

Friday, May 22, 2020

Dear Kids@ Churchill Park Families,

On May 11, followed by an additional update on May 15, the Government of Alberta and Alberta Health Services shared guidelines for child care facilities that outline how programs are to operate, including required health and safety standards.

Prior to families returning to care, Kids@ will ensure these requirements are very clearly outlined, but in summary, Phase 1 includes the following measures:

- Restrictions to classroom cohort group sizes (maximum of 10 in a group, which includes both children and staff)
- Implementation of symptom screening procedures to occur every morning upon arrival
- Implementation of social distancing strategies
- Intensified cleaning and disinfection efforts
- The requirement that Parents to provide meals and snacks for their children
- Modification of drop off and pick up procedures
- Closure for 72 hours if a case of COVID is experienced in a centre

As we have been doing throughout our pandemic response over the past months, we are assessing our families need for care to best meet your expectations (thanks so much to those of you who shared your thoughts by completing our survey). If you haven't yet done so, or your circumstances have changed, you may complete the survey (see link below).

Our team is working hard to flesh out a reentry plan, which takes into consideration organizational requirements and newly outlined safety measures balanced with the needs of children, families and staff. Over the next few weeks, as we also learn from other child centres in Alberta that have resumed services, and as guidelines become clearer for each phase of reopening, our team will be trained on the new safety protocols and procedures.

The government has relayed that the second phase of the relaunch is currently anticipated to commence June 19. **With that date in mind, the Kids@ Board in consultation with the Executive Leadership has determined our existing closure protocols will remain in place through June. The re-open plan has a soft date aiming for July 6, with a staggered re-opening of some of the centres. For our Bright Lights Centre, we will continue to work with ENMAX on timelines and a potential re-open. As the date approaches for a potential re-open, we will continue to keep families updated. We will also post a FAQ section on our web-site over the next week to provide families with additional and specific information.**

We truly appreciate the support of our families. We recognize that the closure of our centres has been challenging, especially if you face limited options for child care. If you are an essential service worker, know that we are here to support you via our Family Day Homes. Family Day Homes remain open and with spaces to accommodate some children. Please reach out to

cpfirsr@churchillpark.ca to inquire.

We are excited and optimistic that the time we invest now to ensure all safety protocols are adhered to will allow for operations to continue safely. Due to the situation being very fluid, the information we receive and provide today, may change tomorrow, but we're doing our best! Please know that our efforts and preparation planning are with the wellbeing of our families and team members remaining as our highest priority.

Our team misses everyone and looks forward to welcoming our children, and families back to care! On behalf of the Board of Directors and Executive Leadership Team we thank you for your continued patience while we work through our planning stage, so our welcome back is the warm, loving, safe, and quality-focused experience you have come to expect.

With much gratitude and wishes for your continued health and well-being on behalf of the Board of Directors, Executive Leadership Team and Kids@ Team,

Korrie-Mae

Korrie-Mae Wiszniak | CEO



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We can't all do great things, but we can do small things with great love ~ Mother Teresa

Kids are not a distraction from more important work; they are the MOST important work ~ Dr. Trainor