

BEE HOUSE MONTESSORI DAYCARE

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE POLICY

(Revised May.19 2022)

Bee House Montessori Day Care will continue to follow all updated protocols and procedures as outlined by the Health Authorities, BCCDC and Work Safe BC. This can be found at the following link:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/childcare-schools/child-care>

Given these important requirements, it is imperative that we are resolute in our health policy, and that all parents understand and agree to the following additional requirements. In the event that you feel you are unable to comply with these requirements, we are happy to provide you with recommendations of other programs that may better suit your child care needs.

We are reminding families that having your child attend child care does mean that your entire family has a larger shared social distance bubble. Please behave responsibly and follow Dr Henry's recommendations if you are attending child care as well as socially interacting with individuals outside of your household. At this time, your "shared social distance bubble" includes all individuals that any member of your family interacts with, including your child.

Provision of Care during staff illness

As staff are also required to stay home when exhibiting illness symptoms, and we are ensuring smaller group care bubbles, this presents a significant limitation to our operation in the event of staff illness. We simply can not have illness spread throughout the staff team. We will be addressing staff illness in the following way:

1. For groups running with TWO or THREE staff: the group will be provided a staff-illness rotation list, and children will be able to attend alternating days, at a 1:8 ratio (3-5 programs) or 1:4 ration (toddler programs). This list will be provided by your educator.
2. In the unlikely event we have a staff available who can cover for several days, we will temporarily put in the substitute staff. It is more likely that this will not be possible, and as such, the group operate as per above until the staff is able to return to work.

Illness and Attendance

Children, staff and other adults may not attend/enter Bee House Montessori Day Care programs if they are sick or are required to self-isolate.

Parents and caregivers are required to do a daily health check for symptoms of COVID-19.

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/about-covid-19/symptoms>

This policy will be remaining in place indefinitely. As such, parents are encouraged to think through how they will work from home/care for children who are required to stay home until they are symptom free.

Individuals residing in the household with any child attending Bee House Montessori Day Care are to be taking all precautions possible to limit their exposure to COVID-19.

Fees are not being refunded due to illness - be it a staff or child illness. Our withdrawal policy is listed below.

Withdrawal

Withdrawal: our regular permanent withdrawal policy applies to children attending child care, with 30 days notice required and provided no later than the 1st of the month. Failure to provide notice results in a forfeit of the security deposit.

Arrival

During this time parent visits to the Daycare will NOT be permitted. Please have only one adult drop off and/or pick up.

DROP OFF:

NELSON: Please knock on the door then move back to the line. Please confirm that your child is symptom free. Say goodbye to your child, and give your child his/her water bottle and have your child go to the educator. You may now leave.

Once inside, your child will change their shoes, put their items in their cubby and be brought to wash their hands.

SUNSET: Please knock on the door then move back to the line. Please confirm that your child is symptom free. Say goodbye to your child, and give your child his/her water bottle and have your child go to the educator. You may now leave.

Once inside, your child will change their shoes, put their items in their cubby and be brought to wash their hands.

HART: Please knock on the door then move back to the line. Please confirm that your child is symptom free. Say goodbye to your child, and give your child his/her water bottle and have your child go to the educator. You may now leave.

Once inside, your child will change their shoes, put their items in their cubby and be brought to wash their hands.

OUTSIDE PICK UP:

NELSON: Please call the center at 604-433-9769 5 minutes before arrival, the teacher will have your child wash their hands and get ready to go home. At arrival please knock on the door and wait for an educator to bring your child and their belongings to you.

SUNSET: Please call the center at 604-433-9760 5 minutes before arrival, the teacher will have your child wash their hands and get ready to go home. At arrival please knock on the door and wait for an educator to bring your child and their belongings to you.

HART: Please call the center at 604-432-1857 (Toddler room 604-937-1137) 5 minutes before arrival, the teacher will have your child wash their hands and get ready to go home. At arrival please knock on the door and wait for an educator to bring your child and their belongings to you.

Cleaning and Sanitization

Following the current health authority guidelines for sanitization and care:

- A. Our inside classroom, including all accessible materials, is disinfected daily. Disinfection must be completed using a health authority approved sanitizer, which is a bleach, alcohol or quad-based solution. We respect that some families prefer us not to use these, and feel they are “unnatural” cleaning products. Unfortunately, these are the only options we have for disinfection.
- B. Please provide indoor and outdoor shoes.
- C. Children will be washing hands when arriving at school, when going home from school, before eating and drinking, after using washroom, when coming inside from outdoor activities.

Lunch

Please send all lunch / snack items in a disinfected lunch bag. We ask that morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack are in their own bags, so that children are not unpacking multiple items. At the end of each meal/snack, we may dispose of all uneaten food and/or packaging. We are currently NOT able to use the microwave and fridge, please plan your lunches accordingly.

Items to send

If your child is not potty trained, please continue to ensure diapers and wipes are provided to the school. If your child is in diapers only at nap time, please place one diaper in the backpack.

In backpack: snack and lunch, water bottle with lid or cover (must be disinfected daily), 1 change of clothing in a Ziplock bag, sunhat, outdoor shoes, indoor shoes. Please ONLY send muddy

buddies if raining or forecast is for rain. One set of bedding, should be sent to the school and will remain at the school, bedding will be sent home every Friday for washing.

Sunscreen

Please apply sunscreen on your child before arriving at school.

Illness policy

Please remember that Communicable diseases are rapidly changing, and our ability to remain open may change without notice; or we may be ordered closed by BC's provincial health officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, and/or our licensing officer.

Accordingly, please note the following Communicable disease policy, Health and Wellness policy, which applies to all staff and children within this facility.

Parents are expected to complete a health review of their child at home before arriving at the Center. This should include taking their child's temperature, although if you forget /run out of time, we have touch less thermometers at the school for your educator to use.

Parents may additionally be asked each morning, to confirm that their child is symptom free and that their child has not been given acetaminophen or ibuprofen in the last 12 hours. In the event that a parent is found to be not answering this statement truthfully or withholding important medical information, child care will no longer be provided to that family.

Daily Health Check Must be completed by parents before coming to Day Care

You may use the following as a daily health check to determine if you or your child should attend a child care setting that day.

http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_public_guidance/When_to_get_tested.pdf

If your child is not feeling well you may use the COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool

<https://bc.thrive.health/> to determine if you should seek testing for COVID-19 or call 811

If a COVID-19 test is recommended as a result of the health assessment, self-isolate while waiting for results (see information on how results are provided <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing>).

-
- If the COVID-19 test is positive, self-isolate and follow the direction of public health.

- **If the COVID-19 test is negative**, return to the child care facility once well enough to participate.

(Reference: Health Authority memo; COVID19 in childcare)

Additionally, our regular health and wellness policy stands:

If your child becomes ill at the center you will be asked to pick them up as soon as possible, please ensure your contact information is up to date.

Children may not attend child care programs while they have any of the following symptoms:

- unusual, unexplained loss of appetite, fatigue, irritability, or headache
- eye infections
- unexplained rashes *or* any rash that is not confirmed by doctor to be non-contagious
- known or suspected communicable diseases (measles, chicken pox, pink eye, hand foot and mouth, etc)
- ear infection
- nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Fever 38C

For the well-being of children, staff and families, open transparency and candour is required around all the above requirements. Although this may lead to some challenging conversations, staff and families need to acknowledge and respect their necessity and their intention of care during the pandemic. We sincerely appreciate your compliance and understanding!

If a child develops new symptoms of illness while at Daycare, staff will take the following steps:

- Immediately separate the symptomatic child from others in a supervised area.
- Contact the child's parent/caregiver to pick them up as soon as possible.
- Where possible staff will maintain a two meter distance from the ill child, if not possible staff will wear a face covering.
- Staff will provide the child tissues to cover their coughs or sneezes. Throw away used tissues and perform hand hygiene.
- Staff will avoid touching the child's body fluids (e.g., mucous, saliva). If needed staff will practice diligent hand hygiene.
- Once the child is picked up, staff will practice diligent hand hygiene.
- Staff will clean and disinfect the space where the child was separated and any areas recently used by them (e.g., classroom, bathroom, common areas)

Parents/caregivers must pick their child up as soon as possible if they are notified their child is ill.

