



Health and Safety Plan

Updated 4/4/2024

In accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), Lois Johnson has implemented the following Health and Safety Plan for the wellbeing of all children and staff members of Lois Johnson. There are no strategies that can completely eliminate illness transmission risk within a child care population; the goal is to keep illness transmission as low as possible to safely continue child care activities.

Drop-Off / Pick-Up and Health Screening Procedures:

Health screening based on our well care policy will be implemented for both children and staff prior to admittance each day.

Visitors will be limited and must follow the above guidelines prior to admission. A designated staff member will meet parents at the door and escort the children inside. When leaving for the day, staff will bring the child and all materials to the parent outside of the door. Per DHS guidelines, parents are allowed access into the building at any time. We are asking that they limit this request to decrease exposure risks for children and staff.

If possible, individuals with serious underlying medical conditions should not pick up children.

In regards to in-person school aged instruction, increased coordination will occur with the local school district regarding transportation and revised hours of operation. We will follow the Bethel Park School district guidelines regarding in-person learning. Schedules may change based on school closures, quarantine requirements, and state guidelines.

Hygiene Practices:

All individuals will follow CDC guidelines and DHS requirements regarding handwashing 100% of the time. Handwashing will occur: immediately upon entering the building, before/during/after preparing food, before eating food, before/after treating a cut/wound, after using the toilet or changing diaper/having diaper changed, after blowing nose/coughing/sneezing, after touching an animal, after handling pet food, after touching garbage, and changing rooms (i.e. one room to another or from coming in from outside).

The following procedure via CDC will be followed when washing hands:

- 1) Wet hands with clean, running water (warm or cold) and apply soap.
- 2) Lather hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of hands, between fingers and under nails.
- 3) Scrub hands for at least 20 seconds. This is equivalent to singing the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
- 4) Rinse hands well under clean, running water.
5. Dry hands using a disposable paper towel. Use paper towel to turn off tap.

Signs promoting everyday hygiene and protective measures to prevent the spread of germs are placed in strategic locations for all staff and children to see at each of our locations per DHS guidelines.

Face Mask/Face Shield Policy:

OCDEL no longer mandates the use of face masks, indoors or outdoors, at childcare facilities. It is up to the parent's and staff member's discretion if an individual will wear a face mask. If you would like your child to continue to wear one while in our care, please discuss with your child's center director.



Food:

At the early learning centers, lunches will be served pre-plated to children under 2. Family-style will be utilized for children over 2. Parents who wish to send in food for their child may do so. School aged children who eat lunch while in Lois Johnson’s care will pack lunches and all needed utensils—Styrofoam is not permitted. Opened food will be discarded at the end of the day.

Parents who wish to provide specific drinking cups for their child should be taken home daily to be properly washed and sanitized. Drinking fountains will be discontinued for the time being; cups of water will be provided throughout the day and at children’s requests. If a facility has a fountain with a water bottle dispenser, staff/children may use.

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols:

During nap time, all children will maintain a minimum distance of at least 2 feet. Children will nap “head to toe” rather than “head to head” to help increase distance.

Outdoor play and activities will be encouraged when weather permits.

Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting Procedures:

There will be a designated staff member to clean each day. The staff has been trained on cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilation protocols per CDC guidelines and the MSDS log by the director(s) on site. This person is responsible for cleaning and sanitizing/disinfecting all occupied areas. Every soiled toy must be cleaned and sanitized/disinfected before another child may touch it. All items touched will be washed/cleaned, sanitized and/or disinfected daily. Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized/disinfected will not be used.

The centers will be cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected by a professional service weekly.

Lois Johnson will provide all bedding for napping children and will launder daily. All nap mats will be disinfected after each use.

Illness Procedures:

If a child becomes ill/develops a fever while in our care:

- Well Care Policy will be strictly enforced and parent notified. Please see the Well Care Policy attached.
- A parent or designated person must pick up their child within 60 minutes.
- The child will be separated from their group until parent arrives. A staff member will stay with the child until picked up.
- Cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting procedures will take place immediately.
- Your child may return to care with a letter from their physician stating they are not contagious and able to return to childcare or when all symptoms have resolved.

All staff must also follow the Well Care Policy. Staff members are to notify their immediate supervisor as soon as symptoms present. Staff will immediately be sent home if illness develops while at work.

Siblings of an ill child or household member may not return to care until the ill child is cleared to return.



COVID-19 Procedures:

Neither staff nor children are allowed to enter if they have tested positive for COVID-19.
Please check with your center director regarding all updated COVID-19 CDC guidelines due to rapidly changing information.

We follow OCDEL, Allegheny Dept. of Health, PA Dept. of Health, and the CDC's information regarding exposure, positive results, quarantine, and return to care guidelines.



WELL CARE POLICY

Effective 4/4/2024

This Well Care Policy should be reviewed each morning, prior to arrival. Entry will be denied if your child presents the following:

- Your child has had a/an:
 - Oral temperature of 100.4 degrees in the last 24 hours.
 - Ear, rectal or temporal temperature of 101.4 degrees in the last 24 hours.
 - The child must remain fever free without medication for 24 hours prior to return to care.
- A COVID-LIKE ILLNESS IS DEFINED AS:
 - At least **ONE** of these symptoms: new or persistent cough, shortness of breath, new loss of sense of smell, new loss of sense of taste
 - At least **TWO** of these symptoms: fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, congestion, runny nose (unless doctor's note is provided)
- Vomiting:
 - Within the last 24 hours prior to arrival
- Uncontrollable diarrhea:
 - Within the last 24 hours prior to arrival
 - You will be called if your child has an episode while in care that is unable to be contained or 3 contained episodes
- Untreated pink eye.
- Undiagnosed rash.
- Unable to participate in group activities.
- Communicable disease.

Should your child become ill at Lois Johnson, we will call you to pick him/her up within 60 minutes of the phone call. Your child will be separated from the other children in care. If you cannot come within the hour, you are expected to have another person pick up your child by that time. If we do not hear from you or your child isn't picked up within that time, we will call the person indicated on your emergency contact form to come pick up your child. Siblings must remain out of childcare as well until ill child is cleared to return.

Your child may return to care with a letter from their physician stating they are not contagious and able to return to child care. Please refer to CDC guidelines for return to care options for COVID-19.

If you have a question regarding your child's health and if he/she should come to care, please call the center prior to arrival at Lois Johnson.