Revised January 8, 2022

Dear Families,

We understand that life looks very different today than it did when we closed due to the COVID19 virus in March. We have spent the last several months researching and keeping up to date on CDC, the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and state and federal guidelines and used those to guide our policies in regards to operating during the Pandemic. Each policy is being put in place to keep children, staff and families safe. They are non-negotiable and will need to be adhered to in order to ensure that we are offering the safest and highest quality environment that we can during COVID-19. Below you will find the new policies that will affect you the family directly:

1. All adults are required to wear masks when entering the facility.
2. Only one adult and the child(ren) being dropped off are allowed to enter the building.
3. Only one child and their parent/guardian will be allowed to be in the building at a time.
4. If you arrive and there is a parent at the Kidslink/classroom door you will be asked to stand 6 feet a part in the designated space to ensure social distancing.
5. Parents must recognize that drop off and pick up times may require additional time and plan accordingly.
6. Each day your child will be screened upon arrival:
   a. A temperature will be taken, any child with a temperature of 100 or greater will be excluded from care until they are fever free for a minimum for 72 hours. The Department of Public Health will be called for guidance.
   b. The four screening questions will be asked:
      i. Has your child or anyone in the household been tested for COVID-19?
      ii. 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)?
      iii. Has the child taken any fever reducing medication within the last 12 hours?
      iv. Has the child recently traveled out of the state?
   c. Any answers that may indicate a health threat will be taken under review by the Department of Public Health.
   d. It is extremely important that these questions are answered honestly. If we are going to maintain a safe and healthy environment for children, staff and families we are all going to need to be transparent when health concerns arise.
   e. Parents utilize the provided hand sanitizer to sanitize their hands prior to using the sign in pen.
7. Once your child has been screened they will be able to enter the classroom. Families may not enter the classroom or Kidslink program.
8. Should your child consistently need more care and support at any time during the day that does not allowed for safe social
distancing, you may be called to pick your child up within in 30 minutes.

9. Upon your arrival to pick your child up, a staff member will bring them to you in the screening area, where their temperature will be taken again and recorded.

10. If your child should test for COVID, you will notify the program the same day.

11. Should your child test positive they will quarantine for 10 days, and you will notify the program the same day they tested positive.

12. Should a child in the Kidslink program or Early Learning classroom test positive all non-fully vaccinated children will quarantine for 10 days, and may return symptom free, and it is recommended that your child tests 5 to 7 days after exposure.

13. Should a member of your household test positive, and your child has tested negative you will notify the program.

14. Any child who is in quarantine for 10 days or the program is closed due to staff shortage, your account will be credited.

In some cases individual circumstances will be reviewed to ensure policies and guidelines are followed, and we may seek guidance from the Department of Public Health.

I understand that these policies are very different than how we normally operate, however, they are non-negotiable. We ask that you consider these policies prior to making the decision of whether or not your child will attend the center during the COVID-19 Health Crisis. Your decision to have your child attend and your signature below indicate that you agree to adhere to the above policies and will work with the staff in a courteous manner to ensure that the policies are being followed to keep children safe and healthy. If at any time you decide that these policies are something that you cannot adhere to, we will request your two week withdrawal notice.

In addition to the above policies, additional health and safety policies have been put in place to ensure that we are providing a healthy and safe environment for children, staff and families. You will be provided a copy of these policies in a separate email or communication.

Finally, should any new guidance or best practice be made available from the OEC, DPH or CDC, this policy may be updated accordingly and you will receive written notice of this change.

Thank you,

Tina Gladden

Interim Director, Early Learning and School Age Programs
I acknowledge that I have received the COVID-19 Policies and procedures and agree to adhere to them to ensure the health and safety of children, staff and families.

Parent/Guardian Printed name: ______________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: _________________________________________________________

Child’s Name: ____________________________________________________________________

Date: ______________