



Early Explorers Childcare Learning Center

NEW PROCEDURES

New Hours: 8:15 AM- 4:30 PM

Parent preparation list for the first day back

- Shoes or slippers to change into
- Disposable water bottle
- Disposable lunch bag
- Personal blanket and bed sheet (will be washed daily at the center with our new washer and dryer)
- Backpack filled with personal belongings such as extra clothing, diapers and wipes, and any other necessary materials needed for the day.
- If milk bottles are required for the child, they will be sanitized and returned home daily.
- Disposable baby food is preferred in order for us to keep the germ contact at a minimum.
- All personal items must be labeled with names

This list is to ensure we are taking the proper precautions and creating a safe environment for all children.



Our Health and Safety Practices

We are closely following guidance from the CDC, as well as state and local officials and health authorities, as we take extreme care to maintain our safe, healthy school environment for children, families, and staff. We have enhanced our already rigorous health protocols, such as:

- **Protective Masks:** We have provided protective face coverings for all staff members to wear when working at the center with children.
- **Taking Temperatures:** We're now screening all staff members and children upon arrival at the center to check for raised temperatures or evident symptoms.
- **Limited Classroom Access:** To ensure minimum exposure, we will be limiting the amount of people in and out of the center. That being said, we will be initiating drop-off and pick-up through the doors in the main lobby. One family at a time will be required, as well as marked 6-foot distanced outside the door. If weather does not permit this procedure to follow through, we will be initiating curbside drop-off and pick-up.
Further information on that procedure will be available soon.
- **Wellness Checks:** Regular wellness checks are being conducted at drop-off for each child. This will include essential required questions for a screening of COVID-19 and a temperature check. This procedure will be conducted daily by a staff member. The parents of unwell children are notified immediately, to help stop the spread of illness. Also, if a child feels unwell, they will be relocated to our "sick room" where they will be comforted until the parent arrives.

- **Safe (and Still Healthy) Dining:** We will be limited the amount of children on the lunch/snack table and will be initiating a group-based system (Group A and Group B) where each group will be eating at different times. We are now requiring all lunches and snacks to be packed in a paper or plastic disposable bag. This will allow less germ contact and exposure to both the center and home. Disposable water bottles are now required to allow less germ contact as well.
- **Enhanced Health Practices:** We've strengthened our existing cleanliness and hygiene practices (including more frequent hand washing; cleaning and sanitizing surfaces and items in classrooms).

New Policies

Drop off and pick up procedures

Parents may NOT enter the building. We are implementing a drop-off and pick-up process at all times at the front entrance to limit the number of people entering the building. It is critical that you drop off and pick up within the designated window as delay would likely result in mixing of groups. If it is necessary for you to drop off or pick up at a different time, please let us know in advance and we will try to accommodate you the best we can. Once again, parents may NOT enter the building.

Staggered drop off

Please be patient with us as we now need to pick up and drop off one family at a time. We require that all parents (or anyone picking up or dropping off) must be wearing a face covering during the drop off and pick up process. Because parents may not enter our building, we have designated drop off and pick up times for each classroom. You will receive your child's time slot in the email containing their room placement. If you are unable to come at one of these designated times due to an emergency, please contact the director to arrange a staff member to meet you outside. We will try our best to accommodate this request, but please note that in some cases, if you are unable to come at the designated time, you may not be able to bring your child in that day.

Protective equipment

Face covering will be required within close contact for all staff members. The face covering will include face masks and face shields. We will NOT be requiring children to wear masks.

However, if your child is interested, please educate them on the reasons why wearing a mask is important. Children over the ages of 2 may bring in a mask if they are willing and excited to try it. Children under the age of 2 may NOT put on a mask due to the risk of suffocation.

In the event of a COVID-19 case

If there is a confirmed COVID-19 case at the center, we will immediately contact the Washtenaw county health department for guidance regarding exclusion and closure. If a case is identified at the center, the center will be closed, cleaned, and everyone in the center be quarantined for 14 days. Further steps would be as directed by the health department.

Please note that these precautions are in place to provide every effort to keep every child and family safe.

Classroom/Facility cleaning and disinfecting

The rooms have been thoroughly cleaned and sanitized and will continue to maintain the new cleaning procedures during the day and each night after closing. Early explorers is equipped with sanitation material that will be used throughout the center and building every day. The disinfectant will be covering all hard and soft surfaces. All disinfectant used in our center is 100% safe for daycare and school use.

