

STOREHOUSE GROW & GO PRESCHOOL

August, 2021 (REVISED 9/8/21)

Parent Handbook Addendum- COVID- 19 SPECIAL PROCEDURES

FOR FALL, 2021 CLASSES

This document will describe the special procedures and protocols that will be in effect for Fall, 2021 due to the COVID- 19 Pandemic situation. These “COVID- 19 SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR FALL, 2021 CLASSES” will continuously be updated and refined as directed by appropriate agencies. The complete and official “COVID- 19 HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN” for Storehouse Grow & Go Preschool (required by the state) is on file in the preschool office and is available to parents upon request. The teachers and administration at Storehouse Grow & Go Preschool are committed to providing a quality program that is safe, educational, child-friendly, and fun!

HEALTH/SAFETY GUIDELINES: Storehouse Grow & Go Preschool (SGGP) fully intends to follow the current recommendations by PA DHS (Department of Human Services), PA OCDEL (Office of Child Development and Early Learning), the PA DOH (Dept. of Health) and the CDC. All protocols are based on those guidelines.

PRESCHOOL PHILOSOPHY: While preschool will look a little different (for now), we intend to do as much as we can safely do of preschool essentials- socialization, exploring, forming relationships, and playing- but with masks on, as much distancing as possible, and keeping different classes separate when possible.

FACE MASKS: To begin the year, all staff will be masked at all times unless alone in an office or room. All children will be masked all the time indoors (except for mask breaks). Outdoors they will probably be masked (including on the playground) unless they can consistently maintain a six foot distance from each other (such as a Fitness class on marked spots out on the lawn). Short mask breaks will be provided occasionally with children properly distanced. It is recommended that parents wash their child’s mask after school each day. Parents are asked to provide an extra mask in a labeled baggie to be kept in school in case it is needed. It is hoped that this will not last long.

DAILY HOME HEALTH CHECK: Each day parents should check their child’s temperature and general health before sending them to school. If a child shows symptoms of illness, keep him/her home.

ARRIVAL and SCREENING: Car line only, NO WALK UPS

- Arrival- note: may be adjusted for the Pandemic
- Child, driver, and all passengers should wear masks.
- Please leave all pets at home or have them in a cage or pet carrier.
- Please display your Name Card (supplied by the school) in your passenger side window so that it is clearly visible to the teachers
- Drivers should stop the car at your designated entrance (Preschool door or Church lobby door) and place your car in "Park."
- Both driver and child should remain masked, and buckled in carseat and seat belts. Please do not allow children to unbuckle themselves and move around in the car.
- **Teachers will not get your child out of the car. Parents should stop the car at the correct entrance. Wearing your face mask, get your child out and pass him/her off to a teacher (out on the entrance patio).** At the door, the teacher will put sanitizer on the child's hands and take his/her temperature with a no-contact thermometer (only takes a few seconds). If the temp is OK, the teacher gives a thumbs-up to the parent (still by the car) and the parent may leave while the child goes inside.
- Please share this procedure with grandparents, sitters, etc who will also be dropping off your child.
- Carline may take a bit longer at first, but if we all follow these procedures, it should get faster as people adjust. We thank you for your cooperation to keep all the children and staff safe!
- When exiting the driveway, please turn right. It is easier and safer to turn right and helps to alleviate traffic backing up in our driveway.

PICK-UP PROCEDURE: Car line only, NO WALK UPS

- Departure- note: may be adjusted for the Pandemic
- Driver and all passengers should wear a mask.
- Please leave all pets at home or have them in a cage or pet carrier.
- Please display your Name Card (supplied by the school) in your passenger side window so that it is clearly visible to the teachers
- Stop at the designated entrance, place your car in "Park", and get out of the car.
- The teacher will send your child across the patio to you. After buckling your child into the car seat, you may exit the parking lot carefully.
- Please make every effort to be on time. If you are unavoidably late, please let us know by calling the office at 610-277-1690. (See Tardiness Policy for Late Pick up fees)
- If you are carpooling, check with the teachers involved to determine where to pick up the children.
- Please share this procedure with grandparents, sitters, etc who will also be dropping off your child.
- Carline may take a bit longer at first, but if we all follow these procedures, it should get faster as people adjust. We thank you for your cooperation to keep all the children and staff safe!
- When exiting the driveway, please turn right. It is easier and safer to turn right and helps to alleviate traffic backing up in our driveway.

VISITORS: No parents or visitors will be allowed in the building without an appointment. Call first. Montgomery County IU staff who visit multiple schools or homes will be allowed in the building if vaccinated.

HIGH-RISK: If a child is at high-risk for contracting a severe illness such as COVID-19, it is recommended that they not attend preschool until the pandemic subsides. (This is a CDC recommendation.)

HANDWASHING: Each child's hands will be sanitized as they enter the building. Children will wash hands when they come into the classroom, after using the bathroom, and as needed. Hands will be washed with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand sanitizer will be used when soap and water is not available.

SANITIZING/DISINFECTING: All hard surfaces will be wiped down throughout the day, before and after use as well as at the end of each day. All surfaces and toys may be sprayed with disinfectant at the end of the session and as necessary. A sanitizing fogger with a CDC approved disinfectant solution may be used daily to sanitize the room, surfaces and toys. Professional cleaners will clean the building in the evenings.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING: In the classrooms children will be about 3-6 feet apart while working at tables. During "circle time" they will sit on designated spots about 3-6 feet apart. While physical distancing is recommended whenever possible, there will be times when children (masked) are playing with each other and with classroom toys so physical distancing will not always be possible.

SPECIAL SUBJECTS: Our intention is to do Fitness, Music and Science outside when the weather permits. We may have to sing a bit less inside for the time being. Fitness can easily be done outside with generous distancing that can allow for masks to be off.

SNACKS: For the time being, snacks will not be part of our classes. This may be adjusted as we see how things progress.

WATER: FOR 4 YEAR OLD CLASSES ONLY. We are asking Pre-K parents to send in a full water bottle each day (with name). Children will have access to their water bottles inside and outside. Teachers can refill it if necessary. No water fountains will be used.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS: While in this phase of operation, children may not bring in any personal belongings aside from what is approved. No toys or personal items from home will be permitted at this time

LARGE GROUPS/PARENT PROGRAMS: Each program designed for parents/families will be announced with instructions for the event. These will depend upon recommendations from various agencies.

LUNCH BUNCH: We plan on running our Lunch Bunch program, very carefully with less mixing of children.

HEALTH REPORTING: PA Department of Health and PA Department of Human Services guidelines will be observed in reporting any cases of COVID- 19 in the school or families of children or staff.

ILLNESS PROCEDURE: Our staff has been trained in safety procedures and how to recognize signs and symptoms of illnesses such as COVID- 19. If it is suspected that a child has become ill during the class session (excessive coughing/sneezing or trouble breathing), the child will be moved to another room with a staff member. The child's temperature will be taken and the parent will be called. If any illness is suspected the parent will be asked to pick-up the child.

COVID- 19: In the event that a child or staff member is found to have contracted the COVID 19 virus, the following will take place:

- All preschool families and staff will be notified.
- The MontCo Department of Health and PA Department of Human Services (DHS) will be notified and they will provide direction.
- Areas used by the person will be closed for 24 hours and cleaned thoroughly.
- With a Positive COVID-19 Test – the person "may return to school after 10 days that test was collected" and no fever. (MontCo Dept. of Health)
- Negative Test - "return to school after 3 days after symptoms are no longer present." (MontCo Dept. of Health)
- These procedures will continuously be updated and refined as directed by appropriate agencies.

If a child is showing COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath) OR if you've been in close contact with a person or child testing positive for COVID- 19, we ask you to keep your child home. They must be isolated for a minimum of 7 days after symptom onset, and 72 hours after their fever resolves without fever-reducing medicines. (For example, if symptoms and fever resolve on day 7, the person can return on day 10.) For most, this will be 14 days after the household contact with COVID-19. We ask that all parents and staff let us know of any potential exposure immediately. A potential exposure means being a household contact or having close contact within 6 feet of an individual with confirmed or suspected COVID- 19 for at least 10 minutes. The timeframe for having contact with an individual includes the period of 48 hours before the individual became symptomatic.

Nondiscrimination Policy

Storehouse Grow & Go Preschool admits children and provides services in a nondiscriminatory manner and without regard to an individual's race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, or gender.

STOREHOUSE GROW & GO PRESCHOOL

Parent Handbook Addendum-

COVID- 19 SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR FALL, 2021 CLASSES

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgment Form

Parents/Guardians,

Please thoroughly review the “**Parent Handbook Addendum- COVID- 19 SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR FALL, 2021 CLASSES**”. After reading the Handbook Addendum, please complete this form and return it to the school on your child’s first day. This form will be kept in your child’s file for the duration of the program. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey S. Twiford, Director
Storehouse Grow & Go Preschool

I, _____ (*print your name*), the
parent/guardian of

_____ (*print child’s name*),

hereby acknowledge receipt of Storehouse Preschool’s “**Parent Handbook Addendum- COVID- 19 SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR FALL, 2021 CLASSES.**”

I have read and agree to adhere to all the policies and regulations set forth in this Addendum.

I also give permission for teachers to sanitize my child’s hands by using Hand Sanitizer with teacher’s supervision.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____