

## **COVID-19 POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND CHANGES**

### **1. Will I be reimbursed for any days that MDO has to close to meet local, state or federal government mandated shut downs?**

- a. Due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 we will only take payments on a monthly or semester basis. Monthly payments will not be refunded. Semester payments will be refunded based on the month we have to close.

### **2. Can I bring my child into the building?**

- a. At this time, no, unless it is truly an emergency. We are trying to regulate our environment as much as possible.

### **3. How do I drop off my child if I can't come in?**

- a. We will do curb side drop off and pick up only. Information was emailed to you.
- b. We will help your child out of the car and escort them into the building.
- c. If you have a child to drop off at Weekday, please go through their line first.

### **4. How do I communicate with my child's teacher?**

- a. Each MDO class will have a private FB group that all parents/guardians need to join. This will be a way for the teachers to communicate with parents about how the class is doing, and also a way for you to communicate with the teacher.
- b. NO individual concerns will be voiced on FB. Teachers can request a phone meeting if there are issues or you can use Messenger.
- c. If you need to communicate something more private, you can request a phone meeting via email to the Director.
- d. With social distancing, communication is more essential than ever. We feel this will provide a way for you to communicate with your child's teacher. We want to know and need to know what is happening in your child's world, so that we will best know how to love them and guide them and help them be successful.

### **5. What does my child need to bring to MDO?**

- a. Your child needs to bring a lunch, change of clothes, diapers, bottles, cups, nap mat etc. No extra items that are not essential.
- b. Please send all items in 1 bag, preferably a utility tote. This will keep things compact and help at drop off/pick up.

**6. Does my child have to wear a mask? Will employees wear a mask?**

- a. Your child does not have to wear a mask.
- b. If you would like your child to wear a mask, you are welcome to send it with them, however, if your child is misusing the mask (keeps taking it off, hitting friends with it, slinging it across the room, covering their eyes with it, using it as a sling shot, etc.), the mask will be taken up and kept until the end of the day.
- c. Staff will not be required to wear a mask. So much communication, speech development, and social/emotional learning happens by looking at someone's face. If someone living with a MDO/Weekday staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the staff member will not be allowed into the facility until they have isolated for 10 days and have been 24 hours symptom and fever free without medication.

**7. One of the people who live with my child has tested positive for COVID-19. What do we need to do?**

- a. Notify the MDO director immediately at 936-870-8515.
- b. If an immediate family member (one who lives with or provides care for the MDO child) has tested positive for COVID-19, we require your MDO student to stay away from the facility for 10 days.**
- c. If during those 10 days your child starts showing COVID-19 symptoms, we require you to continue to keep your child away from the facility until your child is 24 hours symptom free with no medication.

**8. What happens when a Weekday/MDO student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?**

- a. The Director must be notified immediately.
- b. It is SUPER important that your family and our staff communicate with the director to help keep us all as safe as possible and as informed as possible.
- c. When a child or a staff member tests positive for COVID-19, we are required to notify the state and to notify our parents.**
- d. With only one positive case, we will notify all parents, but we are not anticipating closing at this time. However, we know that COVID-19 is a fluid situation in terms of planning for it. We will take direction from the state and the local health department, of course. At this time, the action is for the person with the positive test isolate for 10 days. They may not return to the facility until they are symptom free for 24 hours without

medication. Of course, these stipulations are all subject to change as directed by the state and local health department.

**9. My Weekday child is not running fever, but his sister or his parent is running fever, tested positive for the flu, etc. Can I drop off my student?**

- a. No. If someone who is living with your child runs fever or tests positive for the flu, please keep your student at home. Your student has already been exposed.
- b. **Your student may return when the entire family has been symptom free for 24 hours without medication.**
- c. It may not be COVID-19, but we are not willing to take that chance with our other students and staff.

**10. What kinds of symptoms will automatically exclude my child from care?**

- a. In order to maintain the healthiest environment at our program, it is vital that children and staff who display symptoms of illness remain at home. A health screening will take place daily before anyone is allowed into the facility. The following symptoms will exclude your child from care or staff from working:

Temperature of 100 degrees or higher, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, new muscle pain, new headaches, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, new diarrhea, known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 or awaiting test results.

**11. What about other health concerns? What if my student has fever, snotty nose, constant sneezing, vomiting etc.**

- a. If your child or if a staff member has fever of 100 degrees or higher, they cannot return to the facility until they are **24 hours** fever and symptom free with no fever reducing medication.
- b. We know many children suffer from allergies. If your child's runny nose is clear, they are able to come, but if the nasal discharge is thick and colored, your child needs to stay at home. At this point in the pandemic, we cannot take chances with an entire group of people's health. If your child has nasal discharge that is colored and thick, constant sneezing, or vomiting, we ask you to keep them home until they are 24 hours symptom free. If they come to school with any of those symptoms, we will isolate the child and call you to pick them up.

**12. Will staff members have their temperature checked?**

- a. At this time, we will not be taking temperatures.

**13. Will there be any new hand washing procedures?**

- a. The state already has requirements for the children and staff to wash their hands with soap and water many times throughout the day. We will continue with those practices.

**14. What items will be shared in the classroom?**

- a. We will continue our regular schedule with as many hands on activities that we can. Our MDO kids are 2 months-3yrs old, so we will disinfect and prevent cross contamination as much as possible. Realistically, the germ issue is one we have dealt with all along.
- b. Cleaning procedures have always been written and posted.
- c. Our custodial staff cleans and disinfects after each program as well as our daily teacher cleaning procedures.

**15. Will parents attend Special Days at MDO?**

- a. MDO only has 2 special days that parents attend. We will make the attendance decision as the holiday approaches.

**As with everything COVID-19, we cannot anticipate everything, and these above COVID-19 policies could change at any time to stay in compliance with government regulations. If any of the above policies change, we will send a written update to the policies. These are currently best practices in keeping us all as healthy as we can for as long as we can until we know more. We appreciate your grace and mercy as we strive to make decisions that are best with what we know at this time and guided by the state.**