

## FAQ's about Early Childhood:

### What does Drop off and Pick up look like for our early childhood classes?

- We will be doing curbside drop off and pick for our 3 School and 4 School classes. Teachers and aides will pick up and drop off your child at one of our entrance doors. Here are times and locations:
- **3 School**
  - Ruth Holtrop: East Oak Street doors
    - Drop off: 8:15-8:20am
    - Pick up: 10:45-10:50am
  - Crystal Van Dyken and Cassie Wielard: West Oak Street doors
    - Drop off: 8:15-8:20am
    - Pick up: 10:45-10:50am
- **4 School**
  - Julie Cole MWF AM: Parent Loop doors by the kitchen
    - Drop off: 8:15-8:20am
    - Pick up: 11:00-11:05am
  - Julie Cole's MWF PM: Early Childhood Office Doors
    - Drop off: 12:00-12:05pm
    - Pick up: 2:30-2:35pm
  - Stephanie VanDrunen M/W and T/Th/F: Parent Loop doors by the kitchen
    - Drop off: 8:15-8:20am
    - Pick up: 11:00-11:05am
  - Kelly Leatherman T/Th: Parent Loop by the Kitchen Doors
    - Drop off: 8:15-8:20am
    - Pick up: 11:00-11:05am
- **Nature-Based 4 School**
  - Holli Langerak AM and PM
    - Drop off: 8:15-8:20am Nature-Based classroom
    - Pick up: 11:00am-11:05am Early Childhood Office
  - Missy VanBennekom
    - Drop off: 8:15-8:20am Early Childhood Office
    - Pick up: 11:00-11:05am Nature-Based classroom

### My child will be coming to school before or after preschool to attend Kids' Corner. What does drop off and pick up look like for Kids' Corner?

- We are going to try to limit the number of parents coming and going from the KC rooms. If parents drop off or pick up during the school day when the office is staffed, they can drop off or pick up in the office and a staff member will bring the child to or from the KC rooms. If you drop off or pick up before school (7-7:30am) or after school (4:00-6:00pm) those parents will have an access code that they can use to get into the early childhood wing.

### What safety protocols will be in place when we are dropping children off for school?

- Temperature checks are required prior to entering school, and parents are asked to take their child's temperature at home before coming to school. Teachers will ask parents verbally if they have taken their child's temperature. If a temperature has not been taken at home, the teacher or aide will have a touchless thermometer to take the child's temperature before entering the school building.
- Screening questions will need to take place prior to entering the school building. Teachers or aides will verbally ask questions about COVID symptoms and exposure. If a child has exhibited any COVID symptoms, received a positive COVID test, or been in contact with someone with COVID, he or she will not be able to attend school that day.

### What if my child has a temperature?

- If your child shows any symptoms of illness or is running a fever, please keep him/her home. This is for the benefit of our entire school. A child should stay home 24 hours after the fever or illness has subsided. Please call Childwatch if your child will be absent, 616-669-7485

### How will classrooms look different this coming school year?

- We want student learning to be as normal as possible for these little ones, but we will have protocols in place to provide safety measures. We will be continuing to try to spread children out as much as feasibly possible during their preschool days while still allowing students to interact to foster social-emotional learning.
  - Circle Time: We will be using sit spots to spread children out on the rug to create rows so that all students are facing the same direction.
  - Snack Time: If we are not able to properly spread students out for snack time, we will split kids into two groups so that one group is eating snack while the other group is listening to a story or doing an activity at the rug.
  - Furniture: We will minimize furniture in our classrooms to allow for more space to spread out. Furniture made out of fabric will be sanitized with a fabric disinfectant spray where possible.
  - Hands-on manipulatives: We will use manipulatives that can be sanitized between groups.
  - Student supplies/materials: If students are rotating centers and using art supplies, we will have separate containers of markers/crayons for each group to limit the number of kids touching the art supplies.

### Will you have time in the gross motor room or the gym?

- We plan on limiting our use of these spaces to begin the year. If students go to the gym and use P.E. equipment, they will be sanitized between groups.

### What will beginning of the year events look like this year?

- Parent Orientation Night
  - This will be done virtually this year. Teachers will make a video that they send out to you at the end of August to introduce themselves and talk through details of preschool.
- Open House
  - In order to limit the number of parents in our building, 3 School/4 School classes will not be open during the open house. Parents and students will have the opportunity to meet teachers and see the classrooms during Visit Days on September 9 and 10.
- Visit Days
  - Visit Days will happen on Wednesday and Thursday, September 9 and 10. You will get to sign up for a specific time to come with your preschooler on those days to get a feel of the classroom and to meet your child's teacher and aide. We are praising God for this upcoming year and know they will be exciting days!
- Early Childhood Kick-Off Night
  - We typically look forward to our Kick-Off night where we gather together for a fun picnic and family friendly activities to celebrate the new year God has blessed us with. Unfortunately, we are going to have to cancel that event this year. We pray that we will have the opportunity to gather in different ways in the months to come!

### What are some important dates to be aware of?

- September 1: First Day Kids' Corner is open (A special sign up will go out to sign up for care before 3 School and 4 School starts if you need it)
- September 9 and 10: Visiting Days (Specific dates and times will come in a parent letter from your child's teacher)
- September 14-18: First week of regular classes
- September 18: Early release day (no pm 4 School)

### How will bathroom breaks work this coming year?

- We will assign times for classes to go to the bathroom during the preschool day, and we will have cleaning protocols in place.
- Students will wash their hands with soap and water after using the bathroom. Hand Sanitizer will be used in the classroom in between hand washing.

### Will my child or teacher need to wear face coverings at school?

- The current executive order in place requires teachers to wear a face covering while in the classroom. We will have clear masks available for teachers as well as face shields for whole group instruction where social distancing is possible. Our 3 School and 4 School students need to wear a face covering in common spaces (hallways and bathrooms), but they will not be required to wear them in the classroom.

### Will my child go on field trips or have special days this coming school year?

- Field Trips: We don't know exactly what field trips will look like this fall. We are planning to reach out and see what protocols are in place and what each location's plan is for the fall. It will likely be a case by case decision
- Special Days: We love to have parents in the room to help us celebrate special days throughout the school year! However, we don't know exactly what these days will look like this coming year yet. We will keep you posted as we know more in the upcoming weeks and months!

### Will we have parent volunteers in the classrooms this year?

- We will begin the year without parent volunteers, but we will re-evaluate as the year progresses. We love giving parents an opportunity to join our classroom to see the ways God is at work, but we are currently trying to limit the number of extra people in and out of the classrooms.

### What is the plan for Kids' Corner this coming year?

- We are planning on operating Kid's Corner while we are in phases 4 and 5 of Gov. Whitmer's reopening plan. We will spend as much time outside as possible during the nicer weather, and we will work to keep children spread out indoors. We will also do our best to keep kids grouped by grade levels. School-aged children will need to wear a face covering before and after school because cohorts will be mixed together. Our 3 School and 4 School students during the day will remain in smaller cohorts and will currently not need to wear a face covering.

### Will Kids' Corner be open for my school-aged children if we move to phase 3?

- We know that childcare can be difficult if we have times of remote learning or need to move into phase 3. However, at this time we are not going to be able to provide Kids' Corner to our school-aged kids if we move to phase 3. If we have to shut down the school because of increased cases in our area, we will be trying to minimize the number of students and staff together to help slow the spread.

## What happens to 3 School and 4 School classes if we move into phase 3 of Gov. Whitmer's reopening plan?

- We are continuing to talk and pray about what phase 3 would look like for our 3 School and 4 School classes. Since those classes fall under the "childcare" umbrella and are required to follow the LARA state licensing guidelines instead of the MI Safe Schools Roadmap guidelines, there is the potential they may be able to remain in-person if we are in phase 3. We know it will depend on the current executive order at the time and what our health department is telling us.
  - Remote Learning: If we have to shut down, our teachers will provide remote learning for our 3 School and 4 School students. There will be daily lesson plans provided on our website, and we are going to be using a learning platform called Seesaw to enable parents and teachers to connect and share feedback.
  - Remaining in-person: If it is feasible, we are hoping to continue to provide in-person care/school if we move into phase 3 because we know that is how these youngest learners learn best! Our health department and licensing will have the final say on if this is possible at the time, and we will continue to be in close contact with them. If we are able to remain in person, our 3 School and 4 School classes would continue, and Kids' Corner would remain open to 3 School and 4 School students to surround their school days.