

YWCA Hartford Region Kidslink COVID-19 Health and Sanitation Policy

Drop Off Procedures:

Parents are asked to take their child's temperature at home before coming to Kidslink in the morning.

1. Parents will walk their child(ren) to the door. Please practice social distancing if there are other ahead of you
2. Only the child(ren) being dropped off will be permitted to enter the building
3. Staff will take children's temperature prior to entering.
4. Parents will be asked to indicate if the answer to any of the screening questions is yes. The screening questions are:
 - Has your child or anyone in the household been tested for COVID-19?
 - Has your child had symptoms of a respiratory infection (e.g. cough, sore throat, fever or shortness of breath), within the last 72 hours (3 days)?
 - Has the child taken any fever reducing medication within the last 12 hours?
 - Has the child recently traveled out of the state?
 - Should the parent answer yes to any of the above questions, the programs nurse consultant and the Department of Public Health will be contacted.
5. After being screened, when sinks are available, children will wash their hands. If no sinks are available, children will be given hand sanitizer and taken to wash their hands as soon as it is feasible within required ratios.
6. Teachers will sign each child in.
7. Parents need to provide ample time at drop off for the health screening.
8. Parents need to may need to stand in line outside the facility, with proper distance between them and other patrons until they are able to be screened.
9. When parents arrive at the program at pick up time an employee will escort the child to the door and sign them out

Clean and Sanitize Toys

1. Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized will not be used.

YWCA Hartford Region Kidslink COVID-19 Health and Sanitation Policy

2. Toys that children have been contaminated by body secretions or excretions should be set aside until they are cleaned by hand by a person wearing gloves. Clean with water and detergent, rinse, disinfect with bleach, rinse again, and air-dry.
3. Toys will not be shared between groups, unless they are washed and sanitized before being moved from one group to the other.
4. Set aside toys that need to be cleaned in a tub that is marked "To Be Cleaned".
5. Children's books, like other paper-based materials such as mail or envelopes, are not considered a high risk for transmission and do not need additional cleaning or disinfection procedures.
6. Playgrounds will be disinfected according to school guidelines and using sanitizer provided by the school.
7. Children will wash their hands before using the playscape and when go inside
8. Light switches, door knobs, sinks, toilets and other objects touched frequently during the day will be disinfected at least once an hour. Increased cleaning will be put in place during high traffic times.

Social Distancing

1. As possible groups will include the same children each day, and that the same child care providers remain with the same group each day.
2. Mixing between groups should be done only in cases where there are no other options to keep children safe.
3. Only essential personnel will be allowed in the program (i.e. Nurse Consultant, OEC Licensors, DCF). No special Presenters will be contracted.
4. Classrooms will be arranged so that groups can remain at least six feet apart at all times.
5. Children should practice social distancing while outside on the playground or wear masks if they are playing more closely.
6. When weather permitting snacks will be eaten outside, picnic style. Children need to have a water bottle with them. Drinking Fountains in some schools have been turned off.

YWCA Hartford Region Kidslink COVID-19 Health and Sanitation Policy

Limit sharing

1. Each child's belongings will be separated in designated places in the room.
2. Adequate supplies will be provided to minimize sharing. When possible high touch materials (art supplies, equipment, etc.) will be assigned to a single child and stored in a plastic bag with their name on it.
3. Toys and games will not be shared between groups unless they can be sanitized between uses.
4. No toys may be brought from home

Comforting a Child

It is important to comfort crying, sad, and/or anxious children. However this must be done using all caution to protect the child and the staff person.

1. Child care providers should wash their hands often throughout the day
2. Have tissues available to allow a child to dry their tears, and have them throw the tissue in the trash.
3. Sit near the child and try to comfort with quiet words and soothing tones.
4. If a child hugs you, be sure to wash your hands, arms, etc, and have them do the same.

Healthy Hand Hygiene Behavior

1. All children, and staff, should engage in hand hygiene at the following times:
 - o Arrival to the facility and after breaks
 - o Before and after preparing food
 - o Before and after eating snacks
 - o Before and after administering medication or medical ointment
 - o After using the toilet
 - o After coming in contact with bodily fluid
 - o After playing outdoors
 - o After handling garbage

YWCA Hartford Region Kidslink COVID-19 Health and Sanitation Policy

2. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If hands are not visibly dirty, alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol can be used if soap and water are not readily available.
3. Supervise children when they use hand sanitizer to prevent ingestion.
4. Monitor children While they are washing their hands to be sure they are using soap and scrubbing their hands long enough (at least 20 seconds)

Require sick children and staff to stay home

1. Children need to be in good health in order to get the most out of their school day and to protect others from illness. Children who have symptoms of illness and cannot fully participate in both indoor and outdoor activities will not be allowed to attend the program. A temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit will be excluded from care until they are fever free without the aid of a fever reducing medication for a minimum of 72 hours.
2. Anytime a child has a fever of 100 Fahrenheit or more they will be excluded from care. The family will be called and will be expected to pick the child up within an hour.
3. Children who have fevers will be isolated, with supervision. Immediately after the child being picked up, the area must be disinfected.
4. Families are required to inform the program if their child or someone in the child's home has been tested for COVID-19.
5. Staff members will follow the same exclusion policy as the children.
6. The center will call the local Department of Health and their nurse consultant anytime a child or staff displays signs of COVID 19 for guidance.
7. The following will be followed in the event someone becomes sick:
 - If a sick child has been isolated in your facility, clean and disinfect surfaces in you're the area after the sick child has gone home.
 - If COVID-19 is confirmed in a child or staff member:
 - Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
 - Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the areas.
 - Wait as long as possible before you clean or disinfect to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning and disinfecting.

YWCA Hartford Region Kidslink COVID-19 Health and Sanitation Policy

- Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms, and common areas.
- Notify school personnel.
- If more than 7 days have passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
- Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.
- Families will be notified that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 at the site and the DPH guidance will be provided.

Changes or updates

This policy may be changed or updated at any time upon new guidance from the Department of Public Health, Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC) or the CDC.

Jill Marini, Director Early Learning and School Age Programs

Date