

## BunnyBears Preschool La Mesa– Updated Covid-19 Operating Procedures

*Effective January 2022. Due to the fluidity of the pandemic, this information may be updated or changed in accordance to guidelines from the CDC and CCLD.*

- Staff is strongly encouraged and advised to get Covid-19 vaccines
- All non-vaccinated staff will get weekly Covid tests and will present the results to the director
- All staff will be wearing face masks when indoors.
- Staff won't be asked to wear masks outdoors unless they choose to
- Staff will be screened daily for symptoms, temperatures will be checked before being permitted in to the school. If anyone has a temperature of 100.4 F or higher, they must be excluded from facility.
- All staff showing any signs of illness will stay home until symptom free for a **minimum of 48 hours.**

### **During Drop Off and Pick Up**

- Face mask must be worn when going inside.
- Sign in/out stations will be in your child's classroom equipped with hand sanitizers. We encourage parents to have their own pencil for signing in.
- One family member should be bringing their child to school.
- If anyone has a temperature of 100.4 F or higher, they must be excluded from facility.
  - We **recommend parents to check children's temperatures at home** each morning before bringing the child to school.
  - Monitor your child for any unusual symptoms
- During morning drop off:
  - The child will wash hands at the sink and join morning free play.
  - Lunch boxes, bedding and water bottles will be placed in your child's cubby and taken home at the end of the week for washing.

### **Visitors at School**

- At this time visitors are welcome in our outside playground only.
- Extra curriculum activities are not offered at this time.
- Limited school tours are scheduled close to after hours (530) and visitors wear mask while keeping social distance.

### **Group Arrangements**

- Children must bring masks to school and will be asked/encouraged to wear them during indoors activities. *Please support school efforts of mask wearing* by reminding your child the importance of wearing masks at school.
- Children won't be wearing masks outdoors.
- Children will be in assigned groups of 12 children.
- Children will have community play time during morning and afternoon hours.

## Curriculum, Materials, Use of Space

- Our curriculum for young children has always been primarily focused on social-emotional development, and building strong relationships and connection. It will continue to be our focus now.
- We will focus on helping children work through their emotions/feelings about what's happening, encourage creative expression, and provide opportunities to explore, experiment, and problem solve while keeping physical distance in fun and age appropriate ways.
- Increased focus in educating about health, safety, and hygiene in age appropriate ways.
- Handwashing routines will be implemented during the day activities, meal times and in the bathroom.
- There will be a limited numbers of materials available in each room for children to play with. All Materials will be thoroughly disinfected at the end of each day, as well as in between use of different children in the group. Many items will be assigned to the child for the day, so as to prevent the sharing of materials.
- Carpet squares, mats and other visual spacing tools will be provided to respectfully guide children through the concept of social and physical distancing.
- More individual activities will be planned and provided.
- We will spend absolutely much time outside as possible, as recommended by community care licensing. Outdoors classroom will be created to support children's activities and interests. We will take advantage of playground, garden space to allow multiple groups to be outside in different spaces at the same time.

## Snacks and Meal times

- Children **should bring labeled water bottles**, please take them home and wash them **daily**.
- Children will bring their **labeled lunch box to school**. Ice pack is recommended for the lunch box; **we will no longer use a refrigerator**. Please clean the lunch boxes daily best to your ability.
- For the time being, all food during snack time will be served individually on single use plates/napkins. No community snack concept.
- More tables will be utilized to ensure distance between children.
- We will continue to properly wash hands before and after all meal times.

## Nap/Rest Time

- Each child is assigned a sleeping mat. Mats are disinfected and cleaned every day
- Cots/mats will be spaced out, arranging the head of each bed alternately, in opposite direction.
- Sheets and blankets will be brought in on Monday and taken home for wash on Friday. If you forget to bring sheets, clean sheets will be provided by school for that day and washed afterward.

## Sanitizing and Disinfecting

- The school will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected at the end of each day.
- The facility will be ventilated (open windows and doors) before children come to school and after they leave.
- All toys and materials that have been used will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected at the end of each day.
- All surfaces and Table tops, chairs, high touch objects (doors knobs, light switches, etc.) will be disinfected each morning prior to opening.
- Support staff will continue to disinfect surfaces throughout the day while groups take turns outside.
- EPA approved disinfectants will be used according to directions and in a safe manner (ie: while children are outdoors)
- Hand sanitizers will be available for adults' use, away from children's reach.
- Air purifiers will be on during the school day.

## Sick Policies

- If your child is showing any symptoms of illness, we ask that you keep him/her home and monitor. Please notify the school director if your child is exhibiting any symptoms of illness.
- Children with fever or signs of illness must be kept at home. **Children may return after being symptom free for a minimum of 48 hours without any medication.**
- Children found showing signs of any illness, specifically fever or respiratory symptoms, will be isolated from others and sent home immediately.
- **If your child has lingering coughs and nasal or lung congestion doctor's note should be provided to allow the child to go back to group setting.**
- If your child has season allergies that come with runny nose, congestion and cough, we will ask for you to provide doctor's note stating that your child is not contagious.
- If there is any evidence that any one in our school community that has been exposed to the virus, parents will be notified, and *we will work in coordination with Public Health Department to decide the plan of action.*

## Covid - 19 exposure

- BunnyBears will always stay transparent in communicating positive cases in the classrooms, provide last day of Covid positive person in the environment.

**The guidelines below are from the San Diego Health Department:**

### Isolation

- Persons who test positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status must stay home for at least 5 days after symptoms begin or for those who are asymptomatic, 5 days after a positive test.

- Isolation can end after day 5 if symptoms are improving AND fever is resolved at least 24 hours prior AND a diagnostic specimen (PCR or antigen) collected on day 5 or later is negative.
- If unable or unwilling to test, isolation can end after day 10 as long as symptoms are resolving, and fever is resolved at least 24 hours prior.
- A well-fitting mask must be worn for a total of 10 days when around others, especially in indoor settings.

## Quarantine

- Persons exposed to COVID-19 as a close contact and are unvaccinated or are vaccinated and booster-eligible, but have not yet received their booster dose (including those previously infected with SARS-CoV-2, even if within 90 days of the infection) must:
  - Stay home for at least 5 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
  - Test on day 5 and if negative and no symptoms have developed quarantine can end on day 6, if able to wear a well-fitting mask and maintain 6 feet of distance from others to the maximum extent possible, through day 10.
  - If unable or unwilling to test, quarantine can end after day 10.
  - If symptoms develop, test and stay home.
- Persons exposed to COVID-19 as a close contact and fully up-to-date on COVID vaccination, including a booster if booster-eligible, must:
  - Wear a well-fitting mask, and maintain 6 feet of distance from others to the maximum extent possible, through day 10, but do not need to formally quarantine.
  - Test on day 5.
  - If test is positive or any symptoms develop, must immediately isolate and seek testing if not already performed.
- If a child or a teacher has been diagnosed with Covid-19, *in coordination with Public Health Department*, Children from the group will be asked to stay at home for 10 days.
- If a child, a teacher has been in close contact with Covid-19, *in coordination with Public Health Department*. Quarantine for 5 days after exposure. **Test on day 5 and come back to group setting with a negative test result** (following the Isolation policies above)
- **Tuition will not be reimbursed for partial absences due to Covid-19 exposure.**

It is in our best interests to keep our children, teachers and families healthy. Unfortunately, these are unusual times and we need everyone's cooperation and understanding as we navigate this pandemic. We believe in open communication and transparency and we are confident that our small schools can stay safe and healthy during these uncertain times. We appreciate your trust and support; we value your personal responsibility and accountability. Childcare centers are considered essential services and are encouraged to stay open to serve working families.

This is just an amendment to an existing BunnyBears Admissions Agreement, additionally we ask our families to review and sign the Admissions Agreement.

**I, \_\_\_\_\_, parent or guardian of \_\_\_\_\_  
acknowledge that I have received BunnyBears Updated Covid-19 Operating  
Procedures.**

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**Parent or Guardian Signature**

**Date**