

Kinder-Haus Nursery Daycare

Updated policies and procedures in response to COVID-19

Kinder-Haus will implement the following policies and procedures beginning June 15:

Drop-off & pick-up

- Parents/guardians and children 3 years of age and older must be wearing a face covering in order to come inside the building.
- Children may be brought inside the building by parents/guardians. Once inside the doors, an administrative staff member will take children's temperatures using a no-touch thermometer. The staff member will also conduct a brief visual health assessment of each child to look for possible signs of illness, including but not limited to flushed cheeks, fussiness, coughing, and short or rapid breathing. Any child who has a temperature of 100.4 or higher or who exhibits any of these signs of illness will not be permitted to attend Kinder-Haus that day.
- Following the visual health assessment, a Kinder-Haus staff member will take children to their classrooms.
- To pick-up children, parents will need to come inside the building and check in with the office staff. Office staff will contact the classrooms to have the children brought to the office.
- As much as possible, the drop-off and pick-up parent each day should be the same individual, as recommended by the CDC.
- The Procure kiosk will be available for sign-in, sign-out, and credit card payments.
- Due to these new procedures, please allow a few extra minutes for drop-off and pick-up.

Social Distancing

- As much as possible, we will limit the movement of children between different classrooms. We will still have our "opening" and "closing" classrooms (Cuddle Corner, Tweenies, 3's, and B/A School); however, we will make sure children are in their own classroom as much as possible. We will also limit the amount of "shifting" of children between classrooms that occurs when a classroom is understaffed, usually due to staff emergency call-off. *We are required to maintain DHS-regulated ratios in each classroom. When staff are scheduled to be off, we do our best to find replacements; when staff have an emergency and need to call off with little to no notice, moving children to another classroom is sometimes unavoidable.
- As much as possible, we will limit activities in which groups participate together.
- Teachers will be instructed to take children outside as much as possible.
- We will limit the number of children permitted to play on the playsets at one time.
- As much as possible, we will limit the mixing of groups while outside. Besides the playsets, we have a large grassy area where children will be allowed to play; we also have the grassy area behind the house (on the left when you turn into the parking lot ~ the church owns this house) where children will be able to play.

- During naptime, we will put as much space as possible between nap mats and/or use extra mats as barriers between napping children. We will place children head to foot from mat to mat to further distance napping children.
- Regarding wearing masks, the CDC recommends that,
 - *“When feasible, staff members and older children should wear face coverings within the facility.”*
- Staff and children ages 3 and older will be asked to wear face coverings in the building. Children will not wear face coverings during naptime and outdoor playtime.
- If your child cannot wear a face covering, please bring in a doctor’s excuse.
- If you prefer that your child not wear a face covering, please keep your child at home or make alternate childcare arrangements.
- A child who becomes ill or begins to exhibit symptoms of illness will need to go home immediately. He/she will be isolated until a parent or guardian arrives at the center. We must be able to get a hold of you quickly. If you will not be reachable during the day, you must provide the Kinder-Haus office staff contact information for another individual who we may contact if necessary. It may be a good idea to have a “back up” plan for care in case your child needs to go home.

Cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing

- As much as possible, toys will be sent to the kitchen to be sanitized after use. Infant and toddler teachers will, per DHS regulations, immediately put mouthed toys out of reach until they have been sanitized.
- Children will not be permitted to play with toys that cannot be (1) sanitized, or (2) washed in the washing machine.
- There will be increased cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing throughout the building, paying close attention to surfaces that are touched often (door knobs, counters, toy shelves, etc.)
- Children’s nap mats will be disinfected at the end of each day. In order to keep the transmission of germs to a minimum, we need to discourage items brought back and forth between home and Kinder-Haus; therefore, Kinder-Haus staff will launder mat covers and sheets/blankets at least weekly. ****ALL SHEETS, BLANKETS, STUFFED ANIMALS, ETC. MUST BE LABELED WITH YOUR CHILD’S NAME OR THEY MAY NOT BE BROUGHT INTO THE CENTER.**

Handwashing

- Children and staff will wash hands as recommended by the CDC. All children in Tweenies through 6th Grade will have handwashing modeled to them by the teacher.
- All children will be closely supervised each time they are washing hands.

Infant & toddler care, including diapering

- Staff will use diapering procedures as outlined and recommended by the CDC.

What parents can do at home to prepare for June 15

- *Every child must have at least one (two are preferred) complete change of clothing at Kinder-Haus when he/she is in attendance. If your child needs a change of clothing*

and none is available, a parent/guardian will be contacted and asked to come immediately to pick up the child.

- *Please discuss these policies and procedures with your child(ren), using language that can be easily understood.*
- *Children ages 3 and older should “practice” wearing a mask at home. Parents/guardians, please make sure your child is used to seeing adults wearing masks.*
- *If you haven’t already, please begin modeling proper handwashing techniques for your child(ren).*

Final thoughts/disclaimer

- In order to provide the best possible care for children, parents/guardians will need to partner with Kinder-Haus staff as we strive to prevent the transmission of illness. Kinder-Haus cannot shoulder this responsibility alone. Please do your part and prepare your child(ren) for the changes in policies and procedures that will begin on June 15.
- Questions, comments, and/or concerns regarding any of these policies and procedures may be directed to Kinder-Haus office staff.
- We will do our best to follow CDC guidelines; however, we will not be able to completely avoid contact with your children or prevent them from having contact with other children.
- No matter how much we prepare for re-opening on June 15, there is bound to be some confusion and chaos as we all re-acclimate ourselves to the childcare experience. For the sake of the children, parents are asked to address Kinder-Haus staff respectfully, regardless of the issue. Yelling and/or other disrespectful comments or gestures will not be tolerated and may result in immediate dismissal from the center.