



SOUTHWEST CHILD CARE EARLY LEARNING CENTERS

COVID-19 Business Update #5

Wednesday, June 23, 2020

Dear Southwest Families,

It is officially summer! We are happy to be providing fun summer activities for your children while still adhering to strict COVID-19 safe practices. We continue to receive weekly guidance from the NM Early childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD). As more and more children return to our centers, we will continue to do our best to keep our staff and your children healthy and safe. We appreciate your cooperation as we take extra measures of precaution. If you would like to learn more about our health and safety practices, please visit our website for previously written communications sent out to families.

Some important reminders and new information we have for you are:

- **We have been awarded an additional NM PreK contract to provide a FREE summer kindergarten readiness intensive program for children who will be attending kindergarten this August.** To be eligible, children must have been enrolled in a NM PreK program anywhere in NM this spring. The purpose is to focus on the class time lost during stay-at-home orders. For more information, call our office.
- **Summertime!! Please remember to send sunscreen and extra clothes.** Children are not allowed to share sunscreen, and even older children can get wet or spill and need to change their clothes.
- **Parents are still not allowed to enter our building.** We appreciate your patience at drop off and pick up as we smooth out our new systems. You are welcome to call ahead and let the office know that you are on your way. Please use phone and email to discuss business matters with us.
- **Masks are now required for children 3 and older.** Our teachers will be helping our young children learn to wear their mask. It will be helpful if you also give them opportunities to practice wearing it while they are with you.
- **We are required to maintain small group sizes which limit our capacity to accept children into the center.** If you are considering a return to childcare, please call us so we can reserve your spot and schedule our staff appropriately. Effective July 1, if you are able to work from home and choose to keep your children at home, you will be required to pay your normal tuition to retain your spot.
- **Payments are required by the 3rd day of the month (or Tuesday if paying weekly) to avoid a late fee.**
- **Boo Boo Reports may be phoned to you** in an effort to speed up the pick-up process at the end of the day.
- **If we receive a positive COVID-19 test in our center,** staff or child, the NM Department of Health's Rapid Response Team will close our center for a minimum of 48 hours. During this time, sanitization and contact tracing will occur which will determine our reopening. PLEASE, do not bring your child to the center if they or you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed to a positive case of COVID-19. This puts all staff and families at risk. All our staff are tested as required by the ECECD.
- **We are communicating mainly by phone and email.** Please be sure we have your current contact information.

Thank you for your understanding and patience. Our goal is to continue to provide high quality care and early education. while at the same time keeping you, your family and our staff healthy and well.

Sincerely,

Your Southwest Child Care School Family