

Child Development Center

The health and safety of our children, families and staff is always the Center's top priority. As such, the Child Development Center will remain closed during Stage 1. The Child Development Center has developed health and safety guidelines consistent with the COVID-19 protocols required by the New Jersey Department of Health and the New Jersey Department of Children and Families for Stage 2, as outlined below. The college and the Child Development Center will not enter Stage 3 during the fall 2020 semester.

1. Screening and Admittance
 - a. Person's that have a fever of 100.4 F (38 C) or above or other signs of illness (*see Section II*) shall not be admitted to the Child Dev. Center (CDC). Parents should be alert for signs of illness in their children and keep them home when they are sick.
 - b. Children and staff will be screened for fever or signs of COVID-19 illness prior to entry to the CDC. Only staff and children are allowed in the CDC. The screening area will be under the porch near the CDC entrance. The staff member that is screening will be wearing a face shield and mask. If another family is being screened and you are waiting, please keep social distance of at least 6 feet.
2. Group Sizes and Social Distancing
 - a. Children shall be grouped into no more than 14 children. Classes shall include the same children each day, to the greatest extent possible, and, also to the greatest extent possible, the same staff shall be assigned to care for each group, each day.
 - b. Spacing of groups will be six feet during nap or sleep periods. Cots shall be positioned alternatively head-to-toe to minimize potential virus transmission between children.
 - c. Use of shared spaces shall be carefully controlled to ensure that children and staff maintain six feet of separation from children or staff from other groups.
 - d. Outdoor play time on shared playgrounds shall be staggered to prevent mixing between groups. Children and staff must wash hands upon returning from outdoor play.
 - e. Procedures will be implemented to prevent crowding at pick up and drop off. Parents are prohibited from entering the CDC and must either ring the bell or call on the phone to drop off their child or to have their child brought to the door during pickup.
 - f. Staff will be required to wear cloth masks while working.
 - g. When feasible, children will be encouraged to wear cloth face coverings within the center. The CDC will provide a cloth mask that the children can choose to use. We will then put their names on them and they will use every day. When leaving the center, the children will put their masks in a laundry basket and staff will wash them daily so they are ready and clean for the next day.
3. Activities and Personal Belongings
 - a. Close person to person contact (hugging, games involving touching or tagging) will be strictly prohibited.
 - b. Activities that are likely to bring children into close contact with one another will be cancelled or modified.

- c. Sharing of supplies and other high touch items will be strictly limited. No toys, diaper bags, strollers or backpacks are to be brought from home. Lunch boxes must be made of hard plastic that can be easily sanitized or completely disposable including all items inside-no soft sided lunch boxes. Each child will receive their own basket with their own individual art supplies to use and their own individual bag of playdough. Children's belongings shall be kept separate in individual storage bins or cubbies and sent home each day for washing. If items are shared, they will be used by one group at a time and cleaned and disinfected between uses.
 - d. Only if absolutely necessary-if your child needs a special naptime blanket or stuffed animal and it cannot stay in school during the week, it must be washed before it returns to school.
4. Visitors
 - a. Visitors will not be permitted to enter the center during operating hours (student teachers, parents) with the exception of emergency or law enforcement personnel in their official capacity and the Dept. of Children and Families personnel. If emergency repairs are required then they may enter, otherwise, repairs and all other persons must wait till the CDC is closed.
 - b. Unless precluded by emergency circumstances, visitors mentioned above, must be screened before entering the CDC and must wear cloth masks.
5. Promoting Healthy Hygiene Practices
 - a. The CDC will teach and reinforce, for both staff and children, proper hygiene techniques, including washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes in elbow. Parents, please reinforce at home.
 - b. The FDA does not recommend hand sanitizer for young children. The CDC will provide adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behavior (tissues, soap and warm water).
 - c. Children and staff will practice frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and shall be required to wash their hands upon arrival at the center, entering the classroom, before and after snacks, after outside time, after going to the bathroom and prior to leaving for home.
6. Enhanced Cleaning and Sanitation Procedures
 - a. The CDC will increase the frequency of cleaning toys, equipment and surfaces including outdoor bikes and playground equipment.
 - b. Toys and items that can not be easily cleaned (soft or plush toys) will be removed.
7. Response Procedures for COVID-19 or Exposure (in addition to those listed in Section II above)
 - a. If children or staff members develop COVID-19 while at the CDC they will immediately be separated from the group until picked up.
 - b. Centers that become aware of a COVID-19 case will contact the local DOH for guidance. Health officials will provide direction on whether a center should cease operations following the identification of a positive case in the facility. If temporary closure is ordered, the duration may be dependent on staffing levels, outbreak levels in the community and severity of illness in the infected individual.

- c. If a staff member or child contracts or is exposed to COVID-19, they cannot return to the center until the criteria for lifting transmission-based precautions and home isolation have been met.