



2020-2021 RESTART PLAN

In May 2020, the Governor and the Ohio Department of Health Director ordered the closure of all childcare centers due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. In response to the order, Wilma Valentine Childcare (WVC) applied to operate as a temporary pandemic childcare. Once this order was lifted, WVC was still required to follow emergency rules and to operate with a reduced ration of children. As of Monday, August 10th, the childcare is able to open back to full capacity should we so choose, or we could receive additional subsidy from the state if we continued to operate with reduced ratios. Due to need for childcare in our community, WVC is choosing to open back up to the community following the temporary rules for increased cleaning, handwashing and attention to the health and safety of all children and staff.

We know that circumstances may change and our childcare program may experience a positive case of COVID-19 among our staff or children. We are taking every precaution to prevent this from occurring, but if this were to occur, we will work with our local

Health Department to determine the appropriate protocol to follow. This might require minimal advance notice for our families and staff, and we will appreciate the understanding of all involved. If there is a need to shut down our program entirely or in part, we will notify families as quickly as we are allowed and able. The safety of your children and our staff is of the utmost importance to us. We are committed to do what is necessary to ensure the safety of everyone associated with our childcare program.

WVC will communicate with families regarding any changes to this plan via One Call notifications, phone calls, and letters sent home. Please also follow our Facebook page for updates.

Please know that we are receiving information on a daily basis about restart plans. Guidance comes from the Ohio Department of Education, the Governor's office, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and our local Health Department. Any information is subject to change if new/different guidance is received.

Face Coverings

Face coverings are required for staff and recommended for all visitors entering the building. Our childcare staff will wear face masks or face shields when they are working indoors and in close proximity to the students. The staff will be offered a choice of face masks or face shields so that they can interact with the children in the most natural way possible. Visitors will be asked to stay outside if the childcare entrance, but if they must enter, they must wear a face covering. Children will not be required to wear a face covering, but families can choose to provide one and staff will encourage the child to wear it when working in close proximity to other children and/or staff.

Sanitizing and Hand Washing

Children and all visitors will be asked to use hand sanitizer or wash their hands when entering the building. A sinks is available at the entrance and in all childcare rooms and children will be asked to wash their hands frequently, but especially after using the bathroom or before eating. Hand sanitizer or hand washing will also be required when entering the building from the playground. Staff will wash or sanitize their hands frequently, and always when distributing food, after assisting a child in the bathroom, and when entering the building from outside.

The classrooms and items in it will be sanitized each day.

Temperature and Health Checks

Any student or staff member who feels sick should stay home.

Any student or staff member with a fever of 100° must stay home per the rule.

Any student or staff member that has the following symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home and are encouraged to call their primary care provider for guidance:

- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Cough

- Any person linked to a COVID-19 case

We will take the temperature of each child upon arrival at any of our preschool sites. Per the Ohio Department of Education temporary rule, any child with a temperature of 100 degrees or more will be sent home. Students with a fever and no other COVID-19 symptoms and who have not been in contact with someone positive for COVID-19 must be fever free without the use of fever reducing medication for at least 24 hours in order to return to preschool.

We ask that each parent complete the daily “health check” questions for their child and report any negative responses to the preschool staff. The “health check” questions will be provided on another form and will include a few simple questions such as, “Have you been exposed to anyone with COVID-19 symptoms?” and “Have you traveled out of state recently?” You must report to the childcare director any out of state travel and she will consult with local health authorities and the SCBDD administration to determine if any quarantine time is necessary.

Room Set-up

While we know that it is very difficult to keep preschoolers “socially distant” from each other, the childcare staff will do everything possible to limit contact between the children. We do plan to do some strategic grouping of the children to limit contact between children. Staff will do things such as: increase the space between children when doing group work, have individual supplies for the children, not use drinking fountains, and not mix one group of children with another. We know that the children learn from each other and need to learn to get along with and work alongside each other, but during this time of the pandemic, we will work to minimize your child’s exposure to others for the safety of all involved.

Visitors and Volunteers

Visitors will be limited and will be asked to wear a mask or shield when in the school building and childcare. Volunteers such as the library volunteer will be monitored on an individual basis for entrances. If allowed in the building, any volunteer will be required to do a temperature check, answer health check questions, and wear a mask or shield.

What Happens if Wilma Valentine Childcare has a Positive Case of COVID-19?

We are required to report any positive case of COVID-19 in our childcare program to the local health department and to the Department of Job and Family Services due to our license.

If a child or staff member is diagnosed through testing as having COVID-19, they must meet the following criteria to return to childcare: Three (3) days with no fever (without using fever reducing medication) AND Other symptoms improved AND Ten (10) days since symptoms first appeared. The Health Department will confirm with us when it is safe for that child or staff member to return.

We will work with the Shelby County Health Department for any further guidance for a positive case, which may involve contact tracing. This could result in the closing of a classroom and a quarantine period for those identified as exposed. All contact tracing will be handled by the local health department.

If a child exhibits COVID-19 symptoms during the childcare day, he/she will be immediately separated from others, given a face covering and moved to the designated isolation area. The parent or guardian will be called to pick up the student. The student will be closely monitored by the nurse or other WVC/Shelby Hills employee who will be wearing appropriate PPE. Our employees will then close off and sanitize any areas of the building occupied by the student exhibiting symptoms.

Any questions can be directed to:

Nancy Stiefel, WVC Director - (937) 658-6763

Or

Leigh Anne Wenning, Superintendent - (937) 658-6702