



Growing With Grace Preschool Reopening Plan September 2021

COVID-19 PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES FOR FAMILIES

CDC, IDPH, ISBE and Restore Illinois Day Care guidelines will be followed. Policies and procedures are subject to change based on updated information from these agencies.

Daily Health Screenings:

Daily self-certified health checks are required prior to completed arrival for both staff and students. Staff and students will confirm they are not exhibiting any of the following symptoms:

Covid-19 Symptoms:

Fever (100.4 or higher), chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

Symptoms will be monitored throughout the day for staff and students. Staff or students that display signs of illness may not enter the building or will be asked to leave. Staff and students will sanitize their hands upon arrival. If a student becomes sick while at GWG they will be removed from the classroom immediately and the parents/emergency contact will be called to pick up their child. A staff member will stay with the student until the parent/emergency contact arrives. The area where the sick student was will be sanitized.

If a staff member or student has a fever of 100.4 or higher or has symptoms of COVID-19, the staff member or student will be excluded from the program and encouraged to seek medical attention. The staff member or student may not return to school until the following is satisfied:

- No fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications
- All symptoms have improved
- Negative test for Covid-19 OR
- A note from a medical provider documenting no clinical suspicion of Covid-19

Should a staff member or student be diagnosed with Covid-19, the individual may not return to the program until all four of the following conditions are met:

- No fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications
- It has been at least 10 days since the onset of the individual's illness
- Individual's symptoms have improved
- A note from a medical provider that they may return to school

Exposure to Covid-19:

All GWG families and staff are expected to immediately notify GWG if someone in their home tests positive or has been in close contact with a positive case (within 6 feet for greater than 15 minutes). If a household has any known or suspected exposure/contact to Covid-19, the staff or student shall be excluded from GWG until written documentation is provided by a medical provider stating they are no longer communicable and may return to school. The CDC recommends that anyone having been in close contact with a person suspected/diagnosed with Covid-19 be excluded from the facility for 7-14 days and monitored for symptoms.

Communication Plan:

If Covid-19 is confirmed in a staff member or student, the following will be implemented:

- Families and staff will be notified of confirmed cases via e-mail (privacy will be maintained)
- GWG will notify the local health department and follow their guidelines/regulations
- A student or staff member, and/or classroom may be required to quarantine for a certain amount of time

Absences:

Staff and student absences should be reported to GWG immediately- either by phone: 847/254-5820, email: growingwgracepreschool@gmail.com, a SeeSaw message, or email to your teacher. Please report specific symptoms, diagnoses, COVID-19 diagnoses/exposures when reporting an absence. If an absence is not reported, you will be contacted by GWG to ensure the absence is not due to illness.

Face Masks/Coverings:

Staff will be required to wear face coverings while serving children and interacting with parents and families. Staff may lower their masks on an as needed basis during circle time while being distanced from students. Face masks will be required for all persons over the age of 2 when entering/exiting the building, in hallways, in the bathroom, and in the classrooms to the extent practicable. During outdoor play, masks are optional for staff and students. Masks will not be worn during snack time. Staff will be provided with a mask from GWG and students must provide their own face mask and have a spare clean mask in their backpack. GWG will provide students with a breakaway safety lanyard to attach to their mask while at school. GWG will have disposable masks available for staff and students if needed.

Arrival/Dismissal

Arrival:

- Students must wear a face mask upon arrival
- Staggered arrival times will allow for safe arrival
Threes- 8:40-8:50 a.m., Fours- 8:55- 9:05 a.m., and Twos- 9:10-9:20 a.m.
- Adults will drive through the parking lot of Grace Lutheran Church following the parking lot directions/guidelines and proceed to the drop off/pick up area (in front of the white sheds)
- Students will be escorted from their car and enter the building through the multipurpose room door. The child will be given hand sanitizer upon entry.

Dismissal:

- Students must wear a face mask at dismissal
- Staggered dismissal times will allow for safe dismissal
Twos & Threes- 11:15 a.m. and Fours- 11:30 a.m.
- Adults will drive through the parking lot of Grace Lutheran Church following the parking lot directions/guidelines and proceed to the drop off/pick up area (in front of the white sheds). Please have your child's name card attached to the driver's visor and the visor down so the child's name is in view
- Students will be escorted to their cars by GWG staff

Classroom Volunteers:

Classroom Volunteers will be allowed on a limited basis. All visitors must wear a face covering at all times when inside the building.

Outdoor Play:

Students will have the opportunity to be outside as much as possible, weather permitting. We purchased a canopy tent for the cement slab area in the rear of the church to use as shade and as an additional classroom space. Hand sanitizer will be used prior/after playground use. The playground, field area, cement slab, and bikes will all be utilized to extend the outdoor play opportunities. Weather permitting, classes may have snack, circle time, and/or story times outdoors.

Classroom Programming:

- All core classes, enrichment classes, and Lunch Bunch will resume in September.
- The Fours classes will be combined at times during outdoor play
- The Twos and Threes classes will not be combined on the playground
- Lunch Bunch groups will be combined but distanced when eating lunch
- Child-to-staff ratios and staff qualifications will always follow licensing standards
- Field Trips will be allowed

Cleaning/Sanitation:

High touched surfaces will be sanitized frequently as recommended. Classrooms and toys will be cleaned and sanitized regularly. Staff and students will be washing hands frequently throughout the day (either in the bathroom or using hand sanitizer). HEPA air purifiers were purchased for each classroom.

Snack Time:

Each family will be responsible for providing a snack on their designated snack day (on the monthly calendar and reminders in the weekly emails). The snack must be on the GWG approved snack list. Paper products will be used and disposed of daily. Proper table sanitation will be implemented before and after snack. Hands will be washed in the bathroom prior to snack time. Staff will wear gloves and serve the snack and water to the students.