



### **Nursery School COVID-19 Protocol**

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented many challenges for everyone in our community. It is imperative that we work together as a team during this time to ensure the health of our students, staff, and families. Bright Start Nursery School has been following guidance from our local and state health departments as well as Monroe County. As we partner with you to provide a safe learning environment for your child and a safe work environment for our staff, please be aware of the following expectations:

- Cloth face coverings are an important tool in slowing the spread of COVID. Please begin giving your child opportunities to wear a mask at home so that they are able to get used to it. We will be requiring all students and adults to wear masks at drop off and pick-up times, and we will practice wearing our masks throughout our school day. While it will not be required for your child to wear a mask the whole time he or she is at school, our staff will be wearing masks and/or face shields. We will be making every attempt to allow for proper social distancing (6 feet in all directions) whenever possible and will encourage masking when this distance is not able to be maintained.
- Even though our students are young, they are still able to understand the importance of proper hand hygiene and cough etiquette (coughing into elbow) with guidance and practice. Please continue to practice this with your child at home. We will be incorporating this into our time together as well!
- All students will have their temperatures checked and screening questions completed in your vehicle before coming into school. If your child does show any symptoms of COVID before school, **please do not send them to school. Please do not give ibuprofen or Tylenol and send them to school.** This is to protect all of us. Thank you for in advance for your cooperation.
- If a member of your household is demonstrating COVID symptoms or has had a known exposure to COVID-19, please do not bring your child to school. Notify your teacher for further direction based on current state and county regulations. It is the understanding of BSPS Nursery School that if your child is in attendance, everyone in your household is COVID symptom and exposure free.
- If your child has a chronic underlying condition whose symptoms might mimic COVID, **written documentation** of that condition from a medical provider must be submitted to Bright Start prior to the first day of school. Examples might be a cough due to asthma or nasal congestion due to seasonal allergies. If there is no documentation, your child will be sent home with instructions to see their doctor when potential COVID symptoms are observed at school.
- In the event that a child develops or is observed to have potential COVID symptoms at school, they will be immediately isolated from the classroom and parent/guardian will be notified to pick up the student as soon as possible.

- If your child is sent home from school with symptoms of COVID, they will need to be seen by their pediatrician who will determine if COVID testing is warranted. Written documentation of the visit, the diagnosis, any COVID testing results or underlying chronic medical condition and clearance to return to nursery school must be received prior to their return. A child should not return to school until results of COVID testing are known.
- If your child is sent home from school with symptoms of COVID and they are **NOT** seen by their medical provider, they will need to **remain out of school for 10 days since the symptoms began as well as 3 days of symptoms improving and being fever free (temperature below 99.5 degrees)**.
- Bright Start will continue to follow all updated guidance from the health department regarding dismissal and return to school for COVID symptoms.
- For any confirmed cases, Bright Start will follow guidance given by the Monroe County Health Department and NYSDOH regarding a plan of action. This plan may include isolation, quarantine, and contact tracing procedures as well as communication with our school community.
- Please note that our policies are subject to change based on developing state and county regulations.

### **COVID-19 Symptoms**

- Fever, chills, rigors
- Cough\*
- Shortness of breath\*
- Nasal congestion or rhinorrhea\*
- Sore throat
- Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea\*
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue\*
- Headache\*
- Muscle or body aches\*
- Poor feeding or low appetite\*

*\*Disregard this symptom if school personnel have **written documentation** of a non-COVID chronic pre-existing condition that causes that symptom **AND** if the nature of that symptom (duration, intensity, etc.) is consistent with what school personnel are familiar.*

### **Cleaning & Sanitization**

All high-touch surfaces in our nursery school are disinfected at regular intervals throughout the school day. A terminal cleaning of the classroom will take place daily prior to each section's arrival. In addition to frequent disinfection and sanitization, a commercial grade portable air purifier, approved by the EPA, has been placed in our classroom space to reduce airborne bacteria and viruses. Frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing will occur throughout your child's school day.

