



Warren W. Cherry Preschool 2022-23 COVID-19 Protocols

The following protocols have been adopted by all of the part day preschool programs in Evanston, including Cherry Preschool. During the pandemic, DCFS, the CDC and the Evanston Health Department have amended their guidance many times. Therefore, the following protocols are subject to change.

- By signing off that you have read our COVID policies you are agreeing that you will only send your child to school if they have not tested positive for COVID, are free of COVID symptoms, and have not been exposed to anyone that has tested positive for COVID. Daily health surveys will no longer be required.
- If your child has a fever or diarrhea, DCFS policy requires that your child be fever free and diarrhea free, without medication, for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Cherry Preschool will be mask optional for the 2022-23 school year provided the COVID community level remains low to medium. **We will follow the DCFS recommended protocol and require mask wearing from our staff and students when Evanston's community COVID level reaches a level of high.**
- The Cherry Preschool administration will no longer be changing or washing masks. If you choose to have your child wear a face mask at school, you will be responsible for sending your child to school daily in a clean cloth mask or unused paper mask. Likewise, if Evanston's community COVID level moves to a level of high, all parents will be responsible for sending their children to school in clean cloth or unused paper masks.
- If your child has received their COVID vaccinations, please email a copy of your child's vaccination card to lynn@cherrypreschool.org once they are fully vaccinated.
- Now that vaccinations are available to preschool aged children, we will no longer be closing classrooms when there is a COVID exposure in a classroom unless there is a classroom outbreak (3 or more children testing positive resulting from a COVID school exposure).
- We will no longer be issuing refunds for classroom COVID closures.
- If a child is exposed to someone that has tested positive for COVID (whether in their household, outside of school or at school), **fully vaccinated children** will no longer be required to quarantine. **Unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated children** will need to quarantine for 5 days, with day 1 beginning the day after exposure. If an unvaccinated child had COVID within 90 days of the exposure, they would not need to quarantine.

- Exposed **vaccinated children or children that had COVID within 90 days of the COVID exposure** will be required to take a COVID test at day 5 after the exposure. A home test will be permitted. **Exposed, unvaccinated children** are required by our governing bodies to either wear a face mask on days 6-10 when returning to school after quarantine or extend their quarantine for days 6-10 if they cannot reliably wear a face mask.
- Regardless of vaccination status, If your child tests positive for COVID they will need to isolate for 5 days, with day 1 beginning the day after they test positive. Children will need to wear a face mask when returning to school for days 6-10. They will need to extend their isolation for days 6-10 if they cannot reliably wear a face mask.
- Social distancing is no longer a required school protocol. Children will resume eating snack and lunch side by side unless Evanston's community COVID levels move to high, or a parent requests that their child be socially distanced from others at snack or lunch.
- Regardless of vaccination status, we recommend that children who gather with extended family and friends outside of their immediate family, or travel, be tested for COVID 5 days after the gathering or travel. A home test will be permitted.
- If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, please notify the school by the morning of the absence.
- Parents and guardians will be notified by email, printed letter, and/or our automated notification service within 24 hours of any known exposure to COVID-19 in their classroom or extended day options. The identity of the individual will remain confidential.
- Windows will be opened when practical to allow for increased fresh air and air flow while inside.
- The preschool's air filtration system was updated with new air filters that allow for better filtration of airborne particles and other contaminants. Each room of the school is equipped with hospital grade Medify air purifiers.
- Children will wash their hands as much as possible, including moving between classrooms.

The Governor and DCFS highly recommend that everyone that is age eligible get vaccinated.

Thank you for your thorough reading and adherence to these protocols. We are committed to providing a safe, healthy, and fun environment for all of the children. We look forward to working together so that your child can have a safe, educational, and fun experience at Cherry Preschool!

Sincerely,

Debbie Boileve
Executive Director
Warren W. Cherry Preschool