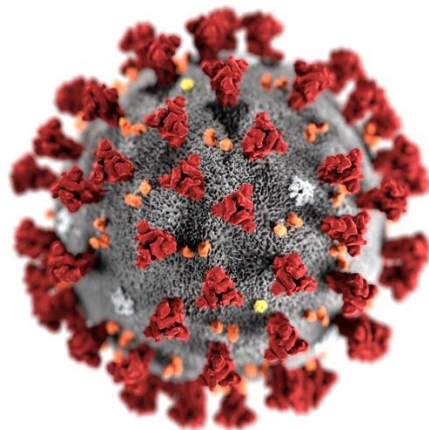


St. Gregory the Great
Early Childhood Enrichment Program

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

MEDICAL PROTOCOLS AND EXCLUSION POLICIES



We at Saint Gregory the Great Early Childhood Enrichment Program truly appreciate that you have entrusted your children to our care. Their health and safety are our primary concern.

In this time of COVID-19 it is important for you to know that we have carefully planned for their arrival. All our protocols have been based on directives from the Center for Disease Control, the New York State Department of Health, and the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. These are unusual and life altering times. We receive new information daily. Our protocols will change depending on information we receive from the above agencies.

SYMPTOMS OF COVID 19 – Daily Screening Protocols

- **Fever/Chills with shaking**
- **Shortness of breath**
- **Headache**
- **Nausea/Vomiting**
- **Sore throat or cough**
- **Nasal Congestion or runny nose**
- **Fatigue**
- **Body aches**
- **Poor appetite**
- **Loss of smell and taste**
- **Abdominal pain**
- **We are now seeing MULTI SYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME which is a severe illness effecting children and teens and appears to be connected to COVID-19. Children may have any of the above symptoms but with a RASH.**

PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS

- Hand washing with soap and water for 30 seconds. If not available, hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol can be used. Keep away from young children to prevent ingestion.
- Social distancing (6 feet)
- Stay away from anyone who is ill.
- Cover sneezes and coughs
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) face masks, gloves, etc. Masks protect others from illness, not the one wearing the mask. Remember, you may be contagious and have no symptoms.
- Cleaning and disinfecting hard surfaces.
- Sick children and staff MUST remain home
- Non-essential adults may not enter the building.
- All staff and children will have their temperatures taken and a visual health check before they enter the building.
- Staff will wear cotton face masks. Masks are optional for children.

TYPES OF TESTING

- Viral Test- Tells you if you are currently infected with COVID-19. You may test negative today and positive next week. Someone may test positive and be absolutely symptom free. This is a nasal swab test. We will only accept molecular testing. (PCR)
- Antibody Test- Tells you if you have ever had the illness. 1-3 weeks after you have had COVID-19 your body makes antibodies against the illness. This is a blood test.
- Home Test

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT EXCLUSION CRITERIA

**WE WILL NOT ACCEPT “MILDLY ILL CHILDREN” INTO THE PROGRAM.
ONLY “WELL” CHILDREN MAY ENTER THE PROGRAM.**

OUR PLAN OF ACTION ENTERING THE BUILDING

- You will first notice signs on each of our outside doors listing conditions under which staff and visitors **MAY NOT** enter the building. These signs are provided by the Center for Disease Control.
- Upon entering the building, all staff must have their temperature taken, put on a face mask, and cover clothing with a smock or large shirt. Face masks are optional for children.
- All non-essential visitors **MAY NOT** enter the building.
- We will have staggering Arrivals and Departures.
- Parents will sign in and drop off their children to staff outside of entrances to the building. You will be notified of your entrance.
- Each child will have his/her temperature taken, along with a visual daily health check, before entering the building. Children are very adaptable, and this will become part of their daily routine.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

- Children and staff will wash their hands with soap and water upon entry to classroom and all other appropriate times (after bathroom breaks, after each project, before snack and lunch). Staff will wear gloves at appropriate times and wash their hands when they remove them.
- Children **MAY NOT** bring hand sanitizers from home.

- Parents **MUST** supply two complete changes of a child's clothing in a labeled zip bag. If soiled, the clothing will be placed in a zip bag to be returned. Children who are not potty trained must wear pull-ups **NOT** diapers
- Staff will wear gloves when changing a child and wash hands after removal.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Classroom groups will be stable and static.
- Children cannot be in groups of more than 15.
- We will limit the mixing of these groups (bathroom, playground, and gymnasium).
- The same adults will be with the same children every day.
- During naptime for full day children, rest mats will be placed as far apart as possible (6 ft). They will be placed from head to toe to limit the spread of illness.
- If possible, we ask that the same person bring and pick-up your child each day

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING

1. We will intensify our cleaning and disinfecting of all surfaces (doorknobs, light switches, bathrooms, etc.
2. All student surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected each day before their arrival, after each project, before snacks and lunch.
3. Toys that were put in the mouth will be set aside and later cleaned with soap and water before being disinfected. Soft toys that cannot be cleaned and disinfected are not allowed. No toys are to be brought from home.

4. No toys will be shared between groups.
5. All cleaning and disinfecting agents will be EPA approved and kept out of reach of children.
6. Children's books, like other paper-based products, are not considered high-risk for transmission and do not need additional cleaning and disinfecting procedures.

IF SOMEONE IS SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED TO HAVE COVID-19, THE CDC GUIDELINES ARE:

1. Close off all areas used by the person suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19. Open all doors and windows to increase air circulation for 24 hours, to the extent practicable, while maintaining health and safety standards.
2. Wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting
3. Clean and disinfect all areas used by the suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, such as bathrooms, common areas.
4. Once the area has been appropriately cleaned and disinfected, it can be reopened for use.

WHEN CHILDREN BECOME ILL AT HOME

- If your child has had a wakeful night, has a sore throat/runny nose, flushed cheeks, fever within last 24 hours, vomiting or diarrhea within last 24 hours, earache, rash, abdominal pain etc., please DO NOT send them to school. WE WILL ACCEPT ONLY HEALTHY CHILDREN.
- Please notify us if your child will be absent and the reason why. We do send communicable illness notices home.

WHEN CHILDREN BECOME ILL AT SCHOOL

- We will notify you immediately if your child becomes ill at school. He/she will be isolated from other children and adults. **NOW IS THE TIME FOR YOU TO CHECK ALL OF YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACTS.** If you cannot be reached, and your child is ill, we need to be able to contact someone who is able to pick up your child. We expect a prompt pick up. (**WITHIN 30 MINUTES**)
- We have an isolation area with a cot for sick children. Your child will wait there with an adult to be picked up.

10/1/2020 ADDENDUM TO PROTOCOLS

FROM THE N.Y.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT/STAFF TO RETURN TO SCHOOL

If your child has been sent home with any COVID-19 symptoms, or you have called your child out ill, he/she may return to school when:

1. Your child's health care provider has evaluated your child for COVID-19.
2. If the health care provider does not feel that COVID-19 testing is necessary, then he/she must **provide a written "ALTERNATE DIAGNOSIS"**. The doctor's note must contain a diagnosis of a known chronic condition with unchanged symptoms **OR** a confirmed acute illness (examples- laboratory confirmed influenza, strep throat) **AND "COVID-19 IS NOT SUSPECTED.** This note explaining the **"ALTERNATE DIAGNOSIS"** will allow your child

to return to school. Note- A signed doctor's note stating "viral upper respiratory infection (URI) or gastroenteritis" will **NOT** suffice.

If your child was tested for COVID-19, and the results were NEGATIVE, he/she may return to school when:

1. You provide a note from your child's healthcare provider stating that the COVID-19 test was negative **OR** provide a copy of the negative test. **AND**
2. Your child's symptoms are improving **AND**
3. Your child is fever free for 72 hours without fever reducing medication.

If your child was tested for covid-19, and the results were POSITIVE, he/she may return to school when:

1. He/she has remained home **IN ISOLATION** until **released by the local Department of Health**, which is typically 5 days from the onset of symptoms. **All members of the family must quarantine at home for 5 days.**
2. Symptoms are improving.
3. Child is fever free for 72 hours without fever reducing medication.
4. A repeat COVID-19 test is **NOT** required to return to school.

IF your child has COVID-19 symptoms and is not seen by a health care provider, OR a COVID-19 test was recommended, but you refused, OR there is no "ALTERNATE DIAGNOSIS then:

1. Your child must remain home in isolation until released by the local Department of Health. This is usually 5 days from the onset

of symptoms, and the child is fever free for 72 hours without the use of fever reducing medications.

THE COVID-19 “RAPID” TEST PROVIDES A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF FALSE NEGATIVE RESULTS. IT FREQUENTLY IS FOLLOWED BY MOLECULAR TESTING (3-5 DAY WAITING PERIOD). YOUR CHILD MUST REMAIN HOME UNTIL MOLECULAR TEST RESULTS ARE RECEIVED.

REFERENCES

Center for Disease Control- www.cdc.gov

New York State Health Department- www.health.ny.gov

Office of Children and Family Services- www.ocfs.ny.gov

Westchester County Health Department-

*White Plains, 134 Court Street, White Plains, NY 914- 995-5800

*New Rochelle, 145 Huguenot Street, New Rochelle, NY 914 813-5000