

Dexter Cooperative Preschool

COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan

Updated September 15, 2022

With the spread of COVID-19, new health and safety protocols are necessary to ensure our children, families, and teachers are as safe as possible. This document provides the preparedness and response plan for the Dexter Co-op Preschool to limit the spread of COVID-19 and to create safe spaces for children, teachers and assisting parents. We will continue to revisit this document at monthly board meetings and modify our policy as necessary. We will always default to the guidance of the health department.

I. Monitoring Protocol

- A. Throughout the day: Teachers and assisting adults will monitor for COVID-19 symptoms. If a child begins to feel ill during the day, they will isolate the child with an assisting adult until a parent/guardian can pick them up.

II. Preparing the Physical Space

- A. Families will be instructed to bring a water bottle and snack from home for their child to minimize the handling of food and water pitchers. The water fountain in the gymnasium will be closed and water bottles offered to children instead.
- B. As weather permits, teachers will plan for outside activities as much as possible.

III. Using Safety Equipment

- A. Masks optional for teachers, adult volunteers, and students
- B. If masks are necessary pursuant to this document and the family does not have them readily available, they can be obtained upon request at the preschool

IV. Cleaning and Hygiene

Robust cleaning protocols will be followed consistent with existing licensing rules including:

- a) Deep clean child use spaces at the end of each session and on weekends
- b) Clean toys frequently, especially items that have been in a child's mouth
- c) Any comfort items from home should be left in the child's backpack outside the classroom
- d) Continue to cover cough with a tissue or sleeve
- e) Continue to implement CDC handwashing guidelines

V. Guidelines for staying home and returning to school

- A. The communication between home and school is a critical part of helping limit the spread of the COVID-19.
- B. If a child, teacher, or visitor to the preschool has been a household contact with a person who has a confirmed case of COVID -19, he or she should mask for 10 days (a well fitting kn95, N95, or surgical mask and **NOT** a cloth mask) and continue to watch for symptoms OR families can opt to complete testing each morning before school.

- C. If a child, teacher, family member, or visitor to the preschool becomes ill with one of the following symptoms, an email or text must be sent to Health Records Coordinator Kristy Rahn (klittleb@hotmail.com or (734-674-6695) as soon as possible.
1. Fever of 100.4 or higher
 2. Fatigue
 3. Headache
 4. Congestion or runny nose
 5. Nausea or vomiting
 6. New or worsening cough
 7. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 8. Muscle or body aches
 9. Loss of taste or smell
 10. Sore throat
 11. Diarrhea
- D. We recommend the individual receive a negative COVID-19 test before returning to school.
- E. If the individual has a **positive** COVID-19 test result:
1. Another email or text must be sent to Health Records Coordinator Kristy Rahn (klittleb@hotmail.com or 734-674-6695) as soon as possible.
 2. Families will be notified via email of any exposure potentially affecting the health and safety of their child. All notifications will protect the privacy of the individual.
 3. The affected individual may return to school after isolating for a minimum of 5 days **AND** only if they are free of fever, vomiting, or diarrhea for at least 24 hours at the end of the 5 days **AND** as long as other symptoms have improved **AND** upon return they must wear a well fitting kn95, N95, KF94, or surgical mask and **NOT** a cloth mask for a period of at least 5 days.