

## **RUMCK COVID Policies and Procedures**

**The following procedures and policies are either standard practice at RUMCK or have been added due to COVID. When a policy or procedure listed below differs from the parent or staff handbook in any way, the temporary policies in place due to COVID override previous policy. Staff are familiar with and will be implementing these new policies.**

*Early childhood is the time for being social, learning through play, making new discoveries, and practicing new skills. Young children learn best from hands-on activities with many opportunities to interact with peers and teachers. We want to take care to honor this unique time in a child's development while keeping our children, families, and staff safe. These policies and procedures were built upon the guidance and recommendations of the Georgia Department of Health, the Center for Disease Control, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.*

### **Teacher and Classroom Interaction**

Your child's teacher will not be socially distanced from him/her. Your child's class will become a group that will practice healthy hygiene and be together throughout each school day.

Teachers will wear masks or face shields while in the school and during carpool. Because we feel it is important for our children to be able to see expression, our lips and mouths as they learn language and learn how to process feelings, we will allow the use of face shields.

### **Student Masks**

Children in the 3-year-old classes and older should wear a mask in the school building. We realize wearing masks is a new skill for many children. We also recognize some children do not leave masks in place and are constantly touching them. Therefore, we encourage you to work with your child at home so that he/she is successful at wearing a mask at school. We realize this will be challenging for some, and we will gently encourage your child. We ask that you wash your child's mask or send your child to school wearing a clean mask daily. The children will be taken outside as much as possible where masks are not necessary.

### **Parent Masks**

Parents should wear a mask upon entering the school building.

### **Classroom Toys & Surfaces**

- Classroom toys and manipulatives will be disinfected daily by teachers.
- Any toy put into a child's mouth will be put into a "soiled toy" container and disinfected by teachers before being returned to classroom use.
- All tables and chairs will be disinfected by teachers before school, snack, and lunch.
- All commonly touched classroom surfaces such as light switches, doorknobs, and sink handles, will be disinfected daily by custodial staff.

- Common spaces will be cleaned at intervals during the day by school and custodial staff.
- Children will have their own individual items such as scissors, markers, etc.

### **Handwashing**

- Children will wash hands using proper hand washing technique before and after snack/lunch and after using the bathroom. Please practice this at home in advance to help us expedite the learning process.
- Hand sanitizer will be used as children arrive each day, upon dismissal for carpool, and at other times throughout the day.

### **Food**

Each child will bring his/her own snack, water bottle, and lunch (as applicable) to school each day.

### **Special Programs**

Special programs will be handled on a case-by-case basis. When programs are announced, we will communicate our plan to implement.

### **Sickness at School**

If a child gets sick at school, the child will be removed from the classroom and the parent will be contacted to pick up their child. The student will need to be fever and symptom free for 24 hours without the use of medication to be able to return to school.

### **COVID School Closures**

If a child is diagnosed with COVID or if a family member living with a child is diagnosed with COVID, the parent should contact the director immediately. The parent will be informed of the current protocol at that time. RUMCK expects each family to act responsibly and communicate with RUMCK for the safety of all students and staff.