

Dear Families,

As we enter the cold and flu season, I am coming to you with more changes in our COVID policy. With the sudden and drastic increase in the number of cases not only in Ohio but in Greene County, we have made the following decisions regarding the health and safety of those who have connections with our center. We cannot assume that every cold is “just a cold” right now. We have to assume that every cold is COVID and for that reason, the following changes have been made.

Effective immediately, the following guidelines will be implemented regarding COVID-19:

- Any child who runs a fever will need to be kept out of child care for 10 days after the onset of symptoms or until a negative COVID test has been obtained.
  - If you choose to have your child tested for COVID, we will need a copy of the negative test result before they can return.
  - If your child tests positive for COVID they will need to be out for 10 days following the onset of symptoms **AND** have been fever free without fever reducing medications for 72 hours **AND** have diminished symptoms (cough, runny nose, sore throat, etc).
- If someone in your household is showing symptoms of COVID-19, we ask that you keep your child home (even if they are NOT showing symptoms).
- If your child is showing symptoms such as runny nose, cough, or sore throat that you feel they need medicated for, we ask that you keep them home.
- Any child who attends and is showing symptoms such as runny nose, cough, sore throat and is clearly not acting like themselves will be sent home regardless of whether they have a fever or not.

These guidelines are taken directly from the Greene County Department of Health.

Any staff that develops a fever or has been directly exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID is required to have a negative COVID test before they can return. Currently, a third of our staff has received COVID tests since the beginning of August to ensure the safety of the families represented here at Fairborn Preschool and Daycare.

Transparency is crucial at this time. It is up to families to make the difference in whether we are successful in slowing the spread of COVID-19. While we do everything in our power to clean, sanitize, and keep our staff and your children healthy, it is ultimately up to you. One sick child entering the building can expose multiple staff and other children. As children are not required to wear masks and do not understand the concept of social distancing, the spread of germs is guaranteed.

This is not a decision that has been made lightly. I understand the complexity of life right now and am hopeful that each of you understands I am trying to make the decision that is best for everyone. If you have any questions or concerns about this change in policy, please let me know. Thank you for your flexibility and continued understanding and support during this time.

Hannah Osment  
Director