

Welcome Back OKCC Families!

We know that you may have many questions about what things will look like as we reopen, and what health and safety measures will be in place. We hope that this document will help answer some of your questions and ease some of your concerns.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.
ourkids2@bellnet.ca

What You Need to Know:

- *Health and Safety
- *Health Screening & Tracking
- *Potential Screening Questions
- *Hellos and Goodbyes
- *Mask and Face Coverings Requirements
- *Cohorts
- *Physical Distancing
- *Illness & Exclusion
- *Exceptions to the Fee Policy/How to pay now
- *Sanitary Practices

At Our Kids Child Care, the health, safety and wellbeing of children, families and employees remains of utmost importance.

We continue to implement a high standard in regards to health and sanitary practices and partner with local Public Health agencies and the St Clair Catholic District School Board to support our practices during this time.

In addition to our regular health and sanitary practices, we will be implementing the following enhanced practices:

Health Screening Procedures:

Each day prior to admittance into the centre ALL children, families and employees will take part in a health screening. During this time, ONLY employees, children and essential visitors will be allowed into the site. **NO PARENTS ARE ALLOWED PAST THE SCREENING TABLE.**

- *A screening table will be set up in the entryway
- *Screeners will take yours AND your child's temperature
- *An employee who will be wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will ask specific health questions of both parent/guardian and child.

If you answer yes to any of the questions for you, your child, or any household member your child will not be able to attend. Further details on the length of exclusion will be provided by local Public Health and vary depending on the symptoms.

While the health screening does not take very long, we ask that you do allow for extra time in the morning to allow for multiple families to be screened. We also ask that only 1 family enter the building to be screened at a time. You will be asked to line up outside the Child Care main entrance. While you are waiting, please maintain physical distancing of at least 2 m from other families.

*A screening assessment will be posted on the entrance way door, please do not enter the building if you or any other household member show any of the symptoms noted.

*Upon entering the building please use the provided hand sanitizer.

Potential Screening Questions:

1. Do you, your child or any member of your household have any of the following symptoms: fever (37.8C or higher), new/worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, difficulty swallowing, new olfactory (loss of smell) or taste disorders, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, runny nose/nasal congestion (except seasonal allergies, nasal drip, etc.), unexplained fatigue/ malaise/myalgia, chills, headache, conjunctivitis , lethargy/difficulty feeding in infants?
2. Have you, your child or any member of your household travelled outside of Canada or had close contact with anyone that has travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days?
3. Have you, your child or any member of your household been identified by Public Health as a close contact of a COVID-19 case in the last 14 days?
4. Have you, your child or any member of your household had close contact with anyone with a respiratory illness in the last 14 days?
5. Have you given your child any type of fever reducing medication in the last 5 hours? Yes/ No? Reasoning?

Hellos & GoodByes:

Morning hellos and afternoon good byes will be a little different as families are not permitted past the screening table .

We know this is an important part of the day for both you and your child and want to best support you through this.

Our Educators will welcome children at the screening table and take them to their classroom.

To help us plan for a smooth drop off and pick up time, you must adhere to the schedule given.

Please have only ONE family member accompany your child/ren each day as family members will be screened as well.

At pick up, we ask that you wait for us at the screening table and will meet you with your child and share about their day. We will continue to update you thru the Hi Mama app about your child's day.

Please send all of your child's belongings labelled and in a backpack. We will be sending your child's belongings home DAILY to allow for increased cleaning in cubby areas each evening.

Mask/Face Covering Requirements:

In light of the recent mask wearing bylaws, please ensure that you are always wearing a mask at drop off and pick up times.

It has also been confirmed that school age children will follow Ministry requirements in regards to masks and face coverings while in our before and after school programs

In addition, all educators will also wear face coverings throughout the day.

Cohorts:

Children will be placed into classroom cohorts.

- *each cohort will have the same 2-3 Educators daily throughout the day for minimum 7 days.
- *the cohorts will maintain physical distancing from each other throughout the day, both indoors and outdoors.
- * at no time will they join together.
- * Common spaces will be cleaned and sanitized between use of cohorts (gym, hallways, outdoor spaces).
- * we are currently waiting for direction how this will work for the Before and After School Program.

Physical Distancing:

The following will be put into practice to help support physical distancing:

- *Educators will serve children lunch instead of our usual family style serving
- *Cribs and Cots will be labelled and designated to a single child. They will be disinfected prior to use and crib/cot sheets and will be washed based on public health recommendations.
- *If possible, children's cubbies will not be beside each other
- *We will continue to provide opportunities and experiences that encourage children to engage with each other collectively while maintaining distance. The role of the educator will be to focus on connecting children's ideas and helping see each other's ideas collectively in the group while maintain space.
- *Only individual sensory use will be permitted.

Illness and Exclusion:

Reducing the spread of illness is vital for everyone's safety.

Our objective is to minimize the possibility that an illness will be brought into the centre.

If you or your child are exhibiting any symptoms we ask that you refrain from coming to the Centre.

***If your child develops any symptoms, you will be notified and asked to make arrangements for pick up IMMEDIATELY.**

- *Children who exhibit symptoms will be removed from the classroom when possible and supervised in a designated isolation space.
- *You will be asked to connect with your health care practitioner or your local Public Health to determine next steps and potential exclusion time.
- *Public health may recommend a COVID-19 test or 14 day isolation.
- *Once tested and a negative result obtained, your child can return to the centre once they are symptom free for 24- 48 hours based on health regulations.
- *Exclusion due to illness will also apply to our employees.

Exceptions to the Fee Policy and How to Pay now:

Over the past few weeks we have had several questions from families in terms of our current fee policy and what families can expect in regards to the potential of a positive case of COVID-19.

We wanted to share that our current fee policy remains in effect with the following exception:

Where OKCC is directed by Public Health to close either a specific classroom or entire centre as a result of a positive case of COVID-19, then childcare fees, for children who are directly impacted, will be waived for the duration of the closure.

This will also apply to children who are unable to attend the program following a positive diagnosis in either themselves or some one in their household. Where fees have been paid in advance, a credit will be applied to family's accounts.

Your accounts have not been charged since March 14th, 2020. All accounts have been credited for the Centre closing.

Effective immediately, all payments must now be by e-transfer. There will not be debit access at this point. The payments are to be sent to ourkids2@bellnet.ca

Sanitary Practices:

As per recommendations from public health we will be increasing our sanitary practices as part of these measures to keep everyone healthy.

As part of these measure the following has been implemented:

*Enhanced cleaning practices will be in effect during the day with special attention being given to tables, chairs, counters and high touch surfaces

*All toys will be disinfected daily or between use of cohorts

*Classroom environments set up with materials that can be easily cleaned, with removal of fabrics and plush toys

*Custodial services from St Matthews School continue daily.