



July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### **PANDEMIC POLICY**

Child care programs in BC that are licensed are regulated through the Ministry of Health, child care licensing. As a result, Tumble Kids Preschool may be directed by a child care licensing officer to close operations during a pandemic or other communicable disease outbreak. Tumble Kids Preschool will follow all directives provided from the Ministry of Health. The legal authority to close a child care program for public health reasons falls under the purview of the local Medical Health Officer and the Provincial Health Officer and their decision overrules any decision to stay open that an individual preschool/daycare or parents may wish to make.

Any individual entering the building is required to fill out the LGF screening form. Drop-off/pick up will be located on the bottom floor (exit door) at the bottom of the stairs next to the lobby.

Parents/caregivers are asked to wait/line up on the designated floor marker spots outside along the wall for entering/exiting Tumble Kids Preschool. If parents have any question/concerns, or would like to book a tour they can book an appointment at 604-455-8848 or email us at [tumblekids@langleygymnastics.ca](mailto:tumblekids@langleygymnastics.ca). While social distancing is not required in preschoolers we will do our best to encourage it.

### *Illness and Exclusion Policy*

Our Illness and exclusion policy continues to apply during a pandemic or communicable disease outbreak, however, additional restrictions may apply, based on government/licensing officer directives. This may include, but is not limited to, extending our required at-home "symptom free" time period following any symptoms or requiring children with symptoms - *even if they are feeling well and have plenty of energy* - to remain at home. Please refer to Illness/Exclusion Policy. Any temporary changes to our Illness, health and exclusion policy during a pandemic/outbreak will be communicated in writing, via email, and will link to the authorized source of information that our temporary change is based on.

### *Additional cleaning*

In the event of a pandemic or communicable disease outbreak, Tumble Kids Preschool, while in operation, will follow additional cleaning measures/changes. This includes:

- Using a Ministry of Health-approved sanitizing solution within the program twice a day, to sanitize the facility and all equipment.
- Increasing handwashing/sanitizing (before entering/leaving/going; in and outside, before/after eating and the bathroom) and using social stories and direct teacher instruction with children to promote healthy handwashing habits.
- Designated preschool bathroom is the one located closest to the classroom. Bathroom toilet must be sanitized between each child by the teacher.

- All high touch surfaces; door handles, hand rails, carpets (fogged), cubbies, toy shelves, shared toys (car track, doll house ect.), tables, chairs, outdoor play toys/climbing structure every day between classes.
- Toys that get put into a child's mouth/sneezed on, immediately goes into the Wash Bin (located beside the sink) washed at the end of each day.
- Craft supplies (each class will have their own bin; felt pens, crayons, scissors, and glue sticks) will be sanitized weekly.
- Paint/glue supplies (ex. Paint brushes, glue brushes, paint pots, glue pots, easels, trays) will be sanitized after each class.
- All toys will be washed weekly; before rotation. During this time each class will have limited toys and designated toy bins that will be used by each class and rotated on a weekly basis.
- During snack/craft time each child will have an extra space between each other, with painters tape on the table showing the space they can use.
- Circle time will consist of two rows, making sure each child have extra space between each other sitting on a tape "x".

#### *Fees During Pandemic / Communicable Disease Closures*

In the event of a short term closure due to a pandemic or communicable disease outbreak (less than 15 days), fees are due and payable as per usual operations \*Refer to Repayments Policy in Hand Book. Fees payable during closures exceeding 15 days will be determined on a case by case basis directed from the Provincial Health Authority and subject to change without notice.

Child care ratios are required during operation, regardless of a pandemic or communicable disease outbreak. In the event that enough employees are unable to come into work or are in a quarantine and ratio is not able to be met, Tumble Kids Preschool may need to close and will follow this pandemic policy in regards to repayment. Should Tumble Kids Preschool have to close immediately (up to 30 minutes) before class, participants will receive a non-refundable credit on your account. Class participants who must stay home to self-isolate (see Illness Policy), will receive a non-refundable credit on their account.

Fee reductions such as the CCFRI (Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative) or ACCB (Affordable Child Care Benefit) are provided through MCFD (Ministry of Children and Family Development), and may or may not be provided during required pandemic or communicable disease closures. Parents may directly contact the MCFD office at 1 888 338-6622, to discuss MCFD's policy regarding CCFRI or ACCB payments; this decision is outside of Tumble Kids Preschool's authority.

#### *Individual exclusions*

In the event that the Ministry of Health provides a regional or provincial quarantine recommendation for individuals - be it due to international travel, linked to potential exposures, or linked to individual symptoms, Tumble Kids Preschool will require all families and children to comply with this

recommendation. In the event this occurs, the Ministry of Health will provide our child care program with written information; this recommendation will be shared directly with families. These exclusions will apply equally to all children, families and employees.

#### *Authorized sources of information*

A pandemic or localized communicable disease outbreak is subject to governance by official sources: our Child Care Licensing Officers, the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Children and Families, and the federal government. While we appreciate that social media and news sources provide an extensive amount of information, we will respond to official, authorized sources of information only.

#### *A non-biased, inclusive approach*

Fear-based responses in times of pandemic or communicable disease, have historically led to actions stemming from bias and self-protective measures. Not only can these measures lead to conflict between parents, child care educators, and community members, but they can also lead to actions rooted in racism. Tumble Kids Preschool has an inclusive-based approach and works to be a safe space for all families and children; we will not tolerate acts of racism or bigotry towards any parent, child, employee, or community member. Any such acts may be subject to an immediate dismissal from our program.

#### *Covid19*

Information about COVID-19, including advice and guidance to schools, is regularly updated on the BC Centre for Disease Control site. Information on Covid2019 and current recommendations from the health authority are found here:

[2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) BC public health guidance for schools and childcare programs](#)

The provincial pandemic plan can be found here:

[British Columbia Pandemic Provincial Coordination Plan](#)