygiene will be imposed before and after the class, before and after eating, after using the washroom, if a child sneezes/coughs, or when they look dirty.

Regular cleaning and disinfection are essential to preventing the transmission of COVID-19 from contaminated objects and surfaces. The preschool will be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the BC Centre for Disease Control's Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings document. This includes:

- General cleaning and disinfecting of the premises will occur at least once a day.
- Frequently-touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected at least twice a day.
- All plush and wooden toys will be removed as they are difficult to sanitize on a daily basis.
- All group sensory bins will be removed and replaced with individual play trays for exploring.
- Each child will have their own designated writing box that will include scissors, glue sticks, markers, crayons, and pencils. This will eliminate children sharing any items to avoid cross contamination.

As the summer progresses and new measures and policies come in effect closer to September, our teaching team will ensure they are adapted into the program and keep everyone updated.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be scheduled for all families enrolled in the preschool during the first week of school. This will be the first step in building a open line of communication with each other in order to set your child up for great success in their first steps of formal education. We will walk you through a day of school at Sexsmith Preschool, what to expect throughout the school year, go over your child's social, emotional, and academic goals. Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held from Tuesday September 8th-Friday September 11th. Each family will be given a 30 minute time slot.

Virtual Preschool Summer 2020

Sexsmith Preschool will be offering preschool online over the summer. Program will be from July 13th-August 21/2020. All interested families should email preschoolsexsmith@gmail.com to get further information. Virtual preschool is open to enrolled families only.

Drop off and Pick up

Drop off and pick up from preschool will be at the outside entrance, south side facing in-front of the playground. NO ADULTS are to come through the school. Times will be staggered for drop off and pick up, in 5-8 minutes slots. Parents are to wait outside until it is their groups turn to come in. Please wait at the assigned floor decals to maintain social distancing. Regular cleaning and disinfection are essential to preventing the transmission of COVID-19 from contaminated objects and surfaces. Schools will be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the BC Centre for Disease Control's Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings document. This includes: • General cleaning and disinfecting of the premises should occur at least once a day. • Frequently-touched surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected at least twice a day. Families will be notified of their specific times at the parent teacher conferences during the first week of school.

Protocol for Students and Teachers that become sick at Preschool

Child with Symptoms of COVID-19	Staff with Symptoms of COVID-19
<p>IF CHILD DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT HOME:</p> <p>Parents or caregivers must keep their child 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.</p>	<p>IF STAFF DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT HOME:</p> <p>Staff must 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 diseases, AND their symptoms have resolved.</p>
<p>IF CHILD DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS WHILE AT CHILD CARE:</p> <p>Staff must take the following steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify a staff member to supervise the child.2. Identified staff member should immediately separate the symptomatic child from others in a supervised area until they can go home.3. Contact the child's parent or caregiver to pick them up right away.4. Where possible, maintain a distance of 2 metres from the ill child. If this is not possible, the staff member may use a mask if available and tolerated, or use a tissue to cover their nose and mouth.5. Provide the child with tissues, and support as necessary so they can practice respiratory hygiene.6. Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area.7. Avoid touching the child's body fluids. If you do, wash your hands.8. Once the child is picked up, wash your hands.9. Clean and disinfect the space where the child was separated and any areas used by the child (e.g., bathroom, common areas).10. If concerned, contact the local public health unit to seek further advice. <p>Parents or caregivers must pick up their child promptly once notified that their child is ill.</p>	<p>IF STAFF DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS WHILE AT WORK:</p> <p>Staff should go home right away where possible.</p> <p>If unable to leave immediately, the symptomatic staff person should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Separate themselves into an area away from others.2. Maintain a distance of 2 metres from others.3. Use a tissue or mask to cover their nose and mouth while they wait for a replacement or to be picked up.4. Remaining staff must clean and disinfect the space where staff was separated and any areas used by them (e.g., office, bathroom, common areas).5. If concerned, contact the local public health unit to seek further advice.

Contact Us

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email anytime at:
preschoolsexsmith@gmail.com

