

Catch the Son Preschool--Illness Policy 2021-2022

- **Parents or caregivers should monitor their children for signs of infectious illness every day.**
- **Students or parent helpers who are sick cannot attend school in person.**
- **Students and parent helpers must be symptom-free for 24 hours before returning to school. This is what we mean by symptom-free:**
 - Must have a temperature below 100.4 for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication
 - No colored mucus/discharge from nose
 - Non-productive cough
 - Your child must wear a mask if they have any lingering symptoms that last beyond the initial contagious stage of the virus
- The first 2-3 days of virus, like the common cold, are when people are most contagious. Symptoms can often linger for weeks. If your child still has 2 lingering symptoms it might be best to keep them home. We ask that you use your common sense when judging whether to send your child to school.
- **Remember--we are a cooperative preschool--let's take care of each other and keep everyone's best interest in mind.**

Catch the Son is not able to care for sick children. The school does not admit children with infectious diseases or any of the following symptoms:

- an active runny nose, not related to allergies
 - If your child has known allergies, please make sure this is listed in your child's Brightwheel profile and speak with your child's classroom teacher. Documentation may be required.
- red throat, swollen glands
- fever (must be fever-free, without the use of a fever-reducing agent, for at least 24 hours before returning to school)
- unexplained rash or skin eruption
- productive cough, sore throat, pink eye, eye discharge
- signs the child is not well such as drowsiness, headache, listlessness, diarrhea, vomiting, etc. (Must be free of these symptoms for at least 24 hours before returning to school)

If there is a virus circulating among other members of your household, we ask that you send your child to school in a mask until that virus is no longer contagious.

If a child becomes ill during school time, we will isolate the child in an area away from other children and have a Parent Helper supervise the child. Parents will be notified and will be asked to pick up their child as soon as possible.

Is a negative COVID test required to return to school?

- If you or your child has been exposed or in direct contact with someone who has COVID19 a negative COVID test is required to return. Please see the policies outlined on pages 3-4.
- If you or your child have been home sick with a virus, such as the common cold, a negative COVID test is not required to return.
- If there is any doubt, get tested!

If a teacher, parent or child is exposed to someone with COVID19 or is diagnosed themselves, please refer to our Protocols for Exposure to or Confirmed Cases of COVID19.

Catch the Son Preschool Masking Policy 2021-2022

- In keeping with the latest mask mandate in Whatcom County for indoor spaces, we are requiring that all adults wear a mask when in the building regardless of vaccination status. This includes teachers and parent helpers.
 - We will continue to monitor the transmission rate in Whatcom County and adjust accordingly throughout the year.
- You are not required to wear a mask when dropping off or picking up your child.
- The CDC recommends that anyone over the age of 2, who is not vaccinated, should continue wearing masks. We are not requiring students to wear masks. However, here are our recommendations for this year:
 - Playgroup - please do what you feel is best for your child, but masks are certainly not required for this age group.
 - Preschool Classes - Because we have full classes this year, we encourage preschool-aged children to wear masks
 - Pre-K Classes - Because of full classes and the length of class time, we strongly encourage Pre-K-aged children to wear masks
 - If you plan to send your child to school in a mask, please send extra masks in your child's backpack.
 - If there is a virus circulating among other members of your household we ask that you send your child to school in a mask until that virus is no longer contagious.

Catch the Son Preschool
Protocols for Exposure to & Confirmed Cases of COVID19
2021-2022

CLOSE CONTACT

What is “Close Contact”? (Defined by the CDC)

You generally need to be in close contact with a sick person to get infected. Close contact includes:

- Living in the same household as a sick person with COVID-19
- Caring for a sick person with COVID-19
- Being within 6 feet of a sick person with COVID-19 for about 15 minutes, or
- Being in direct contact with secretions from a sick person with COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils, etc.)

Close contact with someone includes the 48 hours **before** the person starts showing symptoms.

ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

Staff, Child, or Parent Helper Who Become Sick While at School--Not a Confirmed Case of COVID19****
(Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families)

- Place the person in a room away from others until they can leave the facility while maintaining supervision for any child in isolation
 - Teacher
 - Isolate in the fellowship/community room
 - Parent helpers take over until all the children in that class can be picked up
 - The entire class will need to be notified and their children will need to be picked up. Parent Helpers will not be responsible for conducting the rest of class.
 - The parent helper sends a mass text via Shutterfly. When the parent comes to pick up their child, they text the parent helper and they walk them to their door.
 - Student
 - Isolate in the fellowship/community room
 - The student will need to be supervised by a parent helper until they are picked up
 - The Parent(s) of that child are notified to come and pick them up ASAP
- When is it safe to return?
 - At least 24 hours symptom-free without the use of medication.
 - Please see our description of symptom-free on pg. 1 of this packet

Confirmed Case of COVID19 in a Teacher, Student, or Preschool Parent (who has been a Parent Helper in a classroom within 48 hours of the onset of symptoms)

- Veronica will notify all Catch the Son families and church staff
- Close off areas used by the person who was sick
- Open outside doors & windows to increase air circulation
- Wait at least 24 hours before re-entering to clean and disinfect
 - Make sure all spaces used by this person are cleaned and disinfected
 - Preschool staff will wait as long as possible before re-entering to clean and disinfect
- Veronica will consult with Local Health Officials
- If a teacher, student or parent helper tests positive for COVID19, the local health jurisdiction will advise, but it is likely that the members of that class will be considered close contacts and need to be quarantined for 14 days.
- **When is it safe to return?**
 - 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
 - 72 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
 - Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving*

**Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation*

Confirmed Case of COVID19 in a Church Member or Church Staff Person

- Veronica will send notification to the school that a church member or staff person has a confirmed case of COVID19
- Veronica will confirm where exactly in the building this person went
 - Any spaces the person occupied while they were in the building will need to be deep cleaned
 - If the person used the bathroom, it will need to be deep cleaned before preschool can resume

EXPOSURE PROTOCOLS

Close Contacts of Persons with COVID-19 (Taken from the CDC):

Whether and for how long to stay home for people who have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 depends on vaccination status.

- Children and unvaccinated staff or parent helpers who had close contact with someone who has (suspected or confirmed) COVID-19 should stay home (quarantine) for 14 days after their last exposure to that person. Close contact is defined as within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- Fully vaccinated people who have come into close contact with someone with COVID-19 should be **tested 3-5 days following the date of their exposure** and wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result. They should be isolated if they test positive.

Communicating

- As long as the person exposed hasn't stepped foot into the building since the exposure, we do not need to notify families.
- If this person has spent time in the building since exposure, we will notify families.

Missed Days Due to COVID-19

- We will not issue tuition refunds or make-up days for school missed due to COVID19