

First United Methodist Co-Op Preschool's COVID-19 Policies

FUMC Preschool's Planning Committee have worked closely with the Colorado Department of Human Services / Childcare Licensing (CDHS) and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), to assure a safe and healthy environment, and will continue to offer a quality learning program for our students and families. Policies and Procedures at FUMCP will be updated as required by CDHS and CDPHE.

Changes to our Co-Op Model-

- We are required to keep same staff with the same group of children- we are not allowed to intermingle groups of people.
- We are temporarily not allowed to have parent helpers in the classroom. We will be hiring an aide for each classroom. Once health department gives us the permission, we will resume parent helpers in the classroom each day.
- We will discontinue parent committees until it is safe for us to have parent volunteers resume
- Parent Meeting and Orientation Days will be restructured to allow us to follow social distancing and limit group sizes. These changes will be announced to families with Classroom/ Teacher Assignments.

Group Size & Social Distancing

- As of June 4th, 2020, the state has allowed us to return to our regular maximum group sizing.
- Recommendation to encourage 6-foot distancing when we can, but we also believe in allowing children to play and interact in with their peers. Our program is play based and we still want to honor our philosophy.

Lunch Bunch and Nursery

- We will also temporarily suspend Lunch bunch and use of the Nursery until it is safe to intermingle different classes and groups of children.

Face Masks-

- All staff will be wearing face masks at all times during the day unless they are outside, able to social distance, or it directly affects the teacher's ability to teach.
- Children ages 3 years or older will be offered and encouraged to wear a face mask, FUMCP will provide disposable face masks or families can provide their own approved face mask.
- If the mask is creating discomfort or resulting in the child touching their face frequently, it will be reconsidered.
- Children will not be forced to wear masks at any time.

Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures-

- We are required to have each class enter and exit the building in separate entrances and eliminate large gathering in the hallways.
- Each classroom has a locked exterior door that will be used for classes to enter and exit the building on school days. Parents will be allowed in the main building with the permission from the director.
- We are required to have alternative process for signing in and out other than paper and pen. We will be using Bright Wheel, a web-based program. Parents will need to download a free app and we will use QR code and digital signature from cell phones to check in and out each day.
- Parents dropping off and picking up children will be required to wear masks
- One parent will be allowed into the classroom at drop off one at a time to help get their child situated for the day. Direction of drop off and pick up will be given at Parent's Meeting.
- Signage to maintain social distancing will be posted by each classroom door.

Staggering Start and End times for classes-

- We will be staggering the start and end times for each classroom to help eliminate large gatherings outside the classroom door. Please see below the schedules for each class

MWF/ TH 3's: 9am to 12pm

4 Day Pre-K: 9:30am to 12:30pm

MWF Pre-K: 9am to 12pm

MWF Combo: 9:15 to 12:15pm

Protocol for entering the building-

- We will be conducting a health check on everyone entering the building, this includes staff, children and parents. This will include no contact temperature check and asking series of questions of one's health. Anyone exhibiting any illness will not be allowed in the classrooms or building that school day.
- Required handwashing upon arrival, before dismissal and frequently throughout the school day. This will be required of staff, children and parents.

Back to School Supplies-

- Families were provided a Back to School Supply list with their parent summer letter.
- We are asking families to donate 5-6 supplies that their child will be individually using to help stop the spread of germs.
- These supplies will only be used by the individual child.

Illness Procedure-

- In addition to temperature taking at drop-off, temperatures will be monitored throughout the day. If a temperature reads 100.4 degrees or higher, the child will not be allowed to remain at preschool. A child developing a temperature will be isolated with a staff member. Parents will be notified and must arrange to have the child picked up within 20 minutes. It is most important that your contact information is up to date and you have a reliable backup to pick-up your child if we cannot reach you.
- Children must not return until they have been symptom free, without the use of medication, for at least 72 hours.
- Should any member of your family have COVID-19, your child cannot return to preschool until the 14-day quarantine time, with no further cases in your home, has occurred.
- We are not expected to screen students and staff for COVID-19. The majority of respiratory illnesses are not COVID-19. If a community or school has cases of COVID-19, the health department will help identify those individuals and follow-up on next steps.
- If FUMCP has a confirmed case of COVID-19, we will contact the CDPHE and follow their procedures. We will notify families immediately of this exposure and will close the classroom and/or facility. The amount of time and how many classrooms will be determined by the CDPHE.

Cleaning and Sanitizing-

- We will be sanitizing all high touch areas at the start, end and throughout the day. This will include restrooms, classrooms, tables and sinks areas, etc.
- Toys played with will be cleaned/sanitized every day after use
- Staff will limit the toys in use to those that are easily cleanable, non-porous with smooth surfaces
- All toys that are soft toys and dress-up clothing have been eliminated
- Sensory tables will be limited to materials that can be sanitized
- Sensory play such as playdough will be individualized, with each child having their own and not sharing
- Any other item that is difficult to clean will not be used
- Restroom will be disinfected throughout the day
- Touchless paper towel and soap dispensers have been installed in every classroom and bathroom.
- We will be limiting which bathroom stalls and sinks each class will be using in our shared bathroom areas.

Playground-

- One class will only be allowed to use the playground at one time with possible cleaning of equipment taking place before the next group use
- Outdoor sandbox will be closed
- Playground schedules have been rearranged to allow each class more time outdoors each day while weather permits

Snack Time-

- For the time being, we are asking each family to bring in their own child's snack each day.
- These snacks need to be commercially sold and in individual packaging or Ziplock bag.
- Please refer to Snack Suggestions in your Parent Folder for ideas of what to bring.
- Social distancing will be provided during snack

