

<b>Great Hope Preschool</b>	<b>FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH &amp; SAFETY POLICY AND PROCEDURES</b>
<b>POLICY NUMBER: <u>HS 6090</u></b>	<b>POLICY TITLE: COVID Health and Safety Plan</b>
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE: <u>6/1/2020</u></b>	<b>APPROVED: _____</b>

## POLICY

**Per Center for Disease Control:** Schools, working together with local health departments, have an important role in slowing the spread of diseases to help ensure students have safe and healthy learning environments. Schools serve students, staff, and visitors from throughout the community. All of these people may have close contact in the school setting, often sharing spaces, equipment, and supplies.

Information about [COVID-19 in children](#) is somewhat limited, but the information that is available suggests that children with confirmed COVID-19 generally had mild symptoms. Person-to-person spread from or to children, as among adults, is thought to occur mainly via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Recent studies indicate that people who are infected but do not have symptoms likely also play a role in the spread of COVID-19.

However, a small percentage of children have been reported to have more severe illness. Despite lower risk of serious illness, children with COVID-19-like symptoms should avoid contact with older adults and people of any age who may be at [higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19](#).

### Know how it spreads

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.
- The virus is thought to [spread mainly from person-to-person](#).
  - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
  - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
  - These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
  - Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

### Our everyday safety plan and preventive actions include:

- Frequently wash hands with soap and water for at least 25 seconds. When soap and running water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands that are visibly soiled.
- Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.
- Parents upon arrival, stand at least 6 feet away from another parent/guardian and other child.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Practice good respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home if sick.
- Recognize personal risk factors. [According to U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), certain people, including older adults and those with underlying conditions such as heart or lung disease or diabetes, are at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19.
- Our current preschool policy includes [Routinely clean, sanitize, and disinfect](#) surfaces and objects that are frequently touched, especially toys and games. This includes cleaning objects/surfaces ordinarily cleaned daily such

as doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops, nap pads, toilet training potties, desks, chairs, and cubbies.

### **Handwashing and sanitizing:**

- All persons MUST WASH Hands immediately upon entry
- Children are required to wash hands prior to eating and after. Before and after sensory boxes, animal handling, and blowing nose.
- Hand sanitizing stations are conveniently positioned for parents throughout the building, sign in and doors.

### **Food preparation:**

- students will continue to dine family-style
- sharing of food and utensils is strictly prohibited
- only disposable utensils are used
- The tables are cleaned and sanitized before meal service
- Food prep gloves are always worn

### **Face Masks:**

- Parents may elect to have their children wear masks and we will enforce to the best of our ability
- Parents and teachers must wear masks at all times
- All visitors and guests must wear face masks
- While on field trips students must wear masks when applicable

### **Medical Removal:**

- The medical removal policy is strictly enforced; this includes our current policy to complete a visual health check upon arrival to ensure that children who have a fever or other signs of illness are not admitted to the facility.
  - visual inspection of the child for signs of illness which could include flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue, or extreme fussiness.
- Parents should take their child's temperature either before coming to the facility or upon arrival at the facility.
- Parents should not bring their child to school should they suspect they are sick
- Should a child be kept home for illness regardless of self diagnosis a doctor note must be provided
- All GHP team members must return after illness regardless of symptoms with a doctor note/release to work.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **If COVID-19 is confirmed in a child or staff member:**

- The CDC recommends dismissal of students and most staff for 2-5 days. This initial short-term dismissal allows time for the local health officials to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation impacting the school and for team members to clean and disinfect the affected facilities. We will work with the local health officials to determine appropriate next steps, including whether an extended dismissal duration is needed to stop or slow further spread of COVID-19.
- Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the areas.
- Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before cleaning or disinfect to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning and disinfecting.
- Clean and disinfect areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms, and common areas.
- If more than 7 days have passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
- Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.
- The following CDC guidelines will be followed:

[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html?CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fprepare%2Fdisinfecting-building-facility.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fprepare%2Fdisinfecting-building-facility.html)