



Britters' Critters Daycare

COVID-19 POLICY AND PROCEDURE UPDATES

The following policy and procedures comply with the updated Child Care Setting Practice Standards and are being put into place in order to ensure the health and safety of the children attending Britters' Critters Daycare.

The *COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for Child Care Settings*, *COVID-19 Technical Implementation Guidelines for Child Care Facilities* and the *Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings* have been followed in establishing updated requirements.

This document will be updated as the COVID-19 situation evolves.

Updated Safety Procedures Now in Place for the Daycare

- Items that cannot be easily cleaned have been removed from the daycare (ex. Couches, dress up clothes, stuffed toys, playdough)
- When appropriate, each child will have their own set of materials and toys
- Coloured circles and cushions are used on the floor to keep children at a safe distance
- When appropriate, the number of children in a play area will be limited to 2 at a time (ex. sandbox)
- The snack and craft table has been extended to allow more space between children
- Children will be supported to minimize direct contact and maintain physical distance whenever possible. (Children from the same household do not need to maintain physical distance from each). Hugs and handshakes will be discouraged and avoided, while ensuring a warm and caring environment is maintained
- Handwashing posters are posted in the bathroom and at the kitchen sink, and proper handwashing is practiced. I will assist young children with handwashing as needed
- Handwashing will happen several times a day, including before and after eating, after coming in from outside play, and after coughing or sneezing. It is encouraged children wash their hands before going home, and this decision will be left to the families
- Space will be left between each child's cubby and children will be spread out while getting changed
- Additional space in the fridge has been made to allow for space between children's water bottles and lunch kits
- For the time being, I will not be providing any food to the children

- Children are being directed to keep their lunch kits on the ground during snack/lunch time and to only take one or two items out at a time to maintain space between children's food items
- Children will be reminded to sneeze/cough into their elbow and to avoid touching their faces.
- No home toys are permitted in the daycare. Comfort toys for nap time must be left in the basket above each child's cubby
- We will be spending as much time outside as possible, weather permitting
- Parents and volunteers are not able to participate in the daycare program
- For the time being, Saturday Drop-In Spaces will not be offered.

Updated Daycare Cleaning Procedures:

- General cleaning and disinfecting of the centre will occur twice a day, or more often as needed
- Frequently-touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected three times each day, or more as needed
 - o This includes doorknobs, faucet handles, counters, chairs, and toys
- Bedding, sleeping mats, cushion covers, and other cloth items will be washed and disinfected daily
- Toys will be rotated and cleaned/disinfected daily

Updated Arrival to Daycare Procedures:

- Upon arrival, parents are asked to stay within the cubby area only, and only one family is allowed in the cubby room at a time. If you arrive while another family is in the cubby, I ask kindly that you wait outside. If you need to make a quick drop off, I am happy to collect your child at the door.
- I will be responsible for all recordings on the sign in/out board
- Before entering the play area, children must wash their hands
- Before entering the play area, the children's temperatures will be taken
- Parents or family members who are symptomatic are asked not to enter the facility

Updated Illness Policy:

Any child exhibiting the following symptoms must follow the updated illness policy. Any adult with the following symptoms must not enter the daycare:

- o Low-grade fever (above 38C or 100.4F)
- o Dry cough or sore throat
- o Tiredness, aches and pains
- o Gastrointestinal symptoms

- All parents, caregivers, children and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 OR who have travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days OR were identified by Public Health as a close contact of a confirmed case **must** stay home and self-isolate.

If a child starts to show symptoms at home:

- Children who develop symptoms at home must be kept home for a minimum of 10 days from the onset of symptoms AND until symptoms have resolved, whichever is longer. If a negative COVID-19 test result is provided, a child may return to care sooner.

If a child starts to show symptoms at daycare:

- If a child develops symptoms at daycare, the family will be contacted and ask to pick up their child right away
- The child will be made comfortable in an area that is separated from the rest of the group, but is still within supervision of the caregiver
- Doors and windows will be opened to increase air circulation
- Once the child is picked up, all children and caregivers will wash their hands, and the area the child was in, and anything he/she may have come in contact with, will be disinfected.
- Any child who contracts COVID-19 must have a negative test result before they can return to daycare

If the caregiver becomes ill:

- I will give families as much notice as possible if I need to close the daycare due to illness
- In case of COVID-19 symptoms, I will request a COVID-19 test as quickly as possible and keep families informed of the results.

* please note that runny noses are not a concern, unless they are accompanied by one of the other symptoms listed above

In the event there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 by someone in the daycare, all families will be notified immediately, while maintaining the confidentiality of the individual. The daycare will remain open, and may close for one day to do a thorough cleaning and sanitization of the space.

Updated Refund/Credit Policy

- Once the Temporary Emergency Funding (TEF) has ended (there will be 30 days notice given) families will be responsible for the parent portion of their regular monthly fees, regardless if you chose to send your child to daycare or not

- While the TEF is in place, in the event a child is kept home based on the illness policy criteria, or the daycare is closed due to caregiver illness, a 100% credit on the parent portion of any days of care missed will be applied to the next month's fees.
- Once the TEF has ended, in the event a child is kept home based on the illness policy criteria, or the daycare is closed due to caregiver illness, a 50% credit on the parent portion of any days of care missed will be applied to the next month's fees.
- If a family chooses to use any of their 5 sick days or 2 weeks vacation for days of care missed due to COVID, a 100% credit on the parent portion will be applied to the next month's fees