

# Accotink Academy Preschool

## COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

(as of May 2021)

At Accotink Academy Preschool, our community's health and well-being is our top priority. We have developed policies and procedures, which will include implementing health and safety measures, regular sanitization and disinfecting of shared items and areas, and teaching preventative health education, in an effort to maintain a healthy learning environment. In order to be successful in minimizing the risk of illness in our community, we need your support with adhering to the guidelines and protocols below.

### **Guidelines to Keeping Our Community Safe:**

#### **1. Sanitization and Disinfecting**

- An electrostatic sprayer will be used to disinfect and sanitize classrooms and shared spaces (e.g. bathrooms and playground) daily.
- Shared items in the classroom will be cleaned and disinfected between use.
- Toys that cannot be cleaned between uses will not be used.
- Designated lunch and eating surfaces will be disinfected prior to and after use.
- High touch surfaces (e.g. door handles, light switches, sink handles, handrails) on playgrounds and shared spaces will be sanitized often.

#### **2. Physical Distancing**

- Cohorts of children will be maintained throughout the school day (i.e. one group of students at the playground at a time) to reduce potential exposures.
- Physical distancing of 3 feet will be maintained between students, and physical distancing of 6 feet will be maintained between adults.
- Meal times will be staggered within the classrooms, and tables and chairs will be arranged to promote physical distance between students during eating.
- Classroom layouts will be modified to facilitate physical distancing.

#### **3. Masks**

- CDC approved face coverings will be worn by all students, staff, and adults in the building at all times.
- During occasions when masks cannot be worn, such as eating or drinking, additional measures will be implemented. These measures include staggered meal times, and table and chair arrangements to promote physical distance between students.

#### **4. Preventative Health Education**

- Our play-based curriculum will include preventative health education to promote a healthy learning environment. Topics will include hand washing (e.g. upon entering the classroom, before meals or snacks, after outside time, after going to the bathroom, prior to leaving for home), avoiding contact with eyes, nose, and mouth, and physical distancing.

## Daily Protocols to Keeping Our Community Safe:

### 1. Daily Health Observations and Form

- School staff will conduct regular daily health observations looking for symptoms of sickness and fever.
- Children and staff will complete daily temperature checks and a Daily Health Form in the Brightwheel application.
- Questions for staff and students will include:
  - 1) Have you (staff)/your child been in close contact with an individual with COVID-19? Contact is defined as within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
  - 2) Have you (staff)/your child had a temperature within the last 48 hours?
  - 3) Have you (staff)/your child taken any fever reducing medication within the last 48 hours?
  - 4) Have you (staff)/your child experienced any of the following symptoms in the last 48 hours?
    - Fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea

### 2. Pick Up/Drop Off

- Each classroom will be designated an assigned exterior door entrance for pick up and drop off each day to maintain student cohorts.
- We ask that you please refrain from congregating outside the school building during pick up and drop off times.

### 3. Visitor Policy

- To minimize the risk of exposure of our community, visitors will not be permitted into the school building at this time.

## Protocol when a member in the Accotink Academy Preschool Community is exposed (Children and Staff):

- **A child or staff member who has been in close contact of a person with COVID-19, will be asked to quarantine.** Close contact is defined within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- The quarantine period will be **10 days from the onset of symptoms or 7 days, with a negative COVID-19 test completed on or after day 5 from date of exposure.**
- In the event of a positive COVID diagnosis, Accotink Academy Preschool will notify the Virginia Department of Social Services and the Fairfax County Health Department, who will collaboratively determine the next steps to ensure the health and safety of our community.
- In the event of classroom closure, supplemental activities and instruction will be provided by the teacher.