



**FAMILY  
DAY**

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## **A Message to Child Care Centre Parents**

We are pleased to advise you that Family Day child care centers and home child care programs will gradually begin to reopen effective July 13, 2020. We want to share some of the changes you can expect when your child returns back into care.

### **Health & Safety Guidelines**

By the time we begin to reopen our programs, all staff will have received training. Family Day has introduced new health and safety guidelines as directed by the Ministry of Education and our local Officers of Health. Before returning to the program, all families are being made aware of these new guidelines and expectations. These new measures include individual health screening (for staff, home care providers, children and parents) and new cleaning and disinfecting measures.

### **Changes to the early learning environment include the following:**

- Less children in each room.
- Same group of children will stay together (“cohorting”) and will not mix with other groups.
- The same staff will work with one group of children.
- Storage for children’s personal belongings will be spaced (i.e., use every second cubby).
- Less children at each table for play, snacks and lunch.
- Toys or equipment that are difficult to clean and disinfect will be stored, or use will be monitored (e.g. plush toys, dress-up clothes, puppets, books, board games).
- Craft materials will be provided in individual kits/baskets for each child.
- Sensory materials like, playdough or goop, will be provided in individual containers and discarded after each child’s use.
- Where possible, outdoor playtime will be increased.
- Staff will incorporate fun learning activities that teach children about physical distancing and personal hygiene.

### **Drop off and Pick Up Process**

Children and parents will be screened for illness. This screening will be done by trained staff using questions that have been provided by public health.

At drop off, if your child is healthy, and screening is completed, a staff member will meet you at the front entrance and escort your child to their room. Parents will not be permitted to enter the center. At the end of each day, when you arrive at the center, call the center phone number. A staff member will escort your child to the front entrance where you can pick them up. Please allow for extra time for both drop off and pick up. Your Centre Supervisor will be providing you with more specific details on these procedures.

The parent handbook is being revised with more detailed information about what is being done to manage the risks associated with COVID-19. For more specific information related to your child’s program, please contact your Centre Supervisor.

We understand what a difficult time this has been for everybody. We want to assure you that the health, safety and wellbeing of children, families, staff and caregivers is an ongoing priority for us. We are committed to supporting families and we are excited about welcoming children back into our programs.

Sincerely,

Diane Daley, CEO  
June 30, 2020

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