



## **2020-2021 School Year FAQ's**

(As of July 24, 2020)

### **Q: How many children and Teachers per class?**

In accordance with Alameda County guidelines for childcare, we will have no more than 12 children in each class. These children will remain in the same class for the entire session. We will not allow transfers once classes begin. We will have 1 teacher and 1 assistant per class.

### **Q: Will the curriculum remain the same?**

Yes, our standard play based curriculum will be used, including Handwriting without Tears.

### **Q: How will social distancing be implemented in classrooms and play areas?**

As you can imagine, social distancing with 3-5 year olds is very challenging. When possible, we will try to social distance children such as during snack time or during other table top activities. In order to best keep children safe, we will maintain stable groups of 12 children and 2 teachers, continue our practice of frequent handwashing and conduct thorough cleaning protocols throughout the day.

### **Q: Will children be allowed to move to a different class?**

No. In order to keep the stable groups of 12 children, we cannot allow transfers once the classes have begun. Transfers or new children may only be added at the beginning of a new session.

### **Q: What cleaning procedures will be in place at Gingerbread?**

Prior to COVID-19, Gingerbread had a thorough cleaning protocol in place that we will continue throughout the school year. This includes professional janitorial services each evening, cleaning and sanitizing of all surfaces in the classroom multiple times per day, and deep cleaning of all classroom toys each session. Staff will continue these practices and add additional cleaning of toys and other classroom supplies as needed.

**Q: What safety measures are being provided for Gingerbread Preschool?**

A: In accordance with Alameda County guidelines for childcare, we are conducting daily health screenings for all staff and participants and following all social distancing protocols as best as possible. Social distancing is challenging with the 3-5 year-old age group, so extra cleaning and handwashing precautions will take place to ensure the highest level of safety for participants and staff.

As always, we will encourage frequent handwashing and will be wiping down surfaces and supplies that participants come in contact with.

**Q: What if a child gets sick and misses days/a week, will we be refunded?**

A: We cannot offer a prorated amount for sick days or missing the program for any other reason.

**Q: How will drop off and pick up work?**

A: For safety reasons, staff will sign children in and out each day at either the front entrance or the play yard entrance depending on the class. We will stagger drop off and pick up times and locations to ensure social distancing amongst participants.

Parents must drive through the Health Screen Zone *first* before dropping off their child(ren). The process is as follows:

- Parents will drive through the drop-off zone
- A health screener will approach your passenger side of the vehicle
- A health screener will use a non-touch thermometer and take your child's temperature
- A health screener will ask you and your child the following questions:
  - Are you running a fever of 100 degrees F or greater?
  - Within the last 10 days have you been diagnosed with Covid-19 or had a test confirming you have the virus?
  - Do you live in the same household with, or have you had close contact\*\* in the past 14 days with someone who has been in isolation for Covid-19 or had a test confirming they have the virus?
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- Have you had any one or more of these symptoms today or within the past 24 hours?
  - Fever, chills or repeated shaking/shivering
  - Cough
  - Sore Throat
  - Shortness of Breath, Difficulty Breathing
  - Feeling Unusually Weak or Fatigued
  - Loss of Taste or Smell
  - Generalized Muscle Pain
  - Headache
  - Runny or Congested Nose
  - Diarrhea
  - Nausea or Vomiting
- If your child answers yes to any of these questions they will not be permitted to attend school and will need to obtain a doctor's note prior to returning to school.
- \*\* "Close Contact" is defined as living in the same house or being within 6 feet of an individual for longer than 15 minutes who had Covid-19
- Once your child has passed the health screening they will be provided a sticker, indicating that they have passed. They must place the sticker on the back of their shirt in a visible location
- You can then proceed to participant drop-off area. We will ask parents not to enter the building unless absolutely necessary. If you feel your child will require assistance to enter due to separation issues, the parent will also be required to submit to health screening.

**Q: Will kids be required to wear face coverings while at Gingerbread Preschool?**

A: Under statewide and countywide mandates, face coverings are to be worn in most public settings, however these orders permit exemptions based on age. Children ages 12 and under are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering. Gingerbread Preschool may require children to wear a face coverings while indoors.

The health and safety of our children is our top priority. All staff will be wearing face coverings for the entirety of the day and we are taking a number of additional measures to significantly reduce risk of exposure.

**Q: Will students in different classes be in the play yard at the same time?**

No. Only one class will be allowed to be in the play yard at the same time to maintain our stable groups of 12 and ensure social distancing. Classes will not mix in any way throughout the day. Play yard toys will be sanitized after each class use.

**Q: How will snack time work?**

A: Every child will need to bring their own snack. We will not be providing snacks. Children will be spread out on the tables to maintain social distancing while they eat. Hands will be washed prior to and after children eat.

**Q: Will I get a refund if I choose to cancel for Session 1?**

Yes, we understand that not all families will feel comfortable sending their children to school at this time. We will issue a full refund if you choose to cancel prior to the final commitment date of August 7, 2020. After August 7, you will be assessed an administrative fee of \$50 and no refunds will be provided after the first day of class.