



SWEET CHERRY BLOSSOM DAYCARE

COVID 19 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Pick-up and Drop-Off Policy

- Upon arrival at daycare please ensure that the gate is left **open** for the next parent and child/children to enter easily. This avoids the next parent and child/children arriving in having to touch the latch and doorknob. One of the caregivers will ensure that the gate is securely closed after the last child arrives at daycare.
- Pick-up and drop-off of children must occur outside the daycare unless there is a need for the parent or caregiver to enter the daycare (e.g., very young children).
- If a parent must enter the daycare, they should maintain physical distance from staff and other children present and be reminded to practice diligent hand hygiene and maintain physical distance when they are in the daycare.
- Parents and caregivers that are symptomatic must not enter the daycare.
- Timings are staggered as much as possible for pick-up and drop-off. If parents by chance arrive with their children at the same time as another family, each family should maintain as much physical distance as possible.
- Daily checks at drop-off take place by asking parents and caregivers to confirm that their child does not have symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other respiratory disease.
- Staff ensure to sign the child in and out of daycare to avoid spread of bacteria.

Sick Policy for Children and Staff:

Children and child care providers should stay at home when **new symptoms** of illness develop, such as:

- Fever
- Chills
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing (in small children, this can look like breathing fast or working hard to breathe)
- Loss of sense of smell or taste

- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

For mild symptoms without fever, children and staff members should stay home and monitor symptoms for 24 hours. If symptoms improve and the child/staff member feels well enough, they can return to the child care facility without further assessment or doctor's note.

If symptoms include fever or difficulty breathing, or if symptoms last for more than 24 hours or get worse, seek a health assessment by calling 8-1-1 or a primary care provider. If a COVID-19 test is recommended as a result of the health assessment, self-isolate while waiting for results (see information on how results are provided [here](#)).

- **If the COVID-19 test is positive**, self-isolate and follow the direction of public health.
- **If the COVID-19 test is negative**, return to the child care facility once well enough to participate.

If you are unsure, call 8-1-1 for advice.

See the [BCCDC website](#) for more information on when to seek emergency care.

Upon drop off; if the staff identify that the child has a fever, PERSISTENT cough, sneezing and/or runny nose, the child will not be able to enter the daycare and must go home immediately with his/her parent/s until symptoms clear and the child is well enough to attend daycare.

If the child displays symptoms during the day at daycare, the caregiver/s will notify the parents promptly to pick up their child. The child that is displaying symptoms will be quickly separated from the other children and be moved to a secure and safe place to rest until the parent/s pick up their child.

One staff member will monitor the child and will maintain a safe distance of 2 meters from the child. The staff member will attend to the child's needs by providing tissues, fluids and any other comforts that the child requires until pick up. The daycare will open windows for cross ventilation.

In the event that parents decide not to have the child tested for Covid-19, symptomatic children must not attend daycare for at least 14 days, where they should rest and recover at home. To ensure the health and safety of all; a note will be required for the child to return to daycare.

It is mandatory that staff notify the manager if they are feeling unwell and presenting symptoms even during the course of the day. Staff will be sent home immediately and switch off with another staff member if they present symptoms at daycare. Staff will stay at home in the case that they are unwell, and another staff member will be present at daycare.

The same protocol will be used for staff as they must self-isolate for up to 14 days before returning to their duties at daycare. Parents will be notified of the unwell caregiver.

Cleaning and Disinfection Procedures

- Staff regularly clean the daycare throughout the day to avoid the spread of bacteria. At the end of each day, after the departure of all children, the facility is thoroughly vacuumed and swabbed. Toys are disinfected as well as all touched surfaces inside the daycare and outside, doorknobs, light switches, faucet handles, tables, counters, chairs, outside play equipment, as well as any electronic devices. Stuffed animals and other plush toys are washed and put through the dryer on a daily basis.
- Garbage containers are emptied and disinfected on a daily basis.
- Disposable gloves are worn when cleaning blood or body fluids (e.g., runny nose, vomit, stool, urine). Staff make sure to wash their hands before wearing gloves and after removing gloves.
- Sleeping mats are disinfected after each use and bed linens are laundered on a daily basis.
- Diapering station is thoroughly cleaned after each use. Spare clothes are stored in individual labeled bins to keep the children's clothes separate. All dirty clothes are laundered, and for those garments that are soiled with urine or stool are washed separately from other children's clothing.

Physical Distancing Procedures

- Staff, children and parents avoid close greetings (e.g., hugs, handshakes).
- Staff ensure that a safety mask is worn throughout the day
- Children are regularly reminded to keep "Hands to yourself".

- Children are organized into smaller group activities throughout the day to try to minimize direct physical contact as much as possible.
- Nap mats and sleeping areas are spread out to avoid close contact.
- Toys that are used in daycare encourage individual play versus toys that encourage group play. This decreases the likelihood of physical contact.
- Snack and lunch take place outside as much as possible, especially during warmer weather.
- If children display symptoms of illness at daycare there is a separate, supervised area that they can rest until picked up. The area is thoroughly cleaned after the child leaves from daycare.
- Parents drop off children and pick up children outside the daycare. Only caregivers and children are to be present in the daycare. This minimalizes the number of additional adults entering the daycare.

Hand Hygiene Procedures

- Children and staff wash their hands diligently throughout the day for at least 20 seconds (singing a song or counting) with plain soap and water as this is the single most effective way to reduce the spread of illness.
- Staff ensure that children wash their hands as much as possible for example when a child picks his/her nose and after sneezing or coughing. Also, children are encouraged to cough and sneeze into their arm.

Children and staff must wash their hands:

- Upon arrival and as soon as they enter daycare
- At the end of each day before going home
- Before and after art and craft activities where the child/staff will be handling materials
- Before and after handling/ eating food and drink
- Before and after diaper changing/bathroom breaks
- Before and after outside playtime and transitions
- When hands are visibly dirty

Other Important Notes:

- Children and staff do not share food, drinks, soothers, bottles, sippy cups, facecloths, and other personal items.
- The child's personal belongings should be labeled with the child's name to avoid accidental sharing.
- Children are not permitted to prepare or serve food.
- Parents are encouraged to bring minimal personal comfort items (e.g., stuffies) if they are clean and can be laundered at the end of each day.

Please ensure you have read, understood and agree to abide by the daycares policies and procedures during COVID 19 by signing below

Print name: _____ Signature required _____ Date: _____