



Cross Creek Community Church Pre-Kindergarten

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370 Carverton Road Trucksville, PA 18708
Phone: (570) 696-0399
Email: prek@crosscreekcc.org

Pre-Kindergarten COVID-19 Guidelines

In order to reopen our Pre-Kindergarten ministry safely in this season, we will be adhering to the following guidelines to mitigate the potential spread of COVID-19 and other contagious illnesses.

CONDENSED MWF SCHEDULE

This year, the Pre-K program will serve 3, 4, and 5-year-olds on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only. Children may be split by age at times to deliver learning activities specific to age or developmental level.

Parents can still choose a minimum of 2 of these days per week following a consistent schedule.

Children must be at least 3 years old before beginning Pre-Kindergarten, but not necessarily 3 years old by September 1st.

DAILY HEALTH SCREENING

Upon arrival each day, parents are asked to remain in your car with your child until a Cross Creek staff member can meet you for a temperature check. Parents and children will be screened for temperature before entering the building.

In addition, we ask parents and children to please use hand sanitizer at the check-in station daily when entering (after temperature screening) for morning drop-off, and parents again for afternoon pick-up.

ILLNESS POLICY

Following CDC guidelines, we will require exclusion of children exhibiting any of the following symptoms of illness:

- Fever over *99.4° or signs of fever (flush, chills, sweats)
- Severe or uncontrollable cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Severe fatigue or severe headache (espec. with fever)
- Vomiting or severe nausea
- Recurring diarrhea (more than once)
- Severe congestion or runny nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Known exposure to COVID-19

*Fever over 99.4° by forehead scan, or over 100.4° by mouth

Many symptoms of COVID-19 overlap with symptoms of common illnesses. As a result, symptom screenings have the potential to exclude some children from school even though they may not have COVID-19 or any contagious illness. Symptom screenings are an identifier of potential illnesses, not a tool for diagnosis. We ask for parents' understanding, realizing it is our desire to do our best to 1) ensure children are healthy when attending Pre-K and 2) minimize the risk of spreading illnesses, whether severe or not.

This policy for exclusion of sick children will require firm adherence. Children may be readmitted when fever-free without medication for 2 days; or in the absence of fever—after symptoms have fully subsided; or when a doctor's note advises your child is no longer contagious. In the case of known exposure to COVID-19 with

symptoms, we ask that parents please voluntarily exclude your child from the program for the recommended quarantine period of 14 days.

If there is minimal transmission of COVID-19 in our local community, it may be determined that symptom screening before Pre-K entry is no longer necessary. Parents will be asked to screen your own children before arriving for the day, and to please keep your child home if he or she is exhibiting any of the above symptoms of illness.

Tuition must still be paid for days missed. Following an absence during the 2020-2021 school year, the window for make-up days will be extended to 3 weeks from the date of your child's return to Pre-K.

FACE COVERINGS

Staff will wear face coverings as recommended when within 6 feet of children, except during outside play and while eating.

Children will not be required to wear face coverings for reasons below, but will be encouraged to do so. Parents may choose a fabric mask covering or plastic face shield for your child.

The use of face coverings may be traumatic for some as it may impair breathing; we will not be able to enforce something that impairs breathing or causes anxiety in children. The use of face coverings increases the frequency that children touch their face—itching, adjusting, etc.; we believe teaching and enforcing careful hygiene will be as effective as face coverings at this age. The use of face coverings will not be able to prevent droplets from escaping entirely at this age; if not entirely effective, we believe face coverings are a good measure to encourage but not a mandatory protocol.

CHILDREN'S HYGIENE

Children will continue to be taught careful hygiene habits—diligent coughing and sneezing into elbows, avoiding touching face, frequent and thorough handwashing, and appropriate use of hand sanitizer.

CLEANING AND SANITIZING

The Pre-K classroom will be cleaned daily, and deep-cleaned on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sanitizer will be used frequently on surfaces throughout the day. An oil diffuser with sanitizer will be run frequently in the classroom space to combat airborne germs as well.

Toys and learning materials will be cleaned and rotated frequently, while some difficult-to-clean materials will be removed.

LIMITATIONS AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

Given the inability of any of the above strategies to be completely effective, and given the wide range of virus symptoms (and asymptomatic cases), we must realize there are limitations to our ability to guarantee a 100% germ-free environment. As with any group activity, there is an inherent risk of sharing germs and contracting a contagious illness, including colds, flu or COVID-19.

By enrolling your child in Pre-Kindergarten, it is implied that parents understand the higher risks of contagion and health risk associated with COVID-19. We must ask parents to assume liability for your child's health by signing and returning the attached waiver for participation in the Pre-Kindergarten program.