

LiL Mindbuilders Learning Center

COVID-19 Parent Handbook



We have revised our procedures and protocols to conform to best practices during the Covid-19 pandemic. Our goal is to keep our children, staff and their families safe and healthy while in our care. We follow the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Harris County Health Department and Department of Family and Protective Services, in formulating these protocols.

We will provide updates on any procedures and protocol changes over time. Please contact the center for any clarification or questions you may have 281-812-0177 or info@lilmindbuilders.com

General Information:

Center hours: Monday through Friday 6:30 am – 5:30 pm

*At this time only children, staff and special service providers are permitted to enter the Center

Arrival and Dismissal Protocols

Upon Arrival:

- Families will drop-off their children outside the front entrance to the building.
- A staff member will meet your child at the front door and perform a daily intake:
 - Families should wait at markers until the staff member calls them up.
 - Temperature check will be performed with an infrared thermometer for each child – must be under 100.0° F
 - Your child should not attend if they have any of the following symptoms:
 - Has the child had a fever of 100.0° F or higher within the last three days?
 - Did the child have a cough, sore throat, body aches or headache?
 - Did the child have any shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
 - Did the child have chills or repeated shaking with chills?
 - Did the child have a new loss of taste or smell?
 - Did the child have any gastrointestinal upset (nausea, vomiting or diarrhea)?
 - Is the child's baseline different - lethargy, paleness, flushed skin, rashes, unusual spots, swelling or bruises?
- The staff member then brings each child to his/her assigned classroom.
- We limit merging of classes.
- Parents are not required to sign children in and out at the beginning or end of each day. Staff will sign children in and out.
- Families will apply sunscreen to their child at home. Staff will re-apply as needed. A non-medication consent form is required.

Daily Health Checks for Children

- Our staff will monitor the children for coughing, sneezing, diarrhea, runny noses, stomach aches, rashes, redness, and headaches as is our usual practice.
- Children will be isolated and sent home if symptomatic.
- We require documentation for any pre-existing conditions, such as asthma, seasonal allergies and/or food allergy to have on record.
- If the staff believes a child is ill, his/her temperature will be taken. Children will be

sent home if a temperature of 100.0° F or above is recorded.

- If a child's mask is soiled, we will replace it with a disposable one.
- Nebulizers may not be used at this time. Utilization of inhalers with spacers is permitted.

At Dismissal

- Children will be brought to parents outside the front entrance unless dismissed from outdoor play areas.
 - Parent will call or ring the Center doorbell upon arrival when ready to pick up the child at the front door.
 - A Staff member will escort the child to the parent. If children are outside playing at dismissal, please wait outside the gate, or at the perimeter of the field, or at the courts.

Cleaning and Sanitizing Protocols:

- Children will be supervised during frequent and thorough hand washing throughout the day.
- Each child will have their own personalized plastic container for supplies (crayons, playdough, markers, scissors, and glue sticks) to minimize sharing.
- Surfaces – counters, tables, and chairs will be cleaned with soap and water, then sanitized with a diluted bleach solution throughout the day: upon arrival, before and after snacks and meal time, after table-top playtime. Disinfectant cleaner will be used with 4 teaspoons bleach per quart water in a spray bottle. This solution is changed daily.
- Toys will be cleaned with diluted bleach solution after playtime.
- Equipment such as strollers and ride-ons will be sprayed with the diluted bleach solution before and after use.
- Cloth toys or any equipment with fabric coverings have been removed from the classrooms' play areas. Bedding and nap time stuffies are permitted, but will be sent home every Friday for washing to be returned on Monday.
- Hand sanitizer will be used when soap and running water are not available.
- Additionally all classrooms, bathrooms and common areas are cleaned daily by our professional cleaning service.
- Sinks, toilets, and door handles are wiped down throughout the day.

Outdoor Play

- LMLC playground is open for our use at this time.
- Use of the playgrounds and grounds are restricted to LMLC children only during Center operation.
- We will strive to maximize use of the outdoors for play and snacks whenever possible.
- Outdoor tables will be lined with paper when used for eating.
- When required by DFPS, children will be required to wear masks for outdoor activities.

Social Distancing

- While children are not easily distanced during play time, we will encourage social distancing where possible and teach them that 6 feet equals 2 adult arms' lengths. Our staff will practice social distancing at all times possible.
- Staff and children will wear masks at all times (this is not required for children under 2 years of age).

- Children only remove their mask during rest time and mealtimes.
- During rest time, cots will be separated by 3 feet.

Face Coverings and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Face coverings will be worn by:

- Symptomatic children/students over the age of two in isolation while awaiting pickup at school, with the exception of those who cannot tolerate a mask
- Any student school age or older who has a bona fide reason or a preference for doing so
- Anyone making an unavoidable visit to a cohort that is not their own
- Anyone engaging in prolonged close contact and/or an isolation procedure

LMLC will support children who continue to wear a mask while at school. Face coverings are not considered safe at the Toddler level. Please note that wearing a face covering as a measure means wearing the face covering at all times, with the exception of eating/drinking and outdoors. These are times when teachers are able to supervise the proper donning and doffing of the mask.

Parents of children who are masking are responsible for:

- providing their child with a face covering that fits properly
- labelling the face covering with the child's name
- providing their Casa child with a waist pack for storage if electing to wear a face covering (teachers will provide sanitizer for hand hygiene)
- training their child on proper donning and doffing procedures for the face covering
- preparing their child for wearing the face covering for 6 or more hours per day keeping the face covering clean and laundering it regularly
- replacing the face covering if it becomes lost or damaged

All staff members will be wearing a fanny pack at all times containing hand sanitizer, gloves, eye protection and both adult and pediatric masks. This will allow all staff members to quickly and effectively react to any need for extended close contact, breaches of hygiene and symptomatic individuals.

Meal and Snack Preparations

- Our food service has provided us with information about their meal preparation and safety measures. They meet the health guidelines required to provide healthy and safe meals for our children. We will continue to utilize their service to provide meals daily.
- We will have no family-style dining at this time. Meals are individually served for each child.

Children returning to Center after Illness

In order to return to school after presenting with any of the symptoms noted below, one must have clearance from administration:

- A fever of 100.0° F or higher within the last 72 hours
- A cough, sore throat, body aches or headache
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills or repeated shaking with chills
- A new loss of taste or smell
- Any gastrointestinal upset (nausea, vomiting or diarrhea)

Child's baseline different - lethargy, paleness, flushed skin, rashes, unusual spots, swelling or bruises

- If a student has been tested for COVID-19 and is negative, he/she can return to school only if:
 - The child was diagnosed with another condition (we must be provided with a written note from the primary doctor stating the diagnosis and clearance to return to school)
 - Child is fever free without the use of fever reducing medicines and they have felt well for 72 hours (if applicable)
 - It has been 24 hours since the last episode of diarrhea or vomiting (if applicable)
- *Diagnoses such as a virus or cold do not meet this requirement in the absence of a negative COVID test.
- *Should you choose to not get your child tested for COVID-19 and they do not have an alternative diagnosis, they will be required to remain home for 10 calendar days from symptom onset.

Child Who Tests Positive for COVID-19

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, one should:

- o Inform Administration, so we can inform anyone in close contact with the positive Covid-19 student
- o Inform your child's primary doctor
- o Stay home and inform the local health department and follow their instructions

* Your child may return to school and end their quarantine once the following are met:

- o It has been 10 days since their symptoms first appeared AND
- o They are 72-hours fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications AND their symptoms have improved

Children Exposed to Covid

In a case that a child or staff test positive for Covid-19, LMLC will contact DFPS and Harris County Health Department and identify close contacts.

Notification will include all persons that have been:

- o In the same classroom group as the student /staff who have tested positive for COVID-19
- o Or any student/ staff who have been within 3ft. of the person who has tested positive for COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

*All close contacts must stay home and quarantine for 10 days from the last contact with the individual who tested positive for COVID-19. Modifications have been made only for Afterschool.

After school Protocols

If there is an exposure and we need to quarantine the after school program, the protocols are as follows:

- o Fully vaccinated children can return to the program after a 5 day quarantine, as long as they are not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.
- o Upon their return, they are required to continue to wear a fitted mask throughout the day.
- o Unvaccinated children will continue to quarantine for the 10 day period.
 - o Fully vaccinated children will enter and exit the facility utilizing the back door to limit exposure to the rest of the center.

