

# Husky House Pandemic Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

Husky House has implemented the following additional policies for families in compliance with Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), California Community Care Licensing (CCLD) and the Contra Costa Health Services guidelines. The information in this document supersedes any information included in previous Family Handbooks.

- **Do not bring your child to Husky House if any family member has any signs or symptoms of any illness, including, but not limited to:** fever, flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), runny nose, coughing, fatigue, or extreme fussiness. If we assess that your child is not well enough to attend, we will be unable to accept them into the program until the child is symptom free for 72 hours according to health department guidelines.
- If your child becomes ill while at Husky, they will rest in the office while you are contacted and required to pick up within 30 minutes.
- Children are required to be in stable groups of 12 or fewer. Children will be assigned with teachers specific to their assigned room and will remain with those teachers throughout the day, each day, to maintain a stable group. Groups will not mix.
- If we have any cases of COVID-19 from families, staff members, or within our center in any way, we will notify the families, licensing, county health department and the district. We will work closely with the health department to create a plan and families will be given direction at that time for next steps.
- Only Husky House employees and enrolled children will be allowed in the center. We also request only one person come to drop off & pick up, and ideally, the same person will do both drop off and pick up, to the extent possible.

NOTE: We are required to have the children practice social and physical distancing to the extent possible. Please be aware that even with a reduced number of children, we are not always be able to create 6 feet of space.

## Morning Arrival

- Take both your temperature & your child's temperature each morning before arriving. You must not come to the program if either of you have a temperature of 100° or higher. CDC guidelines state 100.4°, but Husky House policy is 100°.
- We will meet you at your vehicle in the Husky Turnaround Parking Lot. The Husky House teacher will be wearing a mask, face shield, and gloves to perform a Health & Wellness\* Check before accepting your child.
- Please call 925-283-7100 if you arrive at the Husky turnaround 15 minutes past the program start time and a teacher is not present. We will come up to meet you and your child.

\*Health & Wellness Acknowledgement – by bringing your child to Husky House you acknowledge that your child does not exhibit any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, sore throat. You also acknowledge that your child: is not ill with a respiratory illness; has not travelled to areas with widespread, sustained community transmission in the last 14 days; has not had contact with someone with either a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 or under investigation for COVID-19.

- Once you have acknowledged the health & wellness agreement verbally, and we are confident that we are able to accept your child, your child will be escorted to their classroom. Only the children and teachers assigned to a classroom will enter those buildings.
- Each child will have assigned *cubby spaces, book bins, etc.* in which to store materials used daily. Children may bring a backpack and lunchbox each day. Children will have assigned hooks outside their rooms on which to hang their belongings.
  - It is recommended that due to sensory/water/messy play (especially for younger children), a change of clothes/bathing suit are kept in a sealable, plastic bag in either the child's backpack or classroom cubby.
  - Readers of chapter books may bring a new book that may remain in their cubby until their last day of care or completion of the book. An iPad, e-reader and headphones will also be allowed for older children and should come enclosed in a separate sealable, plastic bag.
  - Due to current safety precautions, we cannot accept lunch deliveries later in the day. Your child must arrive with a lunch at drop-off.
  - Due to current safety precautions, we cannot offer warmups of lunch foods, and as always, we are a NUT-FREE program.
- During Distance Learning, children should daily bring a HVE Chromebook or other electronic device on which to connect with their classroom teachers.
  - Please note that only HVE issued Chromebooks are able to connect to the school's wi-fi, so it is recommended that families request to borrow a Chromebook through Happy Valley Elementary.

### **Afternoon Departure**

- Husky House Teachers will escort children to the side turnaround at the end of the program day. Please wait at your vehicle until we bring your child to you.
  - If you will be arriving before the end of program day, please call Husky when you are about 10 minutes away so we may help your child get ready to go.
- Children and teacher escorts will wash hands before coming to you.
- At times, your child may reuse their lunch bag to transport small projects home.

### **Transitions To & From HVE Classrooms for Hybrid Schedule**

- Husky House Teachers will ensure children wash hands and have their face mask, water bottle, and Daily Covid-19 Screening Form before going to their assigned classroom.
  - Husky House Teachers will escort TK & Ks to their classrooms after the lunch break at Husky House.
- Children returning from Hybrid will undergo the same Health & Wellness Check as performed at morning arrival: visual assessment for symptoms and taking of temperature.
  - Husky House teachers will meet and perform the Health & Wellness Check for TK & Ks at the Husky House Staging Area outside of Room 2 before escorting them down to the Husky Pup Room.

### **Husky Rooms and HVE Classrooms Rented for Husky House Use**

- Social and Physical distancing as recommended by public health departments will be maintained to the best of our ability within the small stable groups of no more than 12 children per room.
- Tables have been separated and table spots assigned allowing for 1-2 per table depending on size of table.
- Distancing will be maintained on floor areas.

- Available toys & manipulatives are in bins/baskets/trays. When a child is done with the item, they will be directed to place the toy in the bin labeled “used toys”. Staff will disinfect these toys at end of day before they are rotated back into use.
- We have posted signs throughout Husky as visual reminders for children and staff to wash hands, maintain physical distance and to follow cough/sneeze etiquette.

## **Outside**

- Children and teachers will wash hands before transitioning outdoors.
- Each group will have their own outdoor play equipment which will be disinfected daily and which will not be shared between groups.
- All playground climbing and play structures are off limits until further notice.
- Children will be required to follow social and physical distancing to the extent possible while playing outdoors and will be allowed to play non-contact games.
- When returning indoors, all children and teachers will wash hands prior to resuming activities.

## **Children**

- Children are required to wear facemasks, especially when indoors. Please provide your child with a facemask at drop-off.
  - It is possible to provide mask-free time outdoors if children are able to maintain sufficient, safe physical distance.
- In warm weather, it is likely that Husky House teachers will provide water-play during the day. It recommended that children bring a change of clothes in a sealable, plastic bag to leave at Husky.
- Your child will have an assigned cubby, chair, and table spot.
- Husky House will provide age-appropriate, individual art & school supplies for each child in their cubby that will remain at the program, ready for their use only.
- Please, NO personal items from home other than previously noted in the Morning Arrival section.
- If your child cannot follow the guidelines put forth, they will not be able to continue attendance.

## **Teachers:**

- Have all completed the CDC Training regarding COVID-19, “Guidance for Childcare Programs that Remain Open”; “Keeping your Children and Staff Safe During the Time of COVID-19” from the California Childcare Health Program; and “Integrated Pest Management in the School and Child Care Settings” from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.
- Will wear masks as required by health guidelines.
- Will take their temperature prior to arrival at Husky and will stay home for a minimum of 72 hours if they have a temperature of 100° or above.
- Will not come to work if they have any symptoms or exposure risks as listed on the Health & Wellness Acknowledgement.
- Will wash hands upon arrival for work and follow all health and safety guidelines provided by CDC, Health Department and CCLD to prevent the spread of COVID-19 regarding: how the illness is spread, prevention measures, symptoms, and when to seek medical attention for sick children or employees.
- Will follow cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing procedures of facility and materials throughout the day.
- Will do overall disinfecting throughout the day, including, but not limited to:
  - Tables, chairs, doorknobs, light switches and other high-touch areas throughout the classroom.

- Door handles, sink basin edge, sink faucet & handles, soap dispensers, and paper towel holder.
- After each use, both child and adult bathrooms: sink basin edge, sink faucet & handles, soap dispenser, toilet flush lever, toilet seat lid, paper towel holder.
- Used Toy & Materials Bins, at the end of each day, before being rotated back into use.
- Will have all children wash their hands frequently throughout the day and at the following times:
  - At arrival to childcare center.
  - Prior to transitioning to a new activity area.
  - Before and after eating.
  - After toileting.
  - After coughing or sneezing.
  - After touching face.
- Will give reminders to wash hands for at least 20 seconds.
- Will observe social and physical distancing at work to the extent possible.
- Will be required to observe social and physical distancing while off work.

**Communication:**

- All families will be updated via email, text or phone of new information, guidelines or health department directives as they arise.
- Please call the center with any timely communication. 925-283-7100
- If, outside of hours of operation, you have notice of potential exposure, please call the Director's mobile directly 925-658-2506.

Fever is defined as subjective fever (feeling feverish) or a measured temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher. Note that fever may be intermittent or may not be present in some people, such as those who are elderly, immunosuppressed, or taking certain medications (e.g., NSAIDs). From the CDC's ["Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission"](#)