



Nurture and Nature Children's Center Pandemic Information Guide

During the time of a pandemic, Nurture and Nature will only care for the allowed children in accordance with the state, federal and local government.

Dropping off / Picking up of Children

Parents must wear a mask at all times. Teachers will greet parents and children at their playground doors. Parents will be asked a few screening questions daily. Teachers will check each child's temperature to ensure that every child is screened according to the required guidance. Parents will not be allowed to enter the building for drop off or pick up, unless absolutely necessary. Any parent who wishes to enter the building must first be screened and then wash their hands with soap and water. We ask that no parent touch anything or any other children during this time. We ask that when in the building and on the playground that parents respect the personal space of children and staff by standing at least 6 feet away. Staff will assist children in washing their hands, arms, and faces upon arrival during drop off.

Please use email or phone to communicate with staff whenever possible to allow for social distancing. Nurture and Nature will have staff available to communicate about children's care and address any questions or concerns throughout the day via email and phone.

Hours of operation may change to allow proper staffing. Staffing during these times may be limited.

Illness Policy and Monitoring

Any child showing any *new or unexplained (undocumented by a physician) symptoms* of Covid-19, including: runny nose, nasal congestion, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, vomiting, nausea, diarrhea, or fever higher than 100.4 should not be at school and will be sent home.

DHHS requirements state: Children who have any new or unexplained symptoms of Covid-19 ***can return to care*** when one of two conditions is met:

1. Child receives an approved Covid-19 test that is negative AND symptoms are improving AND they are fever-free for at least 24 hours off any fever-reducing medications.
2. Child has met CDC criteria for ending of home isolation which means at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, AND at least 1 day (24 hours) has passed where the person is without fever (off any fever reducing medications) AND other symptoms are improving.

If a doctor has cleared your child to attend sooner, due to an underlying condition (allergies/teething), the medical professional MUST in writing state that ***"Child _____ was seen and was evaluated for _(symptom)_. The child does NOT have Covid-19 and is able to return to childcare without placing another child or adult at risk."***

If the child has been exposed to a person who is positive for COVID-19, inform Nurture and Nature by email ASAP. Situations of exposure include when the child, the child's parents, or anyone who lives in the child's home has been in direct contact with an infected person. The child will be required to stay home for 14 days.

Keeping Healthy

Nurture and Nature will take every precaution for your child to stay healthy! Consistent hand washing and sanitizing of the center will be performed many times during the day. Due to increased hand washing, your child's hands may become raw, dry, or cracked. Please apply lotion each night at home to prevent this from happening.

We need your help in keeping children and staff healthy. It is the responsibility of the parents to be open and honest with staff about any illnesses the child, sibling, or parent may be experiencing. If we find that this is not the case, children will be asked to not attend school. *Please do not send your child to school if any member of your household has symptoms and has not received a negative Covid-19 test (ex. Child's sibling wakes up congested and has not been cleared by a doctor or negative Covid-19 test).*

We ask that all families continue to practice social distancing. Children should not be going out into public with parents, as much as possible. Playgrounds and group gatherings must be avoided for your child to be able to attend. Any violation in this matter might require the child to be placed on leave from school until the child is quarantined for a 14 day period

Child Supplies

What to send:

- Lunchbox with an ice pack and your child's lunch.
- A water bottle, which will be sent home to be sanitized each day
- A plastic, disposable shopping bag with your child's sheet, blanket, and 2-3 complete changes of clothes. (Plastic bags can be labeled using a sharpie or piece of tape)

Staff are required to change children's clothes if they spill food, drinks, or bodily fluids on their clothing. Your child may go through more changes of clothes than usual.

Sheets, blankets, and any other personal belongings will be sent home at the end of the week to be cleaned. Your child's cubby area at school will be sanitized on Fridays and whenever else necessary.

Please do NOT send stuffed animals, pillows, or oversized blankets for rest time. These items are especially difficult to keep clean and germ-free.

Closing of the Center

If the medical team has informed a parent that they or their child may have COVID-19, the center will be shut down for 24-48 hours for proper cleaning and sanitization.

If a child, parent or staff member is tested for Covid-19 and the test is positive, the center will be closed for 14-days, so all staff and families can self isolate, as required by DHHS.

Tuition Payments during a Pandemic

Nurture and Nature has the right to modify tuition payments depending on the situation and pandemic. The Director will keep all families updated about payments.

This handbook has been created to help guide in an emergency pandemic. This handbook is very fluid and may be adjusted based on the pandemic and emergency needs of the center. This handbook was written to help guide families and staff with open communication. Nurture and Nature will adjust this handbook as needed due to State and Federal guidelines. We will follow all rules, regulations and requirements as well as recommendations of the local, state and federal government for the health and safety of children, families and staff.