

COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan Overview



Overview

Little Hawks Discovery Preschool will continue our mission to provide a quality early childhood experience that prepares young children to be active, independent learners who have knowledge of and an appreciation for the natural world. We stand united in serving children and their families.

The COVID-19 pandemic requires us to operate differently and our highly qualified educators will rise to this challenge. In the slides to follow, we have outlined key items that will “look different” in the coming school year.

We continue to look forward to the school year and the adventures to come!

LHDP Leadership Team,

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Little Hawks Discovery Preschool's COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan was developed by the LHDP Leadership Team, according to the current guidelines and recommendations. This is considered a “living” document, and therefore will be updated with new or changing guidelines imposed by local health officials, state of Michigan guidance, and Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. It is intended to be implemented by LHDP staff and families. Please read the following protocols for phase 3, 4 and 5.

- ❑ Information provided in this presentation is intended to be a briefing to give you a high-level overview of what Little Hawks Discovery Preschool will “look like” for in-person instruction.
- ❑ The Formal Plan outlines what LHDP will “look like” if the Governor's Office (State of MI) closes schools, this could occur in a variety of formats. Please review the Formal Plan for details.
- ❑ Full details of the Formal Plan can be found at <https://www.littlehawks.org/forms-and-paperwork/>

This information is subject to change based on further guidance from the Governor's Office and the State of Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.



What does In-Person 'Look Like'?



Little Hawks Discovery Preschool



Personal Protective Equipment: PPE

LHDP Staff

- ❑ Staff will wear a facial covering when indoors and when unable to maintain physical distance outdoors.
- ❑ Cloth facial coverings will be washed daily. Disposable facial coverings will be disposed of daily.
- ❑ Face coverings may include clear shields.

LHDP Students

- ❑ Facial coverings are not recommended for use by children ages 3 and 4. Families may choose to send their child to preschool with a face covering if the child can remove and reapply the facial covering without assistance.
- ❑ Little Hawks Discovery Preschool classes will not use common areas or hallways, therefore it is not required that children have a facial covering with them.

LHDP Parents/Caregivers/Visitors

- ❑ Parents, caregivers and visitors will wear face coverings when on the LHDP campus and unable to physically distance themselves from others.



Looks Like: At Arrival

Drop Off Location

- ❑ Parents/caregivers are not allowed in the school building.
- ❑ Parents/caregivers will drop off and pick up their child outside their child's classroom fence location. Families are expected to practice physical distancing while waiting to drop children off. Parents/caregivers are not required to wear a facial covering outside at drop off if they maintain physical distance from others. If parents/caregivers must approach a teacher or other adult, a facial covering is required.
- ❑ Backpacks and gear will remain outside, weather permitting.

Health and Safety Screening at Arrival

- ❑ Child Sign-In: Parents/caregivers will sign in their children with signature and time. When signing a child in, the parent/caregiver will review and complete COVID-19 screening protocol and affirm the child does not have the symptoms in order to attend school.
- ❑ Children: parents/caregivers will review COVID-19 symptoms with the teacher each school day. Parents/caregivers must attest that their child does not have symptoms listed below in order to attend school. Children will have their temperature checked upon arrival and must have a temperature less than 100.4 degrees fahrenheit to attend school.



Looks Like: Outdoor Play

Klow Building

- ❑ Classes: Gray Squirrels, Chickadees and Coyotes
 - ❑ 1 class will be on the playscape at a time.
 - ❑ Teachers will encourage physical distancing for children and staff.
 - ❑ The outdoor nature of our program presents a safer environment and is recommended by health professionals.
 - ❑ If children need to use the bathroom; children will use classroom bathroom.

Eldean Building

- ❑ Classes: Red Foxes, Fireflies, Kestrels, Dragonflies, Bluegills, and Green Frogs
 - ❑ 1 class will be on the playscape at a time.
 - ❑ 1 class will venture onto ODC property to explore.
 - ❑ Classes will alternate school days between playscape play and exploring days.
 - ❑ Teachers encourage physical distancing for children and staff.
 - ❑ The outdoor nature of our program presents a safer environment and is recommended by health professionals.
 - ❑ If children need to use the bathroom; children will use classroom bathroom.



Looks Like: Hike

LHDP Hike: This is the time of day when we explore the ODC property. We may explore the forest, meadow, wetland, trail system, or the pond.

Staff

- ☐ 3 teachers will be with their class at all times.
- ☐ If a child needs to use the bathroom, a teacher will radio office staff. Office staff will take the child to his/her classroom bathroom.
- ☐ Staff will carry hand sanitizer.
- ☐ LHDP is exploring options for mobile hand washing stations: warm water and soap.



Looks Like: Snack Time

Prepackaged snack will be provided in partnership with Hamilton Community Schools. Snack will happen outside (weather permitting) and will move indoors when weather hinders the ability to eat outside.

Staff

- ☐ Required to wash hands and wear face covering while passing out the snack. Staff may remove face covering to eat the snack.
- ☐ Required to wear gloves when passing out the snack.
- ☐ Eating surfaces will be sanitized before and after meals following the 3 step process: soapy water, rinse water and bleach water solution.

Children

- ☐ Required to wash hands prior to snack.
- ☐ Snack may happen outside and physical distancing will be encouraged.
- ☐ Snack may happen inside the classroom and the class will be spread out between three tables.



Looks Like: Small Group

Small Group is the part of the school day where teachers design activities and lesson to grow developmental skills. Small group will happen outside (weather permitting) and will move indoors if weather was to hinder the experience.

Little Hawks Discovery Preschool will limit sharing of personal items. We will ask families to provide the following items and the items will be stored in individual pencil boxes purchased by LHDP.

- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ 1 pack of markers
- ☐ 1 box of crayons
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ 2 glue sticks

In the event that you cannot provide your child with these items, please communicate with your child's teacher so we can assist you in securing these resources. Qualifying GSRP families are not required to purchase materials.



Looks Like: Indoor Classroom

Materials

- ❑ Shared material within the classroom will be sanitized with bleach spray solution after each class (AM and PM) and between each classmate as much as possible.
- ❑ Keep children's individual belongings separate from each other.
- ❑ No cloth materials will be present in classrooms: stuffed animals, pillows, cloth toys, etc.
- ❑ Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the school at least daily or between use as much as possible. Use of shared objects (equipment, art supplies, toys, games) should be limited when possible, or cleaned between use.

Physical Spacing

- ❑ When students need to wait in a line, staff will use markers (poly dots, tape, etc.) to provide a visual for six-foot intervals where line formation is anticipated.
- ❑ If a classroom has windows that can open, they should be open as much as possible, weather permitting.

Staff and Student Interactions

- ❑ Teachers should maintain six feet of spacing between themselves and students as much as possible.



Looks Like: Pick-Up

Parents and Caregivers

- ❑ Parents and caregivers will wait outside the classroom fenced area, and teachers will walk one child from inside the fenced area to their parent/caregiver at a time. Families are expected to practice physical distancing while waiting to pick children up. Parents/caregivers are not required to wear a facial covering outside at pick up if they maintain physical distance from others. If parents/caregivers must approach a teacher or other adult, a facial covering is required.
- ❑ When signing in/out: parents will use a clean pen and place the used pen in the used pen container.

Staff

- ❑ After each child has been picked up, staff will continue to be available for brief questions and conversations with families. Facial coverings are required for adults when unable to physically distance. If parents/caregivers need to have a more in-depth conversation, teachers are available during their weekly prep times. Please arrange a time with your child's teacher.
- ❑ After pick-up, staff are required to sanitize materials used by the class.



Questions?

Please email Little Hawks Leadership Team

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