

Safeguards to Ensure a Safe Childcare Site During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Hastings Public Schools Community Education will be operating Camp Horizons/Big Shots childcare at McAuliffe Elementary School June 10 - August 21. The safety of children and staff is the greatest concern of the school district. To that end, Hastings Public Schools Community Education has developed the following safeguards to ensure a safe childcare site during the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. **Self Monitoring** - To ensure the health and safety of children and staff at the childcare site, all families and staff must adhere to the Minnesota Department of Health's [Decision Tree for Symptomatic People in Schools & Child Care Programs](#). These guidelines must be strictly followed in regards to the number of days away from the childcare site if any child, staff member or other person living in the household shows symptoms of COVID-19.
2. **Limited Access** - Only children and staff members of the childcare site will be allowed in McAuliffe Elementary School. No other programming will be taking place at McAuliffe Elementary School this summer.
3. **Parent Drop off/Pick up** - In an effort to limit the number of people entering McAuliffe, the following is the procedure for drop off/pick up:
 - You were asked your drop off and pick up times during registration. We ask that you keep to those times because we are intentionally staggering drop off and pick up times.
 - Ideally, the same parent or designated person should drop off and pick up the child every day.
 - An outdoor check in station will be located at door 2. We ask that parents pull up to door 2 and send your children to the screening station. Please wait in your car, in view of the check in station. Do not leave until you are given notification.
 - A hand sanitizing station will be right next to the check in area. Children should sanitize their hands before approaching staff.
 - Once hands are washed, children will begin the health screening (see below).
 - If the child passes the screening, staff will hold up a green sign, indicating that you are free to go. If they do not pass, staff will send your child back to you with a note indicating why they did not pass.
 - At pick up time, please pull up to door 2. Staff will be watching for parent arrival. Once you arrive, please stay in your vehicle. Staff will communicate to your child's classroom that you have arrived and will send them out to you.
 - Please allow extra time when dropping off and picking up children. This added safety procedure will take extra time and we appreciate your patience.
 - If you need to pick up your child early, please call 651-775-0465 or 651-263-9240.
4. **Health Screening** -

- a. Children, families and staff should self-monitor for symptoms before physically coming to the childcare site. Symptoms include fever over 100 degrees, dry cough, shortness of breath, chills, body aches, headache, sore throat and loss of taste or smell. Please do not send any sick children to the childcare site.
- b. If a child or staff member develops symptoms at the childcare site, he/she will immediately be isolated, parents/guardians will be notified, return home, isolate from others at home and contact a healthcare provider to request testing.
- c. A staff person will administer a temperature check and brief health screening on every person who walks into the childcare site. Anyone who does not pass the health screening will not be able to stay onsite.
- d. If any children from the same household become ill, all children from the same household must go home.

5. Enhanced cleaning/disinfectant procedures - These procedures shall continue indefinitely and include the following:

- a. Regular cleaning of high-touch surfaces by custodial staff, and disinfecting all furniture, flat surfaces and doors.
- b. All restrooms will be disinfected twice a day.
- c. Hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies will be readily available.
- d. Staff will disinfect frequently touched surfaces inside classrooms including countertops, toys, light switches and door knobs throughout the day.
- e. Staff and children will maintain excellent hand hygiene using soap and water to wash hands for at least twenty seconds or using alcohol based hand sanitizer. Staff and children will wash hands at least every two hours and more often if they touch their face, sneeze, cough, use the restroom and before eating and drinking. This includes requiring children and staff washing hands upon arrival.
- f. All spaces will be disinfected each night by the custodial staff.
- g. The playground will be disinfected daily.
- h. To limit cross-contamination, please only bring supplies listed in the summer handbook.

6. Social Distancing

- a. Each classroom will have no more than 9 children and 1 staff member in it. Classrooms will have consistent staff and children all summer long. We will limit the mixing of groups.
- b. When using larger spaces (gym, hallways, or cafeteria) social distancing guidelines will be followed.
- c. Children will eat lunches and snacks in their classroom.

7. Face Coverings

- a. Staff will wear face coverings when in the childcare site.
- b. Staff can remove face coverings when outside with children and are able to maintain six feet between themselves and others.

- c. Children can wear face coverings if you would like, but they must be able to properly wear one. Due to the continued unavailability of masks, we ask that parents provide a cloth mask. The Minnesota Department of Health does not recommend that younger children wear masks if they can't reliably follow CDC guidelines.