

COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

Updated August 2021

During the 2021-22 school year, Natural Start Preschool will continue to follow the health and safety guidelines for early learning programs set forth by the King County Department of Health. For more information, please visit <https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/covid-19/schools-childcare.aspx>. As of the start of the school year (September 2021), the following guidelines will be implemented while programming is in session. Preschool staff will monitor the King County Department of Health website regularly and will communicate any changes to parents and guardians as soon as possible.

1. Natural Start Preschool will employ the following health and safety measures for COVID prevention:

- Masks/cloth face coverings will be mandatory for all teachers and staff.
- Masks/cloth face coverings will be mandatory for all students. If wearing a mask/cloth face covering has been contraindicated for a student for medical or behavioral health reasons, the family will be asked to provide preschool staff with documentation to that effect from their child's medical or behavioral health professional.
- Parents and guardians will be asked to wear a mask/cloth face covering during drop-off and pick-up, and/or while on the grounds of Eastgate Park or inside the South Bellevue Community Center building.
- Daily health screenings (temperature check, screening questions, sign-in log) will take place each morning at drop-off.
- Regular handwashing and hand sanitizing routines will be built into our daily schedule.
- Class sizes will be in accordance with county and state guidelines.
- Daily preschool activities will be structured to encourage physical distancing.
- Physical distancing will be observed during snack time. As always, students will not be allowed to share food or drink.
- All preschool materials and facilities will be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Preschool materials that cannot be easily cleaned and disinfected will be removed from the curriculum. These include stuffed animals, rugs, soft or porous learning manipulatives, play dough, certain materials used for sensory play (rice, beans, play sand, play foam), etc.
- As per City of Bellevue guidelines, parents/guardians are asked maintain physical distancing and to leave the SBCC grounds immediately after dropping off or picking up their student.

2. Current anticipated programming modifications for the 2021-22 school year:

- With current concerns around the Delta variant in particular, and in order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in general, we will start the 2021-22 school year with the entirety of our preschool morning spent outdoors. The only exception will be during bathroom breaks, when we will take our students indoors to use the community center restrooms. As the school year progresses and when conditions allow, we plan to also add indoor classroom programming to supplement our daily outdoor activities.
- Due to limited off-site availability for school groups, our regular field trips for the 2021-22 school year are currently suspended but may be rescheduled if venues reopen.
- All scheduled preschool family events will be held outdoors during the 2021-22 school year.