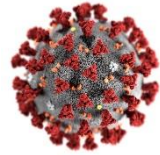


## Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare

Effective May 11, 2023

### Policies/Procedures COVID 19

These policies supersede any policies indicated in the family handbook.



Effective 5/11/23 the COVID-19 public health emergency has been lifted. This signals a return to some of our pre-pandemic health policies, however we will still have some COVID policies and procedures in place to keep everyone as healthy and safe as possible. Please read the following updates and understand that while having to keep a child home for health reasons can be difficult, we do want to prevent the spread of ANY illnesses at school and need your help to do so.

#### Financial Information:

If a classroom is closed to lack of available staff related to COVID, families enrolled in paid childcare will be required to pay our minimum charge of 3 days/week during the closure. (\$15-\$109.50 depending upon classroom).

If a child is excluded from care during a possible COVID exposure investigation or due to a COVID quarantine of him/herself which does not affect the operation of the classroom or the center, the family is expected to pay the child's contracted weekly rate during his/her absence. The family may use any available personal days they have.

#### Travel Policies

Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare follows state/local regulations regarding quarantine after travel. At this time there are no travel quarantines in place.

#### Health Screenings:

Health Screenings of children may occur as needed throughout the day by Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare staff. Screening for fever and symptoms will occur if concerns are noted by staff or children complain of not feeling well.

#### Sanitization and Hygiene Practices

- Handwashing per ECERS3 guidelines will continue as usual.
- Children, families, and staff should avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth with their hands.
- Cover coughs or sneezes with a tissue, throw the tissue in the trash, and clean hands with soap and water. Children MAY NOT BRING OR USE HAND SANITIZER this includes school age children.
- Touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected nightly by our custodial staff and throughout the day by our teachers. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks. The sanitizer that we use at the center can be sprayed on and left to dry and is certified to kill coronavirus. It is food and child safe. This is the same sanitizer we have used at the center for several years.
- Anyone entering the classrooms must wash hands or use hand sanitizer immediately.

## **Mask Usage**

Children, staff and family members are not required to wear masks while on Fort Atkinson Preschool and School District property at this time.

Children who develop a cough or fever while at school will be provided with a mask and required to wear it until symptoms resolve or they leave the building.

Children who have had COVID-19 are expected to wear masks per CDC guidelines upon their return.

Any child, staff member or family member is welcome to wear a mask out of personal preference. Children who arrive at school in a mask will be expected to wear them at all times other than when they are eating, drinking, napping or outside. Mask wearing is a medical choice to be made by parents, not children. Children who are required to wear a mask should have a clean mask daily at arrival and should also keep a spare mask in his/her locker with his/her spare clothes. Children must be able to put their masks on independently.

Children, staff and family members shall respect each other's choices regarding mask usage and shall refrain from debate and/or comment on mask usage choices while on preschool property.

## **COVID-19 exposure, symptoms, and positive tests**

If an enrolled child or employee tests positive for COVID-19 our DCF licensing specialist will be contacted within 24 hours.

If anyone living with a child who attends Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare tests positive please share this with the center even if though the child is not required to quarantine. This will help us be aware of the significance of any new symptoms that develop while at school.

We will notify families if a child or staff member in the center tests positive. The COVID victim's name will remain confidential.

## **Symptoms**

If a child or staff member develops any of the following symptoms they should not attend school and should test for COVID-19:

- **Runny nose/congestion**
- **Fatigue**
- **Headache**
- **Sore throat**
- **Muscle or Body aches**
- **Cough**
- **New loss of taste or smell**
- **Pink eye symptoms (itchy, red, or discharge in eyes)**

**Children with the above symptoms who test negative for COVID-19 may return to school provided they are able to actively participate in programming and are able to manage their own symptoms.**

The determination of active participation and symptom management will be defined by the staff of Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare on a case by case basis. Some examples of these situations include children who are very tired, crying, complaining of pain or symptoms, frequent and disruptive coughing, children with runny noses who when prompted cannot use tissues independently, children with coughs who with prompting cannot remember to turn and cover their coughs, etc.... If sent home for an inability to actively participate in programming, or an inability to manage their own symptoms, the child must stay

home the following day. You will be notified of your child's symptoms and are required to pick up within one hour. You will be given a return to school date at that time.

If a child or staff member develops any of the following symptoms they should not attend school and should test for COVID-19. If negative for COVID-19 they may return as indicated below.

- **Fever** over 100 degrees Fahrenheit- Child must remain home until fever free for 24 hours without medication. Children who develop a fever while at school will be sent home and will not be able to return the following day regardless of the time of resolution of the fever. Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare will consider input from the child's physician but the ultimate determination of the child's return to school date is that of the center.
- **Vomiting or nausea-** Child must remain home until he/she has not vomited for a full 24 hours. Children who develop a fever while at school will be sent home and will not be able to return the following day regardless of the time of resolution of the vomiting. Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare will consider input from the child's physician but the ultimate determination of the child's return to school date is that of the center.
- **Diarrhea-** Child must remain home until diarrhea free for 24 hours without medication. Children who develop diarrhea while at school will be sent home and will not be able to return the following day regardless of the time of resolution of the diarrhea. Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare will consider input from the child's physician but the ultimate determination of the child's return to school date is that of the center.
- **Confirmed case of non-COVID 19 viral infections such as influenza, RSV, rhinovirus-** Students must remain home based on the Wisconsin Childhood Communicable Disease chart. Please contact the preschool office with the diagnosis, symptoms and date of onset to find out your child's return to school date. Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare will consider input from the child's physician but the ultimate determination of the child's return to school date is that of the center.
- **Confirmed COVID-19-**Students must be out of school for five days from the onset of symptoms or five days from the positive test if there are no symptoms. The child must wear a mask to school on days 6-10. Children may not return on days 6-10 until they have been fever free without medication for 24 hours. Students with an active cough on days 6-10 will not be considered resolved and must remain home until coughing has subsided or day 10. Students in their final five days of quarantine will be separated at least six feet during times when a mask cannot be worn such as during nap, snack or lunch. This may involve students sitting alone at a table while eating.
- **Contagious infections requiring antibiotic treatment such as strep throat or pink eye-** Students must remain home based on the Wisconsin Childhood Communicable Disease chart. Please contact the preschool office with the diagnosis, symptoms and date of onset to find out your child's return to school date. Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare will consider input from the child's physician but the ultimate determination of the child's return to school date is that of the center.
- **Undiagnosed, new, and/or untreated skin rash or condition-**Child should be seen by a doctor. Students must remain home based on the Wisconsin Childhood Communicable Disease chart. Please contact the preschool office with the diagnosis, symptoms and date of onset to find out your child's return to school date. Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare will consider input from the child's physician but the ultimate determination of the child's return to school date is that of the center.

## **Asthma/Allergies/Non-contagious previously diagnosed ongoing health concerns**

Children who have non contagious illnesses (asthma, allergies, etc.) that present with the above symptoms should indicate the illness on their enrollment form. The child's physician should write a letter to the director indicating the diagnosis, the symptoms it presents with and when these symptoms are likely to occur. An example would be: "Bobby has seasonal allergies to pollen that may result in sneezing, clear runny discharge from nose and/or sore throat. This is likely when pollen levels exceed \_\_\_\_." This information will be taken into account when determining if children will be sent home and when they can return. Please note attendance is determined by the center. Physician's recommendations do not supersede the decision and policies of the center. The center should be notified of any ongoing, or as needed, medications the child is taking.

## **Who needs to Quarantine?**

Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 should quarantine for five days from the onset of symptoms AND until they are fever free for 24 hours without medication.

## **Classroom and Center Closures**

If a child or staff member tests positive, in addition to following any instructions received from our local public health authority, the center will consider whether a short-term (less than 1 week) or long-term (two weeks or more) closure will allow for sufficient cleaning and disinfection.

Public health can also use this time to trace close contacts of the case and determine if others could be at risk. Advantages of long-term closures will be weighed against the economic burden placed on staff and children's families, loss of key members of the workforce, and impacts on learning.

If local closures are pursued because of community transmission, the geographic extent of closures should be informed by local epidemiologic data.

If a staff member or attending child tests positive for COVID-19 the center in conjunction with the health department will determine which classrooms will be closed. If a classroom's primary teachers are among the quarantined staff and/or more than 25% of the class is quarantined the classroom may be closed.

Decisions regarding non-quarantined students enrolled in paid programs from closed classrooms attending in other rooms will be made on a case by case basis to protect the health and safety of the students and staff in those rooms. While students may leave quarantine on the 5 day mark as indicated by public health they may not return to school until the date the classroom reopens which will be determined by the director in conjunction with public health.

## **Shift to virtual learning:**

Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare (FAPCC) is licensed by Department of Children and Families (DCF), not the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and is not under the jurisdiction of the Fort Atkinson School Board. A shift to virtual learning for the district does not mean Fort Atkinson Preschool and Childcare will close. Closure of FAPCC will be determined by the First Congregational Church Council based upon the current public health situation and recommendations from DCF and the Jefferson County Health Department. Should the Fort Atkinson School District shift to virtual learning and FAPCC remain open private preschool and school age programs may be offered as determined by the church council.

## **Additional Policies and Procedures:**

Additional policies and procedures may be added or deleted at any time based upon the change in the public health emergency, community health, DCF rules/regulations, changes in the orders of the Governor, center needs, etc.... Parents who have children attending will be notified of any changes by email..