

ROBBIN'S NEST PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

Health and Safety Guidelines

(according to the guidelines set by Community Care Licensing Division and California Department of Education)

Link for the Guidelines for Social and Physical Distancing

<https://cclid.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7590f8c3525ec889dfae162a3&id=d4b0c14895&e=a118ccae82>

CCLD and CDE REQUIREMENTS FOR SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL DISTANCING:

- *Intentional creation of physical space between individuals.
- *Canceling or postponing the number of gatherings and group activities.
- *Reducing all group sizes.
- *Maintaining six feet of distance between every individual, as much as possible.

SPECIFIC TO OUR SETTING, ROBBIN'S NEST WILL ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING:

CLASS SIZE:

- *Children will remain in groups as small as possible not to exceed ratio

(1:6 for 2 year olds, 1:10 for 3-5 year olds) and capacity requirements (10 students per class).

- *The same children and teacher will be kept the same with each group, to the greatest extent possible.

This will require us to change our hours to 7:30 am - 4:30 pm, temporarily. Earlier drop off or later pick up may be arranged, as needed.

- *Extend the indoor environment to outdoors, and bring the class outside, weather permitting. For Outside Time, only 2 classes will go out at a time, switching play areas as a class. Outside Play Time will start at 8:00 am. An Outside Play Schedule will be posted.

PROCEDURE FOR SIGNING IN AND OUT:

- *Visual wellness checks of all children will be conducted upon arrival. Health questions will be asked when concerned. It is recommended as a best practice to take children's temperature each morning. A no-touch infrared thermometer will be available at the front desk for the morning staff to use. Parents will be asked to fill up a health questionnaire. Staff will undergo the same screening procedure which includes taking temperatures before arriving to work or beginning care. Teachers will be wearing facial covering and gloves when needed (bathroom time, meal time or during diaper changing).

*Parents and caregivers will need to maintain 6 feet distance during sign in and sign out. You may have to wait outside to allow for social and physical distancing. A morning staff member will be available to bring your child to his/her room. You are still welcome to bring your child to the room but we recommend that the drop off should be as brief as possible.

*We ask that parents and caregivers wash their own hands and assist in washing the hands of their children before drop off, prior to coming for pick up, and when they get home. Hand sanitizers (need to be out of children's reach) and baby wipes will be available at the desk, if needed. Face masks will be required, in accordance with the Face Covering Order. We will recommend face coverings for the kids, for certain portions of the day like outdoor play, bathroom time and circle time. They won't have to wear it during nap, meal times and solitary play. We will have some face masks for the kids to use, if they don't have any.

*We ask that parents and caregivers bring their own pens for signing children in and out. We recommend that you use the pen to punch in your code on the door keypad. The keypads and door handles will be plastic wrapped and disinfected regularly.

*Class sign in/out sheets will be in separate clipboards and will be spread out on the office desk to minimize handling.

SICK POLICY:

*If a child has a temperature of 100°F/38°C or higher during drop off, they will not be able to stay at school.

*Children will be monitored throughout the day for any signs of possible illness. If a child exhibits signs of illness, the child will be isolated from the class and the parents/caregiver will be notified to immediately pick up the child.

*As an added precaution, we are now requiring children to be 72 hours fever free before returning to school, without taking any fever-reducing medication.

*Please inform the office if your child has taken any medication 24 hours before coming to school.

CLASSROOM SET-UP AND ACTIVITIES:

How do we explain Physical Distancing and Why it is Important:

*Carpet squares, mats, masking tape or other visuals will be used for spacing.

* Teachers will model social/ physical distancing when interacting with children, families, and other staff.

*Kids can role-play what social/ physical distancing looks like by demonstrating the recommended distance.

*Teachers will give frequent verbal reminders to children.

*Stories, Songs and Signs will be used to reinforce physical distancing, handwashing, proper etiquette for sneezes, coughs, etc.

Setting Up the Classroom Environment:

- *Arrange developmentally appropriate activities for smaller group activities and rearrange furniture and play spaces to maintain 6-foot separation, when possible.
- *All touched surfaces will be frequently cleaned.
- *Multiple toys and manipulatives that are easy to clean will be accessible and sanitized throughout the day.
- *Limit the amount of sharing. Individual containers with markers, crayons, pencils, scissors, glue, playdough, etc. will be provided.
- *Offer more opportunities for individual play and solo activities, such as fine motor activities (i.e., drawing, coloring, cutting, puzzles, and other manipulatives).
- *Plan activities that do not require close physical contact between multiple children.
- *Stagger indoor and outdoor play and adjust schedules to reduce the number of children in the same area.
- *Designate a tub for toys that need to be cleaned and wiped after use.
- *Open windows to ventilate facilities before and after children arrive.

Meal Times:

- *Utilize more tables to spread children out or use name cards to ensure adequate spacing of children.
- *Practice proper handwashing before and after eating.
- *Use paper goods and disposable plastic utensils.
- *Immediately clean and disinfect trays and tables after meals.
- *No Heat-Up lunches will help free up staff to help in the classrooms. Hot lunch program will still be available beginning June. The caterer (Cibo's) will strictly adhere to the CDC and CDPH COVID-19 Food Handling Guidelines.
- *Snacks will be served in individual portions.
- *The children will need a personal reusable water container to keep in their cubbies. Water will always be available and will be given by the teacher upon request.

Bathroom:

- *Use this time as an opportunity to reinforce healthy habits and monitor proper handwashing.
- *Sanitize the sink, faucets and toilet handles before and after each child's use.
- *Teach children to use a paper towel when using the handle to flush the toilet or turn off the faucet.

*Wash hands for 20 seconds and use paper towels to dry hands thoroughly.

*Practice physical distancing while waiting for a turn to use the toilet / wash their hands. Use signs, markings or stickers to indicate where they need to stand and wait.

Personal Items:

*All personal items should be labeled and kept in a separate bag to ensure personal items are separate from others. During this time, personal toys should be kept at home until further notice.

Napping:

*Space cots 6 feet apart from each other. Tables will be moved to create more space.

*Arrange the mats / or cots alternately so that the head of each child will be in opposite directions, to lessen the possible spread of illness between children from coughing or sneezing.

HEALTH AND HYGIENE ROUTINE:

*Teach, model, and reinforce healthy habits and social skills.

*Explain to children why it's not healthy to share drinks or food, particularly when sick.

*Practice frequent handwashing by teaching a popular child-friendly song or counting to 20 (handwashing should last 20 seconds).

*Teach children to use tissue to wipe their nose and to cough inside their elbow.

*Model and practice handwashing before and after eating, after coughing or sneezing, after playing outside, and after using the restroom.

HEALTH SURVEY AND NOTIFICATION:

It is important for parents and caregivers to inform us about any symptoms (primarily fever, cough, difficulty breathing or other signs of illness within the last 24 hours) – that they, or someone in their homes might have. We will also need to ask if they have had any exposure to another individual with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases. It will be recommended for the child to stay home until the required quarantine period is over and/ or the individual has tested negative for COVID-19. Parents will be informed immediately in the event of possible exposure.

*These guidelines will be subject to revision or addition in response to CCLD, CDE and CDC updates.