



October 2, 2020

UPDATE

Dear P.R.Y.D.E. Families,

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, P.R.Y.D.E. Learning Centres will continue to follow the direction of the Ministry of Education and Durham Public Health to ensure the health and safety of all the children and educators in our childcare centres. In response to COVID 19 guidelines updates we have modified our policies and procedures to meet the most current information. Please see below for important changes:

Placement Students:

- College and University students who are actively working toward completing their placements are permitted in our centres; however, they must stay within the cohort they are assigned.

Parent Involvement:

- Unfortunately, the physical presence of parents and visitors is still not permitted at this time. However, parent involvement still remains at the forefront of our programs. Please feel free to reach out to your center supervisor to find out how you can connect virtually with your child's team of educators.

Admissions and Withdrawals:

- P.R.Y.D.E.'s withdrawal policy remains in effect. 4 weeks paid notice must be given in the event you wish to withdraw your child. Withdrawal notice is paid unless P.R.Y.D.E Learning Centres is closed.

Arrival and Pick up/Screening:

- Effective October 05, 2020 our screening procedure will change slightly. The temperature check will be completed only for those entering the childcare centre. Therefore, parents will only answer the screening questions.

Programs:

- We are currently waiting direction from the Ministry of Education and Public Health regarding combining multiple sites during professional activity days. As soon as we are given that direction we will update you.
- We want to inform you of the reality and potential that P.R.Y.D.E Learning Centres may be placed in an Outbreak or have to close a classroom or program due to multiple child and staff absences as a result of illness. We would have no alternative in this case as we must ensure we are continuing to meet safe staff to child ratios. Families will be contacted via email in the event a centre or classroom closes. We hope that this situation can be avoided.

Health and Safety:

- The Ministry of Health has published an updated version of their **COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child Care effective October 2, 2020**. Please see attached for your reference. This tool helps to clarify some of the inconsistencies we have all been experiencing. It provides basic information only and contains recommendations for children to support decision making by parents about whether their child should attend school/childcare and/or needs to be tested for COVID-19. We will be using this tool moving forward as part of our screening process and ask that you review the document in detail so that we are prepared to determine the best course of action should your child become ill. We would like to bring your attention to the Frequently Asked Questions section which starts on page 4 for additional useful information.
- Siblings of symptomatic children, **DO NOT** need to be excluded from the program unless the program has been declared in outbreak or someone in the household has a confirmed positive case of COVID-19.
- It is imperative that as part of the active screening procedure you continue to inform your centre supervisor of any new or worsening symptoms, if anyone in your household has been exposed to a confirmed or potential case of COVID-19, or if it is recommended by Public Health that your child is to have a COVID-19 test.

After reviewing the letter and attached screening tool please, sign off on the COVID-19 acknowledgement. As always, we appreciate your patience and cooperation as we continue to navigate together through the global pandemic.

Jennifer Hughes, RECE
Executive Director



COVID-19 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (update October 08, 2020)

I have read and understand the COVID-19 Update plan for P.R.Y.D.E. Learning Centres and agree to abide by the changes in the policies as outlined.

Guardian/Parent Name (please print)

Guardian/Parent Signature

Family Email

Date