



**KINDERBERRY HILL**  
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

March 17, 2020

Dear Kinderberry Hill Families,

At Kinderberry Hill, our top priority will always be the health and safety of the children entrusted to our care, their families, and our staff. For those in industries that provide essential services, or who are unable to telecommute for any number of reasons, access to child care remains critical.

Given the rapidly changing environment due to COVID19, we will continue to provide frequent updates on our response to the situation, which is driven by our #1 priority: to keep children, families and employees of Kinderberry Hill safe. The situation is fluid and none of us have experienced something like this before, however we will continue to make the best decisions possible with you in mind.

We promise to stay in close communication with you on new safety enhancements. Here are additional new measures and protocols we are adding to our already stringent processes. We will continually evolve these and keep you updated, to give you peace of mind and confidence that we are maintaining the best possible environment for your children while you deal with the complexities of work and life during this time.

- To ensure that our center remains a safe place during this time of heightened health concern, we are implementing new guidelines when dropping off and picking up your children at KBH.
  - All children will be dropped off and picked up at the classroom door. This is to limit the number of adults in and out of the classroom.
  - Children's temperatures will be monitored throughout the day. Your child will not be allowed to enter the building if showing signs of illness, which include;
    - a fever of 100.4 F (new CDC guidelines for this present time)
    - cough
    - shortness of breath
- We are encouraging all families to take the temperature of your child, and yourself, before arriving at our school each day.
- For families contracting special services in our schools (speech or OT), please rearrange those appointments to be held in your home instead.

- Families who may be using an older grandparent or relative for drop off or pick up, please consider the 70+ guidelines.
- We will continue our enhanced efforts to sanitize and clean all high touch areas within our schools.
- We are encouraging our staff to practice social distancing both in and outside of work.
- We have stopped use of playrooms.
- Enrichment classes, spring conferences, and in-house fieldtrips are on hold at this time.
- Only one classroom is allowed on the playground at a time.
- We will follow the rule of groups of 10 or less whenever we can.
- Our teachers are role modeling and reviewing hand washing procedures and curriculum and assisting children with handwashing as needed.
- Whenever possible, building maintenance will be completed on nights and weekends unless there is an emergency.
- We will continue to monitor and update the CDC travel advisory levels.

Regarding your family's tuition. Effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, any families who choose to stay home will not pay tuition, but need to pay the \$300 application fee to reserve your spot.

Parent fees provide the resources we need for every aspect of our school's operational expenses, including staff compensation. Many of you have inquired about our teachers. How this impacts our teachers both now and in the long run is top of mind for us. We are working closely with other childcare providers, the Governor's office, and the Department of Education, to advocate for emergency funds from the State of Minnesota to help support our early educators during this time. Additionally, the Governor has approved mandatory\* testing for all childcare workers who visit a doctor with symptoms of the virus.

We will continue to compensate our teaching staff for as long as their services are needed at our schools. Should we need to furlough our staff for a temporary period of time, we will ensure that they have access to any state or federal financial support resources, and we will welcome them back just as soon as our classrooms need them again.

We will continue to keep you updated with this rapidly changing situation. Thank you for your support.

Be well,

Your Kinderberry Hill Management Team

\*Updated to read: The Governor has approved *prioritized* testing for all childcare workers...