

Epworth Preschool
Fall Camp 2020
COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

A child's educational success is based on the strength of the parent/teacher partnership. This strong partnership is also necessary for ensuring the health and wellness of our entire student and staff population as well as our school's ability to operate. We are not health care providers and will not be able to determine if your child's runny nose and congestion is allergy related or a COVID-19 symptom. Therefore, we must strictly follow the guidelines shared below. Thank you for your extreme care with regard to our collective health.

Epworth Preschool will use outdoor play and learning spaces during Fall Camps that will allow children to spend their camp day outside, weather permitting. The students will be placed in groups of 10 with 2 teachers and will stay with their assigned group for their two-week session of camp. We anticipate 4 groups for a total of 40 children. Two-year-olds will attend camp from 9:15-11:45am T/Th, three-year-olds will attend camp from 9am-Noon MWF and four-year-olds will attend camp from 9am-12:30pm M-Th. The times may shift by 15-20 minutes to accommodate staggered schedules. Session dates are as follows: September 8-17, September 21-October 1, October 5-15, October 26-November 6, and November 9-20.

COVID-19 Policy Updates:

- All Staff and Students will pass a daily symptom screening with temperature check before entering the building. Parents- be alert of all symptoms (fever, chills, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, cough, loss of taste & smell) and keep children home if they have any signs of illness.
- Staff and students will be required to stay home if they have a temperature above 100.
- Drop-off and pick up will be outdoors and entrance to the school building will be primarily limited to staff and students.
- A change of clothes and diapers if needed will be sent to school and kept for the camp session.
- Students will not bring a bag, backpack, or any extra items from home.
- There will be no shared food or cooking days. Each student will bring their own snack that will be stored in their cubby.
- The school building will be cleaned daily by a professional cleaning company or our church sexton. They will sign a checklist each day to indicate they have met all cleaning standards. The school will also undergo weekly disinfecting both indoors and outdoor play areas.
- At the end of each day, the teachers will sign a cleaning checklist to keep on file.
- Until further notice, there will not be water play or classroom sensory play.
- If a staff member or student travels, they will be asked to follow state and local guidelines on self-quarantine.
- Online payments are strongly encouraged, and online fees will be waived for Fall Camps.

Policies for Face Coverings:

- Face coverings will be worn by all adults and recommended for children above age 2 during health screens.
- Once staff have passed the health screening, face coverings will be worn indoors at all times, unless working alone in their classroom. Staff will wear masks outdoors but will be allowed to take "mask breaks" if they are 6 feet apart from all individuals.
- Children over the age of two will wear a face covering indoors if they can feasibly do so.

General Campus Cleaning Protocol, Safety Rules, and Procedures:

- Children will interact with a designated group of classmates of 10 or less and teachers. There will only be one group in a shared space at a time, including the playground.
- Additional transition time will be given so that classes have plenty of space to travel.
- Bathrooms will be wiped down with a disinfecting product after use including the light switch, doorknob, sink handle, toilet seat, and toilet handle.
- There will be a designated bathroom for each class, understanding bathroom needs will be met when needed.
- The common area bathroom (next to the office) will be cleaned with disinfectant wipe, including all touched areas in the bathroom after each use such as the light switch, doorknob, sink handle, toilet seat, and flusher).
- Both staff and students will wash hands regularly throughout the school day, to include upon arrival, before snack, after the playground, after using the bathroom, and after sneezing or blowing his/her nose.
- Teachers will sanitize surfaces and materials throughout the school day.
- Communal areas such as the playgrounds, outdoor learning spaces, staff workroom, and supply rooms will be equipped with a cleaning station that includes disinfectant, paper towels, hand sanitizer, and instructions for disinfecting the area. A designated staff person will be required to disinfect the area after each use.

Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures:

- All students will use a carline for morning drop off at the picnic shelter.
- Adults and children over two should be wearing masks and remain in the car (children stay in car seats) until a staff person completes the health screen.
- Each person attending camp will clean their hands with hand sanitizing when leaving their car then thoroughly wash their hands with soap and water when arriving at their designated area. A staff member will help children with handwashing and take them to their designated area.
- All students will use carline for afternoon pick up at the picnic shelter. Caregivers will pull up to the picnic shelter, remain in the car, and children will be brought to caregivers.
- Each class will be assigned a drop off and pick up time.

Classroom/Outdoor Learning Expectations:

- Camps will take place in our outdoor learning areas, weather permitting.
- In the event of thunder or lightning, classes will move inside to a classroom with open windows and/or fans for additional air circulation.
- Staff members will follow social distancing between each other and encourage social distancing among students as is realistically possible.
- Staff members will remove all soft, plush, and difficult to clean items from their classroom.
- Any item or toy that enters a child's mouth will be removed from play for the day and disinfected.
- Staff members will follow all guidelines set by health officials regarding singing, shared toys, and community art supplies.
- Should a substitute be needed, the director will try to fill the position with another staff member, only bringing in non-staff members when necessary.
- Substitutes will complete a daily health screening and temperature check as well as follow the same guidelines and expectations as staff members.

Procedures for COVID-Positive Exposure

If a staff member or student who have been in the school or on campus is suspected or confirmed to have a COVID-19 infection, we will immediately seek to close the portion of the campus visited by the individual or the entire preschool campus until it can be professionally cleaned and disinfected.

If someone feels sick while at Epworth Preschool:

1. The director will immediately notify all staff members on site and begin isolation procedures:
 - The individual will be immediately isolated from other staff and students.
 - Signs will be posted on the door of the isolation room indicating that it is being used for quarantine and others should not enter.
2. Arrange transportation home for the person as soon as possible.
3. Notify staff members and others who may have been exposed as well as church staff.
4. Anyone who may have been exposed to the virus will take any necessary and additional precautions.
5. Should the symptomatic individual test positive for COVID-19, the Durham Health Department will be notified and will work with the director on contact tracing and advise on classroom vs. school closure and isolation. There will be a 24 hour wait period before any space can be disinfected to reduce the risk to the cleaning crew. The classroom and/or school will be closed during this time.

Handling suspected, presumptive and confirmed cases of COVID-19

With respect to suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases, Epworth Preschool will adhere to the guidelines set for the by the NCDHHS guidelines ChildCareStrong NC, to include the following guidelines highlighted below in red.

<https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/childcare/NC-Interim-Guidance-for-Child-Care-Settings.pdf>

- If a person has had a negative COVID-19 test, they can return to school once there is no fever without the use of fever- reducing medicines and they have felt well for 48 hours.
- If a person is diagnosed with COVID-19 by a medical professional based on a test or their symptoms or does not get a COVID-19 test but has had symptoms, they cannot come to school and should stay at home until they (or a family member if younger child) can answer YES to the following three questions:
 1. Has it been at least 10 days since the individual first had symptoms?
 2. Has it been at least 3 days (72 hours) since the individual had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine)?
 3. Has it been at least 3 days (72 hours) since the individual's symptoms have improved, including cough and shortness of breath?
- Epworth Preschool will notify local health authorities of confirmed COVID-19 cases among children and staff (as required by NCGS 130A-136).

- If a student/employee has been diagnosed with COVID-19 but does not have symptoms, they must remain out of school until 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test, assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test.
- If a student/employee that has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has been presumed positive by a medical professional due to symptoms, they are not required to have documentation of a negative test in order to return to school.
- If a student/employee has been determined to have been in close contact (defined as anyone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before the person began feeling sick until the time the patient was isolated) with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, they must remain out of school for 14 days since the last date of exposure unless they test positive. In which case, exclusion criteria above would apply. They must complete the full 14 days of quarantine, even if they test negative.
- If a student/employee receives confirmation of an alternative diagnosis from a health care provider that would explain the COVID-19 like symptoms, they can return to school once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines and they have felt well for 48 hours.

Important Notes:

- The health policy outlined in our handbook book regarding common childhood illnesses still applies. As always, your child cannot come to school under any circumstances if they are only fever free due to medication like Tylenol or ibuprofen.
- With increased outdoor time, families are encouraged to put sunscreen and insect repellent on children before school. We are unable to apply sunscreen or insect repellent without a doctor's note.

Outdoor Learning Spaces:

- The **little playground** will remain as is with the addition of shade and more small structures to enhance the space and increase social distanced play opportunities.
- The **picnic shelter** will remain as is but will be used as an outdoor classroom and play space.
- The **grassy yard** next to the picnic shelter as a designated learning and play space. We will add tents to have an additional covered space.
- The **driveway** will be used for rodeo as it is in summer camp.
- We will use the **courtyard** area between the two school buildings as a designated gardening, art, and learning space.
- Teachers will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting the play spaces at the end of each day. Each class will be responsible for leaving the space neat, and tidy. Within the camp day, there will be a designated playground crew who ensure that the space, if shared that day, is cleaned and disinfected between uses.

Campus Preparation Guidelines from Respected Sources

In developing Epworth Preschool's reopening plan, we have consulted the following sources for guidance, to ensure we were developing guidelines that align with experts. The guidelines are continually evolving as the experts learn more about COVID-19, how it is transmitted, and how we can best protect ourselves and our students and their families from the virus.

[Centers for Disease Control](#) The federal government's authority on COVID-19.

[North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services](#) The state's authority on COVID-19.

[Durham County Department of Public Health](#) The county's authority on COVID-19.

[ChildCareStrongNC Public Health Toolkit , NC Strong School K-12](#)

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#) From the American Academy of Pediatrics (summary)

Schools under DOPA (Durham & Orange County Preschool Association)

**Epworth Preschool
Participation Waiver**

In order for their child or ward to be allowed to attend preschool and/or preschool camps during the upcoming school year 2020-2021, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

- I knowingly and freely assume all risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of the releasees, and/or others, and assume full responsibility for the attendance of my child.
- Participation includes possible exposure to and illness from infectious diseases, such as COVID-19. While particular Epworth Preschool policies and personal discipline reduce this risk, a chance of illness still exists.
- I have read, understand, and agree to comply with, Epworth Preschool's protocol concerning protection against infectious diseases, such as COVID-19 (included).
- I, for myself and for my minor child(ren) or ward(s), and on behalf of my/our heirs, assigns, beneficiaries, executors, administrators, personal representatives, and next of kin, hold harmless and forever discharge Epworth United Methodist Church, Epworth Preschool, and its officers, directors, officials, agents, representatives, employees, other participants, from any and all claims, demands, suits, causes of action, losses, and liability of any kind whatsoever, whether in law or equity, arising out of or related to any illness, injury, disability, death, or other damages incurred due to or in connection with any Communicable Diseases to the fullest extent permitted by law.

With my signature, I affirm that I have read, understood, agreed with and will comply with the contents of this document.

Parent/Guardian 1 _____

Parent/Guardian 2 _____

Date _____

Student _____

Student _____

Student _____