



christ lincoln
SCHOOLS

Child Care & Preschool Operating Plan Fall 2020

Operating Assumptions

The coronavirus remains with us and Christ Lincoln Child Care & Preschool will continue to make adjustments to its operating procedures for the duration, likely until a vaccine is developed. Our daily routine looks different and children returning to Child Care, Half-Day Preschool and Before & After school care will have new routines. CLS families, children and staff will need to be flexible and nimble, understanding that the priority of protecting the health of our students may require changes in procedures, sometimes with minimal notice.

The Operating Plan laid out in this booklet is based on Directives for Child Care operating requirements and recommended guidance from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The Risk Dial model (see pg. 7) being used by DHHS will guide our decision making process. This plan will be utilized until further notice.

The information in this document will supersede policies in the Parent Handbook where there are differences.

Guiding Principles

Child Care, Half-Day Preschool and Before & After school care looks different than it did before March 12, 2020. To best protect the health and safety of our children, CLS will abide by recommendations and mandates from DHHS, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD), and other knowledgeable governmental agencies. Whatever the circumstances, we remain committed to providing a loving, Christian environment which supports the whole child.

While it is our goal to prepare a plan as best as we possibly can. All plans are subject to change based on government, CDC, and health department recommendations. Please note that situations may arise where adjustments must be made quickly. We will communicate such changes in a timely manner. It is our expectation that parents are monitoring their children for fevers and illness symptoms and do not bring an ill child to care.

Closures and Implementing Distance Learning for Half-Day Preschool

If at any point in time during the year we are unable to be physically on campus (for more than 5 consecutive days), Half-Day Preschool will transition into our distance learning platform. Our goal with Distance Learning is to maximize instructional opportunities. Distance learning will continue until we are able to re-open our classroom or facility.

If the Half-Day Preschool is required to (or elects to) enter into a distance learning platform, details of implementation will be shared by administration and classroom teachers.

Closures for Child Care

If at any point in time, a classroom, or the whole Child Care Center is unable to be physically on campus (for more than 14 consecutive days), preschool classrooms will be provided with a distance learning option. Tuition for mandated closures of classrooms or the center will be at 50% for the average 14 day quarantine. If more than 14 days, individual cases will be reviewed by administration.

Closures for Before & After School Care

If at any point in time, the elementary school (Christ Lincoln/Lincoln Public Schools) moves into Distance Learning, school out care will be offered at limited capacity with essential workers of our community prioritized. Families must meet all of the health requirements outlined in the Health Questionnaire (see Appendix A). Before and After care tuition will be suspended if Distance Learning surpasses 14 school days. Full day Tuition will be at the daily or weekly rate and pro-rated based on the before and/or after plan that is normally used.

Our School is addressing these specific items:

- Implementing physical distancing strategies
- Implementing screening procedures upon arrival
- Intensifying cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting efforts
- Increased handwashing and healthy habits

Physical Distancing Strategies

- It is preferred that one parent or guardian drop off or pick up children to limit the number of adults in and out of the facility.
- Each group of children are in a separate room as much as possible.
- Schedules are staggered to minimize the overlap of classrooms in common areas such as the gym, playground, or lunchroom.
- Weekly chapel services will be modified to allow for more physical distancing between classroom groups. Chapel will be dependent on current recommendations from DHHS for the allowed group sizes in certain spaces.
- Staff assignments will be as consistent as possible.

Drop Off Screening

All children and staff will be screened upon arrival. Children and staff who have a fever of 100.4 or above or other signs of illness will not be admitted. Parents must help be on alert for signs of illness in their children and must keep them home when they are sick. Even if the child does not have a temperature, but they appear sick (experiencing COVID symptoms) the Director/Site Director has the right to deny the child's attendance for that day or days thereafter.

- Staff conducting health screenings will follow proper hand hygiene and may use a mask and/or disposable gloves.
- Staff will take the child's temperature in the classroom using a sanitized under-arm thermometer or a non-contact, temporal thermometer. Temperatures will also be checked again after lunch.
- Children and staff will wash hands upon entering the classroom.
- Children who exhibit COVID symptoms (e.g. answers yes to any of the screening questions) or have a fever of 100.4 or more will not be allowed in care/school. Their parents will be encouraged to consult with their pediatrician or health provider. The Center will exclude based on current Health Department guidelines or physician directive. (See Appendix A)

Children or Staff who Become Sick at School

- If a child becomes ill while at Child Care/Preschool:
 - CLS will provide an isolated space for the ill child to rest while waiting for the arrival of a parent/guardian.
 - CLS will contact the parent/guardian to pick up the child as soon as possible.
- Sick children and staff will not return to school until they have met the criteria to return to school.
- Children with a fever cannot return to Child Care/Preschool until they are fever free for 72 hours or have doctor's proof of wellness. Other non-COVID related symptoms will be 24 hours with appropriate diagnosis documentation (i.e. child has ear infection and ok to return to care when fever-free for 24 hours).
- Any child or staff member with a pending COVID-19 test may not return to school until results are available. If negative, the child or staff member may return if displaying no additional symptoms of illness.
- If CLS learns that a staff member or child has tested positive for COVID-19, we will contact the local health department to discuss the appropriate management of potentially exposed staff and children, and to determine whether the classroom or Center should immediately cease in-person gatherings, close for additional cleaning, or otherwise change protocols.

Returning to Care after Absence

- If returning after an illness or out-of-state/hotspot travel, parents should call the office to complete the Health Screening (Appendix A) or provide a completed form to administration before proceeding to the classroom.
- If you answer "Yes" to any of the screening questions, you will be asked to take additional steps before returning.
- Families and staff are expected to share with administration if they have a family member with a pending COVID-19 test and what the subsequent result is.
- If a physician note was obtained, a copy must be provided to administration at the same time.

Handwashing and Healthy Habits

Staff will wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and will assist children in doing the same. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol can be used if soap and water are not readily available. Posters describing hand washing steps are near all sinks.

All children and staff will engage in hand hygiene at the following times:

- Arrival
- Before and after preparing food or drinks
- Before and after eating, handling food, or feeding children
- Before and after administering medication or medical ointment
- After using the restroom
- After coming in contact with bodily fluid
- After playing outdoors
- After handling garbage

Christ Lincoln Schools will:

- Teach and reinforce washing hands and respiratory etiquette among children and staff.
- Practice frequent handwashing and advise children and staff to avoid touching their face.
- Have adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer), and tissues.

Face Masks and Cloth Face Covers

The use of face coverings will be permitted as desired by staff members and families. Face coverings should be appropriately fit for the age and if patterned, have an appropriate design.

Individuals wearing a mask will be reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands frequently.

Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting

Cleaning is physically removing dirt, debris, and sticky film by washing, wiping, and rinsing.

Sanitizing is the reduction of bacteria to safe levels as set by public health standards. It is required for any surface that comes in contact with food. Prior to sanitizing, cleaning must be completed. Note: Sanitizing is different from Disinfecting.

Disinfecting kills nearly all germs on a hard, non-porous surface when applied correctly. Prior to disinfecting, cleaning must be completed.

- The following will be disinfected at least daily by staff:
 - Playground equipment
 - Door and cabinet handles
 - Sink handles
 - Shared objects (e.g., toys, games, art supplies) should be cleaned in between uses.
- **Cleaning and Sanitizing Materials, Toys, and Manipulatives**
 - Toys and objects that cannot be cleaned and sanitized will not be used.
 - Cloth toys will not be used.
 - Toys and objects that children have placed in their mouths or that are otherwise contaminated by bodily fluids will be set aside until they are cleaned by hand with water and detergent, rinsed, sanitized with disinfectant, rinsed again, and air-dried.
 - Staff will not share toys and manipulatives with other classrooms unless they are washed and sanitized before being moved to another classroom.
 - Children's books, like other paper-based materials such as mail or envelopes, are not considered a high risk for transmission and do not need additional cleaning or disinfecting procedures.

Drinking Fountains

Drinking fountains should not be used at this time. Preschool and School Aged children should bring a clean, filled water bottle each day that will be taken home and washed every night. Bottles will be re-filled at the

water bottle stations after having washed hands. Infant and Toddler children will be provided with cups to use for water throughout the day which will be cleaned and sanitized daily.

Sharing

- Teachers will monitor meals to ensure that children do not share food or utensils.
- Toys should not be brought from home.

Lunch Room for Preschool and School Age

- Frequently clean and sanitize all food contact surfaces and utensils.
- Workers must practice frequent hand washing and use gloves when serving food.
- Children should be seated according to DHHS guidelines for group sizes.
- Preschool use of the lunchroom will be dependent on Health Department group and space requirements. Meals are likely to be in classrooms only at this time.
- CLS will stagger meal times to provide adequate physical distancing and separation from other class groups.
- All kitchen/cafeteria/dining areas will be cleaned and disinfected after use and prior to a new group of students entering for meals.
- The salad bar will not be used until further notice.
- All food servings will be plated by food service staff or teachers for those eating in their classrooms.

Gym, Playground, School Library

- Face masks will be permitted.
- Physically distancing and limited classroom crossover will be encouraged.
- According to credible health resources, COVID-19 is not spread through sweat. However, surfaces touched by multiple people will be cleaned and disinfected.
- CLS staff members will be responsible for ensuring regular cleaning and disinfection.
- CLS will minimize sharing of equipment as much as possible and disinfect shared equipment between use.

Restrooms

- CLS will increase cleaning frequency for restrooms.
- There will be signs instructing children and staff on how to wash hands after using the restroom.

Bus Transportation:

- Before and After School Care Students being transported will have their temperature taken at drop off to care or prior to loading the bus and before their parent departs.
- If physical distancing is not possible (less than 6' for more than 10 minutes) students will be required to wear a mask.
- Siblings will be encouraged to sit together to limit crossover.

Parent Name: _____

Child(ren) Name(s): _____

Date: _____

This guidance is intended for screening parents with children returning to care after experiencing cold or flu-like symptoms either by the child or someone within the family (not necessarily COVID-19 specific). Ask parents reporting to care the following questions:

Does the child have any of the following?

- Yes No Fever
- Yes No Shortness of breath or Difficulty breathing
- Yes No Cough
- Yes No Fatigue
- Yes No Chills
- Yes No Muscle or body aches
- Yes No Headache
- Yes No Sore throat
- Yes No New loss of taste or smell
- Yes No Diarrhea, Nausea or Vomiting
- Yes No Congestion or Runny Nose

Has anyone in the household experienced any of the previous symptoms in the last 24 hours?

- Yes (if yes, please identify) _____
- No

Has anyone in the household been tested for COVID-19 in the last two weeks?

- Yes (if yes, what was the result?) _____
- No

In the week before feeling sick, did you:

- Have contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19?
- Live in or visit a place where COVID-19 is spreading?

- **If your child or anyone in the family has experienced any of the related symptoms listed above, your child will not be permitted care until they are symptom free for no less than 24 hours, unless your child has a fever. For a fever, the rule is fever free for no less than 72 hours unless fever is associated with another diagnosis other than COVID-19. A doctor's note will be required to return.**
- **If any of the boxes are checked "Yes", care for the child will not be permitted until symptoms have subsided for no less than 24 hours or until the COVID test results are determined negative.**

Moderate Risk of COVID-19 Spread



This COVID-19 Risk Dial provides a summary of current conditions in the Lincoln-Lancaster County community. Each color incorporates federal and national guidance published by top public health experts and is coupled with specific guidance.

This is only guidance and does not replace federal, state, or local directed health measures. At-risk and vulnerable populations should take stringent precautions.

Sample Graphic of Risk Dial

For the most current version of the Risk Dial, visit <https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/covid19/>

Low Risk of Spread

(must be in green area of Risk Dial for 14 consecutive school days prior to implementing below)

- Child Care, Half-Day Preschool and Before & After programs will be in person and operating as normal per operating plan.
- All children can attend, unless illness symptoms exclude them.
- Masks are permitted, but not required.
- Guests/Volunteers will be allowed in the building and asked to participate in a health screening.

Moderate Risk of Spread

- Child Care, Half-Day Preschool and Before & After programs will be in person and operating as normal per operating plan.
- Accommodations will be provided on an as needed basis for any Half-Day Preschool student needing distant learning due to health concerns as determined by a healthcare provider.
- Masks are permitted, but not required.
- Guests/Volunteers will be allowed in the building and asked to participate in a health screening.

High Risk of Spread

- Child Care, Half-Day Preschool and Before & After care programs will be in person and operating as normal per operating plan.
- Accommodations will be provided on an as-needed basis for any Half-Day preschool student needing distant learning due to health concerns as determined by a healthcare provider.
- Mask/ face covering use will be evaluated by administration and likely encouraged for all.
- No Guests/Volunteers will be allowed in the building.

Severe Risk of Spread

- Half-Day Preschool may move to a distance learning platform based on government direction or administration decision.
- Child Care will remain open following safety protocols from LLCHD/DHHS unless mandated to close.
- Should Elementary move to Distance Learning, Before and After school care will not be provided. School Age daily care will be limited with Essential Worker families prioritized.
- Mask/face covering use will be recommended for all.
- No Guests/Volunteers will be allowed in the building.