

YCA Covid-19 Policies and Procedures

We realize we may not be able to control every aspect of this evolving coronavirus situation but we aim to implement the best policies and procedures with the intent of ensuring the well-being of not just our children and parents, but of our staff as well. At Young Child Academy, we are following the practices and guidance provided by Washington State Public Health, CDC and our own licensing organization, DCYF. We ask for your assistance as we continue to implement best practices.

Staff members, parents, children or guardians/care givers must remain out of the center if any member of your household (including nannies and roommates) has, or has been in close contact with anyone who has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19.

In addition, staff members, parents, children or guardians/care givers must remain out of the center if any member of your household (including nannies and roommates) has traveled from any area which is the subject of travel restrictions under applicable state, local or federal guidance.

Staff and families may return 14 days after the suspected exposure mentioned above provided the following are true:

- 1) At least 10 days has passed since any individual or household member first experienced symptoms
- 2) Symptoms have improved for any individual or household member who experienced symptoms such as aches, cough, shortness of breath, loss of smell, etc.
- 3) The household has been fever-free for at least 72 hours **without** the use of fever-reducing medicines.

TEACHERS, STAFF, VISITORS, FAMILIES, CHILDREN, GUARDIANS, NANNIES, OR ANY HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS, MUST CONDUCT A DAILY HEALTH CHECK BEFORE COMING TO THE CENTER.

Classrooms will be open to well individuals only. If any child, teacher, staff or household member, has any of the following symptoms, we ask you to remain out of the facility and notify the center. The symptoms include:

- Cough
- Fever of 100.4°F or 38°C or higher
- Congestion or runny nose
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Headache
- Sore throat

- Fatigue
- Diarrhea
- Other signs of new illness that are unrelated to a preexisting condition (such as seasonal allergies)
- Nausea or vomiting
- New loss of taste or smell

Consistent with COVID-19 Policy, the affected individuals will be required to remain out of the center for 14 days unless medical clearance is provided by a physician indicating that the presenting symptoms are associated with a known non-COVID-19 illness or a negative Covid-19 test is provided.

Once on site, the following practices will be implemented:

- 1) In addition to morning temperatures taken at school upon arrival, **staff and children** will continue to have temperatures taken in the afternoon.
- 2) We ask that parents/guardians determine in advance, one person to be in charge of both pick up and drop off. During this pandemic, the same parent or guardian, whenever possible, should be bringing the children, and picking the children up. This minimizes exposure. This person should not have underlying health conditions or be over 60 years old.
- 3) We ask that parents, upon arriving at the school, do not engage with other children, other parents or staff. If you need to share a message with teachers, please message them via the kinder lime app which is now called **ProCare**.
- 4) A teacher will meet your child in front of his/her classroom door/sign-in area. That teacher (in the presence of the parent) will sign in the child, so as to minimize contagion of the screen pad. That teacher will assist with hand washing and the depositing of the child's belongings. Lunch boxes will be disinfected prior to depositing in the refrigerator. Please do not leave, until a teacher has met you and your child.
- 5) During this process, we ask that you stay six feet apart from whomever is in front of you, behind you or next to you.
- 6) Parents must wear masks during the drop off and pick up times.
- 7) Teachers will be wearing masks as well.
- 8) PreK students are required to wear a mask (except while eating or sleeping). Children ages 2-4 are strongly encouraged to wear a mask as well. **Toddlers and infants are not allowed to wear masks due to strangulation hazards.**
- 9) We will close the school each afternoon at 5:30 for strenuous deep cleaning. When you arrive to pick up your child, please do not enter the classroom. Please wait for the teacher to bring

your child and his/her lunch container to you. After 4:30 pm, and provided the group numbers are reduced, most children will be outside.

10) As with drop-off, please keep 6 feet apart from any child, teacher, or other parent, during pick up time as well. Masks are **required** during this time.

11) During the children's outdoor play time, and while under the supervision of classroom teachers, doors to the classrooms will remain open, allowing improved ventilation and fresh air to circulate throughout the facility.

12) Outdoor time, both play and learning, has increased in most classrooms

13) If any child exhibits symptoms of illness during the day, the child will be removed from the classroom and parents will be contacted immediately. Parents, please ensure you have availability to get to YCA when called, in such instances.

If a case of covid-19 is confirmed at our facility, the following will be employed:

We will immediately notify the Public Health Department and our DCYF licensor.

We will immediately notify all staff and families. We will also provide a copy of the most up to date [“COVID-19 Fact Sheet for Families”](#)

The center will be closed for a minimum of three days (the typical time the virus lives on surfaces) During that time, additional cleaning will be employed to thoroughly disinfect inside and out.

Advise people who had close contact and have symptoms to stay at home and away from others and to tell their doctor.

Advise people who had close contact with the sick individual and do not have symptoms to stay at home for 14 days from their last contact with that person and to look for possible symptoms.

If we have to close our facility for cleaning and disinfecting, please refer to the below for a better understanding of our processes:

[CDC's environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations](#)