



Derry Preschool Health and Safety Plan COVID-19 Plan and Procedures

As of 8-27-21

(Plan is subject to change as guidance on response to pandemic develops)

Derry Preschool is a private preschool who is certified by the PA Department of Education and is located in Derry Township. This Health and Safety Plan has been created to support multiple scenarios throughout the course of the school year. This is a fluid document, based on local, state and federal guidelines that will continue to develop over time. The information in this document is taken from the CDC, PDE, DOH and AAP. For more information on these specific COVID-19 guidelines can be found on the following websites:

The Center of Disease Control (CDC) : <https://www.cdc.gov>

The PA Department of Education (PDE): <https://www.education.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

The PA Department of Health (DOH): <https://www.health.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP): <https://www.aap.org/en-us/Pages/Default.aspx>

The CDC defines COVID-19 as a respiratory illness accompanied with fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure. The virus is spread person-to-person between people within close contact via respiratory droplets. This occurs most often when someone sneezes or coughs and another person nearby inhales the droplets into the lungs. Transmission may also be possible through contact with contaminated surfaces, but this is not the primary source of transmission.

There is a wide range of symptoms reported and these symptoms range from mild to severe. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. (This list does not include all possible symptoms and this list may be updated. Please refer to the link for the most up to date list of symptoms)

- fever or chills
- cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- fatigue
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- new loss of taste or smell
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

GENERAL POLICIES

Face coverings

All persons over the age of 2 years (regardless of vaccination status) need to wear a face mask while indoors at Derry Preschool. Please have your child wearing their face mask when they arrive at Derry Preschool. Also plan to have an extra face mask in your child's bookbag. A face mask can be made of synthetic or natural fibers and cover the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. All staff and students will be wearing a mask for the duration of the class while indoors.

At Derry Preschool we have learned from our medical task force that a face mask is the safest face covering option for preschool aged children because it helps keep hands from nose and mouth. We will provide extra disposable child sized masks for any student who needs a mask to enter the building or needs to change their mask during their school day. -

Mask Break Times

There will be times during the day that we will be able to have mask breaks. We will be providing a ribbon lanyard for each child that will be attached to their mask. During mask break times, we will teach each child to remove their mask and wear it around their neck using the lanyard. Snack time will be a time in our day that we will be taking a mask break. We will be providing mats for each child that will allow us to set up distanced spots either outside (weather permitting) or around the classroom. Outdoor time will also be another time that we will be able to provide mask breaks. We will be scheduling extra outdoor time (weather permitting) in our school day. During outdoor times, each classroom will be assigned a location to play which will include our 2 fenced play areas along with a black top area. There will be no more than 2 classrooms in each area to limit mixing classes.

Additional Safety Precautions

There will be added hand washing and sanitizing throughout the day for staff and children. All staff and children will sanitize hands after entering the building (both at entry and after outside play time). We have installed three additional hand sanitizing stations at our entrances.

We will be creating extra outdoor space that will allow for children to spend more of their school day outdoors (weather permitting). We are creating a rotating outdoor schedule to limit classrooms combining. Children will remain with their specific classroom group for the duration of their school day and may interact with one other assigned classroom during their outdoor times.

We will be making additional efforts to sanitize and disinfect surfaces and objects that are used after each class. We will be wiping surfaces throughout the day, with a focus on the high touch surfaces that are in shared spaces (such as doors in hallway, bathroom sink handles, paper towel dispensers, etc.). We have installed 3 cleaning stations in our building that hold CDC approved disinfecting wipes. These will be used to wipe all high touch areas.

In order to maintain product supply, we have been working with a company to purchase approved cleaning materials. We are not depending on parents to supply classrooms. We are however always thankful for any items that are donated.

The water fountains will be closed. Classrooms will be provided with pitchers and cups to offer each child water throughout the day. We will be using signage around the building to remind all teachers and students about how to stay healthy. This includes wear a mask, cover when you cough, wash hands frequently, do not use water fountain.

Signs of Illness

If your child shows signs of illness during the school day, we will provide a space for your child to relax that is distanced from peers in the classroom. We will then contact you. This year we will use extreme caution and we will call you if your child presents any symptoms of illness. *Please ensure that the contact on the emergency authorization form is a person who is able to be reached and available during the school day hours.

Drop off and Pick up Procedures

We will be allowing parents/guardians to enter the building to drop off their child to their classroom in the morning. We will be assigning an entrance/pickup door for each classroom. We will be asking families to enter through their assigned door to walk to their classroom. We will then be dismissing each classroom outdoors. For pick up time all adults will wait outside at the assigned location and the teachers will dismiss your child to you so that you will not need to enter their building during pick up time. This will be the protocol for pick up/drop off for morning classes, lunch bunch and kickstart.

While we will not be conducting a health screening at the door, we are asking that each family conduct the screening before entering the building. Please be able to answer 'no' to the following questions before arriving at school:

- Has your child had a fever within the past 48 hours without medication? (a fever is 100.4 or higher is considered a fever according to CDC guidelines for COVID)
- Has your child recently had a new cough, sore throat or shortness of breath that is NOT attributed to another health condition?
- Have you or any household member had direct contact or live with anyone with a presumed or confirmed case of COVID-19?

ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM POLICIES

Snack

We will be asking for family donations for snacks for each classroom. We will ensure that food allergies are considered when your teacher provides a class snack list. We will be using our movement mats to have a picnic style snack hopefully outside or in our classrooms. We will spread the mats around the grassy area/room so that we can social distance while eating. We will model how to first wash hands and then take off their mask and avoid touching the fabric. The teachers will sanitize their hands and wear gloves to distribute a snack and water to each

child. If your child has a food allergy, please ensure that is noted on your child's medical form and that you have a specific conversation with your child's teacher to discuss an action plan.

Communication

Face to face interactions with parents and teachers will obviously be impacted by our new protocols. We will be making extra efforts to communicate to you about our day through Bloomz and through email. Teachers will use Bloomz to communicate all classroom happenings. The Derry Preschool office will use email to communicate all school wide information.

DERRY PRESCHOOL COVID-19 ILLNESS POLICY

According to the most recent revisions made by the CDC for in school settings, the definition of close contact excludes students who were within 3-6 feet of an infected student if those students were correctly and consistently wearing a well fitted mask the entire time.

It is important to inform your child's teacher if your child has a confirmed case of COVID-19. This will allow us to let the classroom be aware of any confirmed cases that are pertinent to contact tracing. We will be able to make a decision based on the CDC guidelines if quarantining is necessary. All confirmed cases and quarantining that would need to be implemented will be communicated via email.

-If a child begins to feel ill during the class time, they will be escorted to a separate waiting area and parents will be contacted.

The area in the middle hallway by entrance #3 will be our isolation area. This is a space that is not frequently traveled and parents can use that entrance to pick up their child if they are contacted to do so. While in the isolation area, an isolation area checklist will be utilized to ensure correct measures are occurring. These include things such as wearing additional Personal Protective Equipment, increasing ventilation, cleaning, handwashing, etc. while in the area.

These are the communication guidelines we will follow as it pertains to potential COVID contact:

- If a staff or student is symptomatic but does not have a confirmed case of COVID-19, no formal school wide communication will occur. Increased cleaning in the areas staff or student visited while sick will be disinfected as a precautionary measure.

If a staff or student is symptomatic and does have a confirmed case of COVID-19, DP will initiate Infectious Disease Protocol. In this protocol, the Department of Health is contacted, and DP follows their guidance. We will be using the Chameleon Company to help with additional cleaning that will be done in any area the infected person was present. They will disinfect all touch surfaces and use an air mister disinfectant that is sprayed in the air. In addition, families and staff will be alerted via email. HIPPA related policies will be followed throughout this process.

Prioritizing in-person learning:

It is our goal to provide in-person learning for our entire school year. We know that being in the classroom with peers and teachers is the most successful way for our young students to thrive. Throughout the year we will be consistently keeping safety in mind when making decisions to provide in-person learning. We are prepared to extend our school year if we would feel that closing the classroom for a short period would be necessary. Above all, we will keep our safety protocol fluid to ensure that we are mindful of current conditions and guidance in our local area.