



First day of school is August 25th

- Classes will be held in our Head Start classrooms in person on Tuesday through Friday. No Monday classes will be held this year.
 - **However, if regulations change and do not allow us to have in-person classes, or require us to modify our in-person learning; we may have to switch to a remote learning format or some combination of in-person and remote learning**
- Our classroom size can accommodate 16 children while also maintaining social distancing guidelines. However, we will start on August 25th with only 10 children and we will look at this again and only add new children to the classroom as guidelines and safety permits.
- Our classrooms will be set-up for social distancing (child-friendly markers on floors, personalized play areas, etc.) while still educating and providing your child with a positive learning and social and emotional experience that prepares your child for kindergarten.



Families will be lent a Chrome Book for the school year during a scheduled “Back to School” orientation with their teacher/center team in August.

- The expectation is that the parent/guardian ensures that the Chrome Book is returned to the center at the end of the school year in May, or if the child is no longer enrolled in the program at any time during the year.



Daily drop off and pick up of children will look a little different than normal due to ensuring the health and safety of your child, your family and our Head Start team.

- Each of our centers may look a little different due to building structure, entry and exit ways as well as staffing availability.
- We will let you know how your child’s specific center will run drop off and pick up during your scheduled “Back to School” orientation.
- Our goal is to limit possible exposure, maintain stable groups and minimize multiple points of contact as much as possible.



Health screening for Head Start staff and consultants:

- We are taking all center staff's temperature daily and also ask key health screening questions to assess if they are in good health and not at risk for having symptoms related to COVID
- Staff passing the screening that day will receive a color-coded wristband (one color for each day of the week we are open). This is to let parents know we are ensuring we always have a healthy and well staff to care and teach your child.
- Only staff, contracted staff and children will be allowed to enter our centers/classroom space until further notice.
 - Please understand that we will welcome parents/guardians as well as other family members back into our centers and classrooms when our regulatory agencies state that this is no longer a risk.



As a childcare center/school, we are also required to provide a health check/COVID screening for your child.

These are the steps we are taking each day to ensure your child's health and safety as well as maintain good health for our center teams to be able to continue to care for all of the children in the program:

- Taking your child's temperature at drop off with a no touch thermometer as well as ask you if your child has had specific symptoms as related to COVID in the last 24 hours

[Example: cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, close contact with someone who has COVID-19, or symptoms, or any other signs of illness requiring exclusion]

- Your child's temperature must be less than 100.4 F in order to go to class that day. If your child has a temperature of 100.4 F, or greater; your child cannot attend school and may be asked to stay home for a certain period of time.
- If your child's temperature is between 99.2 and 100.3 F; we will continue to monitor your child throughout the day to ensure your child does not reach a temperature of 100.4 F. If your child's temperature reaches 100.4 F at any time, we will call you, or a designated person to pick up your child as soon as possible.
- If a child becomes ill at school, there is a separate area where the child will remain under adult supervision until a designated adult is able to pick up the child. This area will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after the child is picked up.

If any staff, child and/or Head Start consultant has a positive test for COVID; we are required to report this to Tri-County Infectious Disease and required to close that area (classroom and/or center) for 24 hours in order to perform a thorough cleaning and disinfection. Once this is completed; we will re-open that classroom and/or center.



All staff and Head Start consultants will be wearing approved personal protective equipment for the full day while taking care of and teaching your child:

- Facial coverings that cover the nose and mouth.
- Gloves when necessary (serving food, providing first aid, providing medicine per health care plans, applying sunscreen, etc.)
 - We are requiring all parents/adults

dropping off and picking up students to wear facial coverings while on Head Start grounds

Currently, it is a recommendation for children over 2 years old to wear facial coverings. Head Start will require any enrolled child 3 to 5 years old to wear a covering at this time.

- We are providing disposable face coverings for your child every day until we are certain this is the best practice for our students in order to encourage safety and decrease the spread of COVID
- Your child may be in a class where we will trial cloth face coverings (and provide daily cloth face covering changes with weekly laundering) in a few classrooms to understand if this is a reasonable option for this age group.
- We will also focus on teaching your children proper hand washing techniques, when to wash their hands, how to not touch their faces, use tissues and sneeze/cough in their elbow.
- These are all practices that you can help reinforce at home as well.
- We have hand sanitizer available in every center/every classroom.



Cleaning & Disinfecting:

We will be using the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved sanitizers, and disinfectants.

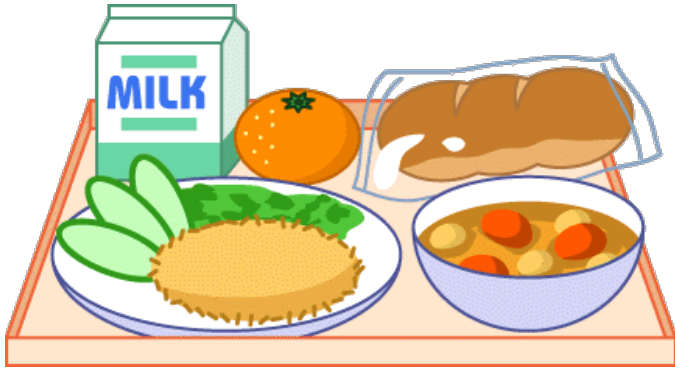
- We also purchased electrostatic spray disinfection machines that disinfect larger areas and are used at the end of each day in each of our centers.
- Our center teams are trained in proper sanitation and disinfection procedures and will clean classrooms daily as well as frequently cleaning any other “highly touched” areas throughout the day.
- Any toys used by any child in the classroom are cleaned and sanitized regularly. Sensory toys are individually based [plastic totes with child’s names will contain specific sensory toys assigned to each child].

Classroom set-up to ensure social distancing:



While the preschool classroom schedule will remain consistent; there will be some minor changes.

- When possible, we will increase the time children spend outside. It has been shown that it is much less likely for the virus to spread in the outside environment.
- For large and small group activities inside, children will be placed as far apart as possible.
- For work/center time, children will be given a ‘play hub’ area, where they can take manipulatives and materials they wish to play with. Children will be encouraged to play in their area, though interaction is likely and will be encouraged to happen at an appropriate distance. Those items in a ‘play hub’ will be utilized by a child for the full week, then cleaned and sanitized for reassignment the following week.
- When appropriate, toys that are in a center area will be taken out of rotation cleaned, sanitized and disinfected, so that they may be played with safely by another child.



Meals and snacks:

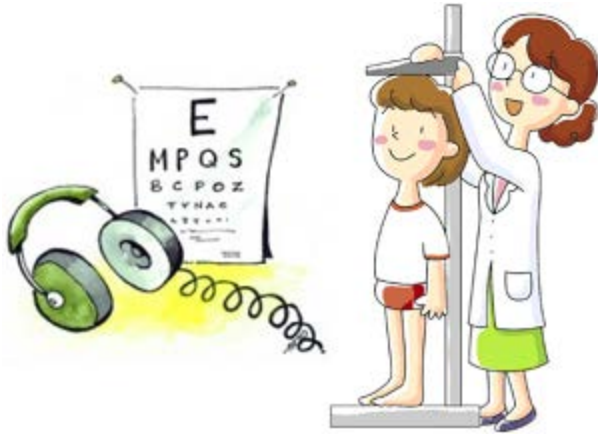
- ACHS will continue to serve breakfast, lunch and snacks, with maximum distance kept in mind when placing children at meal tables.
- In addition, family style meals will not be served. Instead, children will be served portions on their plates in order to limit handling common dishes and utensils.



Mental Health, Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and Special Needs for Children:

Our Mental Health and Special Education Consultants will be following all of the same guidelines as mandated for childcare staff while they are at the centers providing services to our students.

- During small group activities for students who require speech services, we will ensure that children are placed as social distancing guidelines require.
- Sensory, fidgety toys and any other items utilized in the classroom to provide additional support to students on an IEP or behavior plan, will be assigned to individual children and placed in a labeled plastic tote (no sharing allowed). These toys will also be cleaned, sanitized and disinfected regularly.



Health Sensory Screening (hearing, vision, height and weight), Dental Screening, Lead and Anemia screening

Your Health Specialists will be very flexible in how we complete screenings this year in order to ensure the safest practices possible. We are planning on providing sensory screening (hearing and vision) only to newly enrolled children entering Head

Start this year. We will only provide sensory screening to returning children who did not pass, or did not receive follow-up care, from the 2019-2020 school year as indicated by their screening documentation and follow-up results.

All children will receive a height and weight assessment. This will happen outside during playtime in an area where we can maintain proper social distancing.

During any screening performed, we will be wearing a face mask, gloves and be the only staff member in a designated area with your child.

We will clean, sanitize and disinfect the entire screening area after each child as well as any screening equipment as needed. We will also wash and sanitize our hands as well as change gloves in between each screening.

During our ***lead and anemia screenings***, we require a parent/guardian to be present just outside your child's center; either just outside the building, or in your car while we perform this particular screening in our center. At this time, we cannot allow parents inside our center buildings, though this may change as regulations allow. Because this is a required screening for our Head Start children, we highly recommend you receive this screening from your medical home and provide the results to your Health Specialists this year.

- However, *if you are not able to attain this screening at your medical home*, we ask that you provide consent for us to perform this screening while you are close by [waiting in your car, or immediately outside of your child's center], while the Health Specialists performs the lead and anemia screening. We need to ensure we are minimizing person to person contact and the Health Specialist will be the only staff member in the designated center space with your child while completing the screening.

As always, all families will receive your child's screening results at the end of the day the screening(s) are performed. Any referrals that are necessary will also be provided to you for any screening that your child did not pass and would need further follow-up/assessment from a health professional. {Example: Vision screening where your child may require vision correction/glasses}