

Little Scholar Preschool

As of June 1, 2022

*COVID-19
Handbook*

School Year 2022-23

Subject to change



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Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare

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Goals

Our goal is to reduce the risk of transmission of the COVID-19 virus in order to provide a safe environment for both the children and the adults who care for them.

Scope

The guidance provided in this document applies to all Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare community members. The cooperation of staff, parents, caregivers, and children is fundamental in keeping everyone as safe as possible.

Timeline

Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare will continue stricter practices until local health and regulatory agencies advise that they are no longer necessary.

Need for Vigilance

Please be aware that COVID-19 is a highly contagious, airborne disease. According to the CDC guidance, our best defense against the virus is mask-wearing, social distancing, frequent handwashing, being careful about avoiding crowds, vaccination, and testing. We all need to work together closely and follow these guidelines in order to protect our Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare community.

We need to work together as a community of parents and staff members, to be vigilant in detecting subtle signs of illness, which may indicate an infection, in order to prevent the spread of the virus. Parents and staff are encouraged to monitor for signs of illness and are required to remain home from Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare if those signs are present. We highly recommend COVID-19 testing if those signs of illness warrant.

Please be sure to report positive COVID-19 cases to us at 2preschool@comcast.net so that we can assist the San Mateo County Department of Health with their contact tracing efforts.

Masks

Any individual who is over age 2, and able to medically tolerate a face-covering, shall be required to cover their nose and mouth with a mask while at Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare.

We require that all children over 2 years of age wear face masks while they attend Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare. The exception will be during meals/snacks, and nap time. The staff at Little Scholar is committed to be clear with the children regarding the expectations that everyone wears masks in order to keep everyone safe. If a child needs a mask break, they may remove their mask in a designated area outside and at least 6 feet away from others. They may rejoin the group when they are ready. Please practice wearing a mask at home before starting preschool. Most children have adapted quite well to mask wearing as a normal thing to do when with others outside their immediate family.

All teachers/staff members are required to wear a mask at all times.

Parents and caregivers must wear masks when dropping off and picking up children.

Gloves

The teachers are required to wear gloves for food service, diapering, toileting, changing soiled clothing, and any time it is necessary to handle bodily fluids. Staff members have undergone training in the proper way to wear and change gloves.

Confidentiality

Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare is committed to maintain confidentiality regarding COVID-19 information. We will be sharing contact information with the San Mateo County Department of Health.

Vaccine for COVID-19

All the staff members and household member(s) are vaccinated against COVID-19. As soon as the vaccine is made available to children, it is required that they will be vaccinated against COVID-19 within 30 days for preschool attendance. The children will stay home for observation for one day after the vaccination.

Stay Home When Sick and Get Tested

If a child has symptoms of COVID-19, the child is required to stay home and be referred to healthcare provider for testing and care. (We follow the guidance and the recommendations of the San Mateo County Department of Health, California Department of Public Health, Child Care Licensing, and the CDC.)

- (a) If the child tests positive for COVID-19, he/she will need to stay home for at least 10 days since symptom onset. The child needs to be symptom free to return to preschool.

<p>Common Symptoms of COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headache • Fever or chills • Cough • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • Fatigue (tiredness) • Muscle or body aches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New loss of taste or smell • Sore throat • Congestion or runny nose • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea
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- (b) If the child tests negative, we will follow our regular policies for illness.

If a child test positive without symptoms of COVID-19, he/she will need to stay home for at least 10 days from the test date.

In Case of a COVID-19 Exposure

If a child is exposed to COVID-19 at home by a family/household member(s) who has contracted COVID-19, the child needs to stay home.

- (a) If the child develops symptoms, please follow the above protocol.
- (b) Even if the child does not develop symptoms, the child should stay home at least for 10 days since the time child was last exposed to infectious family/household member.

Travel Restrictions

Please use good judgement and follow travel guidelines issued by government agencies. The COVID-19 situation is fluid and rapidly changing. Your child may be required to quarantine and/or provide a negative COVID-19 test result before return to Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare after traveling.

Cleaning & Sanitation

Frequently touch surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected regularly, including doorknobs, handrails, mouthed toys, tables, and restrooms.

Restricting Access

Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare staff, students, and premise's household member(s) will be allowed into the building. Parents, caregivers, and siblings of students will be greeted at the front door.

Exceptions will be made for Licensing personnel, police, fire or emergency medical personnel, and outside contractors needed to perform necessary inspections or to make emergency repairs.

Health Screening

Prior to leaving your home you will take your child's temperature. If it is 100 degrees or higher, please **do not** come to Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare. If you will be answering **any** of the screening questions "YES", please **do not** come to Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare. Please send a detailed e-mail to Maggie or Mitch at 2preschool@comcast.net.

All people entering Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare will be screened. This includes children, staff, and family member(s).

In the morning, until 8:45 am a staff member will be performing temperature and health checks outside the front door. When you arrive with your child, please line up, 6 feet apart from other families, and wait for your turn. There will be no entry after this designated staggered drop-off time slot due to staff scheduling.

We will be using the Brightwheel app to have parents sign in and record answers to a series of questions. If the answer to any of these questions is "YES", the child will not be allowed in the building. We suggest that you review the questions each day before leaving home to bring your child to Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare to avoid being sent back home.

When it is your child’s turn, the staff member will perform a visual assessment of the child for signs of illness. If the child’s temperature is 100 degrees or above, if an answer to any of the screening questions is “YES”, or if signs of illness are noted during the visual assessment, the child will not be admitted for care.

Please note that these COVID-19-related questions apply to all members of your household. For example, if a household member (e.g., parents, sibling, grandparent, au pair, nanny) has symptoms, the child will stay home.

We acknowledge that in some cases, a child may have allergies or an underlying condition that may result in a seasonal cough or runny nose and is not contagious. If that is the case, please get a note from child’s doctor stating the condition and its anticipated duration. Along with a doctor’s note, we will need Physician’s Report (LIC 701) updated. With the documentation of an allergy or underlying condition, we will be able to allow the child to attend preschool. If we notice a worsening condition (such as more frequent coughing), we need to exclude the child from our care for re-evaluation.

Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare reserves the right to exclude/include children as it deems necessary for the safety of all involved.

We hope that this helps to allay any concerns you may have, and also strengthens your faith that the Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare owner, teachers, and staff have the best interest of the Little Scholar Preschool & Daycare community at heart.

By my signature, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above:

Parent Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____