

ECP COVID-19 Memorandum of Understanding 2021: Parents

During COVID times, our program has established new policies and procedures that will be outlined in this addendum to your parent handbook. These policies are effective immediately and will be in place until new guidance from the Department of Early Education and Care or Department of Public Health leads to revisions. The public health recommendations have been very fluid since the pandemic began and we plan to continue to communicate the latest information and guidance to parents and teachers.

Everyone who is a part of WCCC's Early Childhood Program shares in the responsibility to keep our school community healthy during these times. We feel confident that our entire community can work together to care for each other during this pandemic. If there is a scenario that these guidelines do not address, we will seek guidance from the Wellesley Board of Health, our EEC licensor and our pediatric health consultant. We ask parents and staff to make a commitment to their own health and the health of all members of the organization by following guidelines outlined below. Please check each box to indicate your agreement with these guidelines.

_____ I understand that while present in the facility each day my child will be in contact with children and employees who are also at risk of community exposure. I understand that no list of restrictions, guidelines or practices will remove 100% of the risk of exposure to COVID-19. I understand that I play a crucial role in keeping everyone in our school community safe and reducing the risk of exposure by following the practices outlined herein.

_____ I agree to abide by the following Travel Restrictions: My child will need proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test or will need to self-quarantine for 10 days before attending school, after travel outside of New England, New York or New Jersey. Any child who travels by any form of public transportation outside of MA must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test or will need to self-quarantine for 10 days before attending school.

I understand that if an unvaccinated parent or other family member travels to a restricted state/country that they may not drop off or pick up or be in contact with a child who attends WCCC until they have completed the state required quarantine period or tested negative for COVID-19 by PCR test.

_____ I understand that to enter the facility premises my child must be free from COVID-19 symptoms. I agree to take my child's temperature at home before we leave and assess them for COVID-19 symptoms. If I bring my child to school, it is because everyone in our home is healthy and symptom free, with no known exposure to COVID-19. Each child's health will be monitored throughout the day. WCCC staff reserve the right to turn any child away at drop-off due to concern of illness.

MA Department of Early Education and Care's COVID-19 Symptoms (8.29.20):

The following symptoms, if observed in a child are cause for immediate isolation and exclusion from child care:

- a. Fever (100.0° and higher), feverish, had chills
- b. Cough
- c. Sore throat
- d. Difficulty breathing
- e. Gastrointestinal distress (Nausea, vomiting, stomach pain or diarrhea)
- f. New loss of taste or smell
- g. New muscle aches

The following symptoms, if observed in combination with symptoms above, are cause for immediate isolation and exclusion from child care:

- a. Fatigue
- b. Headache
- c. Runny nose or congestion
- d. Any other signs of illness

_____ While we understand that many of these symptoms can also be related to non-COVID-19 related issues we must proceed with an abundance of caution during this public health emergency. COVID symptoms typically appear 2-7 days after being infected so please take them seriously. Your child will need to be symptom free without any medications for 24 hours before returning to the center. Fever reducers may not be given to my child on any day of attendance, regardless of reason (i.e. teething/post-vaccine) for the fever reducer.

_____ I understand that if any COVID-19 symptoms appear during the school day, my child will be taken to an Isolation Room where they will be cared for by their classroom teacher. I will be contacted and my child must be picked up from the center within 30 minutes of being notified. While waiting to be picked-up, a sick child over the age of 2 years will be required to wear a mask.

_____ I will immediately notify WCCC administration if I become aware of any person with whom my child or I have had close contact exhibits any of the symptoms listed above, or is advised to self-isolate, quarantine, has tested positive, or is presumed positive for COVID-19. Further, I will immediately notify WCCC administration if anyone from my place of employment or close contact list is presumed positive or tests positive for COVID-19, if I have had direct contact with that person.

***Close contact is defined as only those who have been within 6 feet of distance of the individual for at least 15 minutes, while the person was infectious. The infectious period begins 2 days prior*

to symptom onset. If someone is asymptomatic, the infectious period is considered to begin 2 days prior to the collection of their positive test.

***FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS: If contact occurs while wearing recommended personal protective equipment or PPE (e.g., gowns, gloves, NIOSH-certified disposable N95 respirator, eye protection), that contact will NOT be considered close contact for purposes of this policy.*

_____ I understand that if my child is a 'close contact' that they should be tested for COVID-19 and in addition must self-quarantine for 10 days after the last exposure to the person who tested positive, regardless of the test result.

_____ I understand that if my child exhibits any COVID-19 symptoms that my child may not return to school, without one of the following:

- A letter from their physician with a non-COVID symptom explanation stating that the child may return to school
- Proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test
- Child has isolated at home for 10 days

_____ I understand if my child tests positive for COVID-19 that I must notify the administration immediately. My child must isolate for a minimum of 10 days from symptom onset and must be fever free for 24 hours and asymptomatic before returning to school. I understand that any sibling would need to quarantine for 10 days even with a negative COVID test result. When counting quarantine days, the first day of symptoms or the day of the test counts as 'zero' and the following day is Day One of your count.

_____ I agree to provide WCCC with a copy of my child's COVID-19 test result (both positive or negative) so they can best monitor the timing of any close contacts.

_____ I understand that during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency I will not be permitted to enter the facility beyond the designated drop-off and pick-up areas. I understand that this procedure change is for the safety of all persons present in the facility and to limit to the extent possible everyone's risk of exposure. I agree that all adults and any siblings over the age of two will wear a mask during the drop off and pick up procedure as directed. I understand that it is my responsibility to inform any Emergency Contact persons of the information contained herein.

_____ I realize that if there is a positive case of COVID-19 in my child's classroom that the school will most likely be directed by the Wellesley Board of Health to close their classroom for 10-14 days. During any COVID-19 closures, WCCC teachers will provide children with a Remote Learning curriculum, which will include Zoom group times, daily activities and weekly personal check-ins.

_____ I understand that each Early Childhood Program classroom will operate as a separate group in an effort to avoid co-mingling. Playgrounds and outside areas will be divided to prevent classroom contact or used by one group at a time.

_____ I understand that my child, if over the age of 2, will be asked to wear a facial covering while attending WCCC. Toddlers will not be forced to wear a mask if they resist, but we hope to make mask wearing an accepted part of everyday routines. WCCC staff will wear facial coverings while providing direct care to children inside the school. We ask that all children and anyone dropping them off wear a facial covering during the drop off procedure. COVID-19 case numbers will be monitored to help determine if masks will be required outside or at pick up.

_____ I understand that my child will be required to wash their hands using CDC recommended handwashing procedures frequently using warm running water and rubbing with soap for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water is not available, toddlers and preschoolers will be given hand sanitizer. Children will be teacher supervised and assisted during hand washing or hand sanitizing.

_____ I understand that WCCC's Early Childhood Program will participate in a COVID-19 pool PCR testing program conducted by Neighborhood Villages. Teachers and children will be tested via a nasal swab weekly and I will be alerted of any positive COVID findings. I understand that I will sign a participation form and receive additional information when the program begins.

_____ I understand this situation is fluid and subject to change per federal, state, local authority directives and program needs, which may require amendments to this document.

_____ I, certify that I have read, understand, and agree to comply with the provisions listed herein. I acknowledge that failure to act in accordance with the provisions listed herein, or with any other policy or procedure outlined by WCCC may be cause for termination.

Child's Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

September 2021