

Lessard Playschool Covid-19 update (2020-21)

Dear Playschool Families,

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer so far! It feels like it has gone on forever 😊 Many of you are probably wondering what the plans are for your child's playschool year; they are still evolving, but here are a few of the Big updates you need to know!

As always, at Lessard Community playschool we are committed to providing a safe, caring and enjoyable playschool experience for your little ones. During this uncertain time, we are doing our best to plan our playschool year in the most successful way possible for our families, community, staff, and students. Please keep in mind that we are a small staff, and our primary concern is the safety of our students and teachers. The situation is rapidly changing, and we ask you to remain flexible as we do our absolute best to bring a quality playschool experience to you.

Our playschool year will not begin in September. School opening is now scheduled for the week of October 5. Due to this change, September school fees (cheque dated August 15) will not be cashed.

Due to heightened cleaning and sanitizing requirements, it is unfortunately not feasible to keep our traditional schedule. We have shifted the days our classes meet, to allow for the increased cleaning requirements between cohorts.

Our 3&4-year-old class will meet on Monday and Tuesday each week (9-11:15am). Our 4-year-old class will now meet on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings (9-11:15am).

We are restricting visitors to the classroom. Unfortunately, that means that we will not have our music teacher, Miss Corinne, offering music classes this year. In addition, our access to the gym will be greatly restricted, and family celebrations have been cancelled for the foreseeable future (ie. Welcome BBQ, Halloween and Christmas parties).

All adult caregivers entering the building to drop off and pick up a student must wear a mask or face covering and use the hand sanitizer provided upon entry. Prior to arriving each morning, the AHS Preschool Screening Questionnaire must be filled out. The form must be brought to the teacher and will be kept on file for two weeks, to aid with contact tracing if anyone should test positive for Covid-19.

Once in the classroom, each class is considered a cohort group. The cohort group size consists of 16 students (3 year old) or 18 students (3 & 4 year old) as well as a teacher and teacher assistant. Within each cohort, at this age, physical distancing **can not** be guaranteed.

Any student, caregiver, or teacher who has any ONE of the following symptoms may NOT enter the playschool.

Fever

Cough

Shortness of Breath/Difficulty Breathing

Sore Throat

Chills

Painful Swallowing

Runny Nose/Nasal Congestion

Feeling Unwell/Fatigued

Nausea/Vomiting/Diarrhea

Unexplained loss of appetite

Loss of sense of taste or smell

Muscle/Joint aches

Headache

Conjunctivitis (pink eye)

Any student who develops one or more of these symptoms during class will necessitate a call home to pick up your child as soon as possible.

In case of illness, teaching staff will cover for each other when possible. Should a replacement staff member not be available, in the case of any of the above symptoms class may have to be cancelled with short notice.

As Covid-19 is rapidly evolving, and our knowledge grows, this school year is subject to changes and/or sudden closures. Please know that we are attempting to work within this challenging situation to provide a quality playschool experience to our families. We appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we navigate this new reality.

We understand that your family circumstance may have changed in the time since you registered your child.

Please notify the playschool by email as soon as possible to let us know if your child will attend this year.

Thank you from the staff of Lessard Playschool!