

Saginaw ISD Head Start/EHS COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan for Families

Child Arrival

No parents will be allowed in the building. Each child will be assigned an arrival time. If parent misses their assigned arrival time, parent will have to contact the classroom. When a parent has an appointment and needs to arrive at a later time, please call the classroom to make arrangements.

Children will be given a mask as they arrive, masks from home are not permitted.

A staff member will greet children as they arrive, wearing mask and gloves. Each child must have their blanket and change of clothes in a backpack or plastic bag. No other personal items will be allowed in the center.

Head Start/EHS staff will performed temperature checks on all children using touchless thermometer as they enter the building. If the child has a temperature of 100.4 or other symptoms, he/she will not be allowed to enter the building.

Head Start/EHS staff will ask parents the following questions:

- Ask if the child has felt unwell in the last 3 days and ask about the following symptoms persistent cough, temperature, difficulty breathing, cold, diarrhea and/or vomiting.
- Symptoms in adults include temperature, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, change in smell or taste and diarrhea.
- Ask if the individual has been in close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19. If yes, the individual and family should self-quarantine for 14 days.
- Ask if anyone in the household is waiting on results from a COVID-19 test. If yes, the family should self-quarantine for 14 days.

Children 2 and over must wear a mask at all times (except rest, meals and outdoors).

Once the children have been screened, staff will walk children to their assigned classrooms.

Head Start/EHS staff will monitor symptoms throughout the day. Symptomatic children will be sent home immediately. Symptomatic children will be moved to a designated room/area as soon as symptoms appear and they will remain in isolation with a staff member until the parent or guardian arrive.

The health department and licensing will be notified if a family member, child or staff member shows symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19.

Departure of children

Children will be an assigned departure time. If the parent misses the assigned time, they will have to call the office/classroom. A staff will then meet them at the door, have them sign COVID attendance sheet and release child to designated person. When a parent needs to pick up early, please call the classroom to make arrangements.

Arrival and departure groups will remain consistent. Bedding will be taken home at the end of each week.

If a child is absent but experiences exposure or symptoms, they must contact the teacher immediately.

Isolation Protocols:

Symptomatic children will be moved to a designated room as soon as symptoms appear and they will remain in isolation with a staff member until the parent or guardian arrive.

Parents will be called immediately to pick up their child as soon as possible.

Children may not return until they are symptom free for 72 hours.

Handling Cases of COVID-19

As fever is the key indicator of COVID-19 in children, we will check each child's temperature upon daily arrival to the program. Staff will re-check children's temperatures throughout the day if they appear ill or "not themselves" (e.g., flushed cheeks, rapid or difficulty breathing without recent physical activity, fatigue, or extreme fussiness).

If a child has a temperature above 100.4 degrees and/or symptoms such as persistent cough, difficulty breathing, chills, diarrhea, or vomiting, they will be sent home immediately with the recommendation to contact their primary care physician/medical provider. If anyone shows emergency warning signs (e.g., trouble breathing, persistent pain/pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, or bluish lips or face), we will seek medical care immediately.

If a child develops symptoms during classroom hours:

- Parents will be contact immediately for prompt pick-up.
- The child will be isolated from other children and as many staff as possible without leaving the child alone.
- The child will wait with a designated staff member.
- The child and designated staff will wait in an isolated located determined by Education Coordinator.

Children must stay home and self-isolate if they show symptoms of COVID-19. Most children can return to classroom based on improved symptoms and the passage of time. Children with underlying health conditions (e.g., compromised immune systems, chronic respiratory conditions) or who are at higher risk should consult with their primary care physician/medical provider before returning to work/care. Local health department recommends that these individuals receive two negative tests in a row, 24 hours apart.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms of COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Look for emergency warning signs for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

If a child exhibits multiple symptoms of COVID-19, possible exposure is expected or tests positive for COVID-19, the individual must stay home until:

- They have been fever-free for at least 72 hours without the use of medicine that reduce fevers AND
- Other symptoms have improved AND
- At least 10 school days have passed since their symptoms first appeared.

Social Distancing practices:

Social distancing involves maintaining distance between people and is an effective way to help reduce the risk of exposure to the coronavirus. The following steps will be taken to promote social distancing:

- Classroom groups will not combine or share materials.
- Licensing guidelines for group ratios will be followed.

- Staff will be limited to one group of children when possible.
- Children will be seated at least 6 feet apart when possible.
- Non-essential visitors will not be allowed in the building.
- Nap time cots will be spaced 6 feet apart and will be placed in a head to toe configuration.
- Children will have their own container of materials.
- Only half of the enrolled students will attend each day.
- Children will be seated 6 feet apart when possible.
- Children will be taken to use the restroom individually or in small groups instead of all going at once.

Daily Cleaning and Hygiene Practices

Frequently touched surfaces will be disinfected hourly

Head Start/EHS spaces will be deep cleaned at the end of the each day.

All toys will be disinfected (disinfecting will be determined at a later time) daily. Any toys that are placed in child's mouth will be set aside in a designated area and will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of the day.

Children may bring a change of clothes and one blanket or pillow for naptime and it will be sent home weekly to be disinfected.

CDC handwashing guidelines will be practiced by all staff and children.

Head Start/EHS staff will wear masks at all times. Children two and over will wear mask in all common areas such as bathrooms and hallways

Head Start/EHS staff will wear gloves when handling contaminants, changing diapers, cleaning or when serving food. Staff will wash their hands before and after wearing gloves.

Hand Washing

We will reinforce regular health and safety practices with children and staff and continue to comply with licensing regulations and CDC hand washing guidelines as follows:

- Staff and children will wash hands immediately upon arriving at the center.
- Staff and children will wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not readily available, staff and children should cover all surfaces of their hands with hand sanitizer, rubbing them together until they feel dry.
- Staff must assist children with hand washing (especially infants who cannot wash hands alone) and use of hand sanitizer to ensure proper use and prevent ingestion
- Staff and children (with frequent reminders and support) will cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sleeve and wash hands immediately after.

- Washing hands is especially important after blowing one's nose, going to the bathroom, before eating or preparing food (or helping children do any of these

Family Communication Protocols:

- Share with families the Saginaw ISD Head Start/EHS COVID-19 Preparedness Plan.
- Give families the opportunity to ask any questions they may have with the re-opening.
- Contact the Teacher or Education Coordinator if there are any questions.
- Before re-opening Head Start/EHS spaces will be deep cleaned and disinfected.
- Smaller quantity of toys available to limit the spread of germs.
- Toys will be disinfected daily.
- Drop off and pick up will take place at the entrance of each building. Parents will not be allowed past the entrance area.

Parent Resources:

- Crisis parent and caregiver guide.
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/ctf/CTF_Parent_Guide_687268_7.pdf
- Talking with Children about COVID-19
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-lifecoping/talking-with-children.html>
- Helping Young Children Through COVID-19
<https://zerotothrive.org/covid-19/covid-19-kids/>
- Georgie and the Giant Germ
<https://zerotothrive.org/covid19/covid-19-kids/>

Socializations for Home Base

All Home Base Socializations will be held virtually.