



Preschools

Ready for school, ready for life!

March 6, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We continue to closely monitor the 2019 novel coronavirus (now named COVID-19) situation and will provide updates as necessary.

We understand that many parents and families are concerned about the potential spread of the virus in our centers and have asked at what point we would consider closing our site. Our obligation and commitment to families is to stay open as long as our site remains safe for children and our staff.

State and federal law empower the local public health officer with broad authority to take all actions needed to control the spread of an infectious disease, including orders to close childcare centers. In our county, the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency has this authority and is the lead agency in managing the county's response to this threat. **We have been assured by public health officials that school closures are unwarranted at this time and could create unintended consequences that would hurt their efforts to protect our community.** We will remain updated with public health announcements throughout the duration of this threat and comply with all of their guidance.

Our focus continues to be on prevention and preparation. We have an inventory of needed supplies, and our staff is trained on cleaning and disinfecting classrooms.

You can support us by following these standard precautionary measures:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap is not available;
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth and avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Stay home when sick and call your child's center to report fever and respiratory symptoms;
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, throw the tissue in the trash, and clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces;
- Individuals with chronic health issues and/or individuals experiencing severe symptoms should be evaluated by a medical professional;
- And continue to receive an annual flu shot

We also want to share that on March 4, 2020, local health officials updated their guidelines for when a child should remain home. If your child has respiratory symptoms and fever of >100 F / >37.8 C (lowered from 100.4 F), they should remain home from school and other activities until they have no fever for 24 hours, without fever medication. In addition, if your child has severe productive coughs (i.e., spewing respiratory droplets) that are not typical for them, they should stay home.

CDA will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary. If you have questions about these topics, please contact your Site Supervisor. We thank you for your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

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