

Gentle Rain Preschool of Zion Blue Mountain UCC

Health & Safety Guidance

The following guidance is designed to help maintain health and safety standards and social distancing directives while providing much needed child care service.

We used information to develop this document based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations. [Please be advised the situation will most likely evolve and change until we meet in the fall. We will continue to keep you updated with important developments at Gentle Rain Preschool.](#)

For many of our preschool families, we respect that life has taken many twists and turns since early March.

The safety, health and well-being of our students and staff is our top priority. We are passionate about returning to school as we knew it. While we can't make the promise that will happen we want you to know that is certainly the plan we are pursuing at this time.

We know that you likely have questions and concerns as we head into the fall. With that in mind, here are some of the CDC guidelines that will be in place. Additional information will follow in August.

**We look forward to seeing you soon!
Thank you for your patience,**

Miss Pam, Director of Gentle Rain Preschool

Health & Safety Tips

Face Masks

- **Everyone is encouraged to wear cloth face coverings while providing and attending child care and or school**
 - A cloth face covering should **NOT** be used on children under the age of two.
 - Or anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the cover without help
 - A cloth face covering is not a substitute for social distancing.

Staff Considerations

- **The following individuals are encouraged not to provide child care during this time:**
 - adults 65 years of age and older;
 - people who have serious underlying medical conditions like: heart disease; diabetes; lung disease; immune disorders; and pregnant women.

Delivery & Drop-Off Procedures

- **A daily health screening for staff and children will be conducted EVERY DAY:**
 - Children and staff will be screened upon arrival each day for cough, fever or shortness of breath.
 - Upon arrival the temperature of all staff will be taken with a no-touch thermometer. This method is to reduce or avoid contact.
- **Drop off**
 - Only the child will enter the building.
 - Ideally, the same parent or designated person should drop off the child every day.
 - Parent will unbuckle their child at designated drop off at preschool entrance.
 - Child's temperature will be taken with a no-touch thermometer while in the car as well as a visual inspection of the child for signs of infection. Teachers will review health screening checklist.
 - Teacher will help child out of the car and into the building. A name plate will be provided and placed on the right front side dashboard for pick up purposes.
 - Each child will be escorted to their classroom.

- People with a temperature greater than 100 degrees Fahrenheit will be sent home until they have had no fever for 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications (e.g., Advil, Tylenol).
- Children, staff, parents and guardians will be excluded from the premises if they are showing symptoms of COVID-19 or have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- **NO outside visitors and volunteers will be allowed into the church building without an appointment.**

Classroom Environment | Social Distancing Strategies

- **Class Size**
 - Gentle Rain will maintain state required child/staff ratios.
 - Spaces for children will be structured to follow social distancing guidelines (six feet apart).
 - There will be no show and tell.
- **Schedule/Placement**
 - The same early educators will remain with the same group each day.

Hygiene & Sanitation Guidelines

- If hands are not visibly dirty, alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol may be used.
 - Children will be supervised when they use hand sanitizer to prevent ingestion.
 - Sanitizer will not to be used as a substitute for handwashing when soap and running water are available.
- Children and staff will wash hands for at least 20 seconds.



Surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected daily, as often as possible.

- All toys will be cleaned and sanitized at the end of each day.
 - Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized will not be used, including items such as soft toys, dress-up clothes, and puppets.

A Diluted Bleach Solution will be used to disinfect

- Two tablespoons of bleach per quart of water in a spray bottle to disinfect surfaces.
- ½ cup bleach per gallon of water to disinfect toys.

Bleach spray should be completely air dried on surfaces to be fully effective.

- Each child will be given their own supplies to use. There will be no sharing of supplies such as crayons, scissors and glue sticks.
- The child's supplies will be in individually labeled bins, cubbies, or bags.
- We recommend not sending a backpack with the child.

Food Prep & Meal Service Guidelines

- Children must wash hands prior to eating.
- Caregivers must wash their hands before preparing food and after helping children eat.
- Lunch will be served in classrooms.
- We will practice social distancing at mealtimes, when possible.
- Lunch items should be totally disposable (preferably in labeled brown paper bags); snacks should be prepackaged.
- No lunch or snack items will be sent home.

Pick Up Procedures

- Ideally, same parent or designated person should pick up child every day.
- Child will be brought to the designated pick up area at the doors. Be sure to use your dashboard name plates.
- Parent will buckle child in the car seat.
- A sanitizing station will be positioned at exit of the preschool.
- Conversations about a child's day are encouraged to be done by phone with parents or caregivers.
 - handwritten notes are encourage