
Updated Health Protocols 2022-2023

As of Sept 1, 2022, we continue to follow guidance from the Princeton Health Department in conjunction with NJ Department of Health, the Office of Licensing, and the CDC. This guidance is based on what is currently known about the transmission and severity of COVID-19 and is subject to change as additional information is known or cases rise in the Mercer County area. This is due to the vulnerable population that the Burke Foundation Early Childhood Center at the YWCA serves.

Like many other childcare centers, The Burke Foundation Early Childhood Center at YWCA Princeton's first priority is the health and safety of the children and staff. In order to reduce the spread of germs, masks are required once you enter the building or are dropping off & picking up your child and come within 3 ft. of the childcare staff. We have students & staff that are immunocompromised or are at risk for getting very sick. (As new info becomes available for the Mercer County area, current guidelines will be revised, if needed.) YWCA Princeton staff and children 2 yrs. and above will continue wearing the masks in the building (Exceptions: snack, lunch, rest and outside time).

We will continue to consult with and follow the guidance of the Princeton Health Department. We will also update our protocol if/when the NJ Department of Health revises their guidelines based on the most recent CDC changes.

Drop Off:

- Children will be greeted each morning by our childcare staff at the entrance of the building located at the circular driveway.
- Children taking the bus will be greeted by a staff member upon arrival to the school and escorted inside the building to their classrooms.

Pick Up:

- In order to reduce the wait time at pick up time, please call **609-273-6524** once you are standing at the entrance of the childcare facility.
- For the safety of all, please park in designated parking spots.

Covid-19 Vaccination

- YWCA Princeton staff are COVID-19 vaccinated.
- If your child has been vaccinated, please submit a copy of their vaccination card to Eva Morales, Family Liaison Worker at emorales@ywcaprinceton.org.
- We strongly encourage students and staff to stay up to date with vaccinations and boosters. Please check our web & Community Resources page at www.ywcaprinceton.org for updated information.

Stay Home When Sick

To prevent the spread of all illnesses, it is critical that students and staff stay home when symptomatic. As needed, contact your healthcare professionals.

Students and staff experiencing the following symptoms need to stay home until symptoms are resolved. If they test positive for COVID-19 they are required to stay home for 5 days, and on day 6 they may get tested and come back to school with a negative COVID-19 test and are showing no signs of symptoms. (home test are now applicable)

If you choose to not get tested, you may return on the 10th day as long as you are showing no symptoms.

Respiratory or gastrointestinal infections such as:

- Cough
- Fever
- Sore throat
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Parent Responsibility

- Parents/family caregivers are strongly encouraged to closely monitor their children for signs of illness every morning before they leave for school.
- **Do not** send your child to school if they have a fever or have two (2) or more symptoms from the above list. Children must be fever free for 24 hours with no medication fever reducers.
- If your child is absent, please contact your child's classroom teacher via ClassDojo or classroom email before 9:00am that day. If we do not hear from you, your child's classroom teacher will reach out to you. If your child is out for three (3) consecutive days, a medical note is required for your child to return to school.

School Responsibilities

- Parents will be notified if their child has been exposed to a contagious illness or COVID-19
- We monitor the schools indoor air quality, ventilation, and air purification

COVID Testing

Regardless of vaccination status, students and staff who experience symptoms of COVID-19 must test, and if positive, they are required to stay home for 5 days, and on day 6 they may get

tested and come back to school with a negative COVID-19 test and are showing no signs of symptoms. (Home tests are now applicable)

- Before returning to school on Day 6 a negative test result must be submitted to Nick Cheng ncheng@ywcaprinceton.org
- Unvaccinated/Vaccinated persons who comes in close contact of a person who tests positive do not need to quarantine if they remain asymptomatic and must be tested on the 6th day in order to continue coming to school.

Masking

- YWCA Princeton staff and children 2 yrs. and above will continue wearing the masks in the building **(Exceptions: snack, lunch, rest and outside time)**.
- Masks are not required when parents/authorized persons are picking up or dropping off, unless you are within 3 feet of the entrance door.

Sincerely,

Tara O'Shea
Childcare Director