

Covid-19 Policies and Procedures

The Nett Church Kindergarten & Preschool

*These policies and procedures have been drafted in accordance
with the guidelines and recommendations provided by the
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning/
Bright From the Start*

Any questions or concerns regarding these policies should be
directed to

The Nett Church Kindergarten & Preschool Administration
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770-923-1088

The following Procedures and Policies are either standard practice at The Nett Church Kindergarten and Preschool (The Nett School) or have been added due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

When a policy or procedure listed below differs from the Parent Handbook in any way, the temporary policies in place due to COVID-19 override any previous policy.

COVID-19 Policies & Procedures Effective August 2021

The Nett School Teachers & Classroom Interaction

Your child's teacher will not be socially distanced from him/her. While we will make every effort to keep a safe distance between persons, our teachers cannot adequately teach, care for and attend to our student's needs at a six foot distance. Your student's class will become a group that will practice healthy hygiene and be together throughout each school day.

Teachers will not come to school sick and will have health screenings completed each day upon arrival.

Teachers will be given the option of wearing face shields or masks while working in close proximity with individual students. While teachers will not be required to wear face shields or masks while working with a large group in their primary assigned classroom, they may choose to wear them at any time throughout the day.

When a teacher may need to interact with any other class or teachers in our program, it will be recommended that they wear masks/face shields or be socially distanced from students, teachers and staff.

Your student will be limited to contact with his/her class for most school activities within the building.

At The Nett School, we feel it is important for our students to be able to see expression and our lips and mouths as students learn language. Expression also helps students to process feelings. We also want to be very careful that your students are not scared of the masks/face shields, and that the face shields or masks do not interfere with our ability to comfort and love students within our reach. We will balance what is best for each age group, explain what we wear to students and make wearing masks and face shields fun when it is necessary to wear one.

Outside the Classroom

Chapel will take place in the Chapel Building. All classes will be socially distanced from other classes. If teachers are unable to maintain social distance, they will wear a face shield or mask.

Classes will visit the playground one at a time for playground time.

All students will wash hands or use hand sanitizer when returning to class.

Our music teacher will disinfect any toys used between each class. If younger classes need to sit down on the floor for an activity, the floor will be disinfected before and after each class.

Spanish Class for Pre K and Kindergarten students will require that all students use their own personal supplies and will not share supplies. If any items must be shared among other classes, they will be disinfected before being used by another class.

Student Masks

The wearing of masks for our students ages three and over is optional however, students in our two year old classes are not allowed to wear masks as this is not recommended by health professionals. Masks should be provided by parents if they desire their child to wear one.

We realize that wearing a mask is a new life skill and many students have learned to wear masks during the last few months. We also recognize that preschool students do not always leave masks in place and may constantly be touching them which defeats the purpose of wearing a mask. Therefore, if you know your student is able to leave his/her mask in place and will wear it, you may allow your student to wear his/her mask. However, if your student is not able to leave his/her mask in place without constantly touching it or playing with it, we encourage you to work on this at home with your student so that he/she is successful wearing a mask if it is your desire for him/her to wear a mask while at school except for when eating or drinking. Should you choose for your student to wear a mask, we ask that you wash your student's mask daily or send your student to school wearing a clean disposable mask daily.

If a student removes their mask during the day, we will remind them to keep it on but will be unable to adjust or replace the mask on them as doing so would require touching their face. If they remove their mask, it will be placed in their book bag to be sent home.

Classroom Toys & Surfaces

All toys are washed and disinfected before they pass to any other classroom or group of students or are returned to our resource areas.

All materials such as baby doll clothes and dress up clothes will be washed before being used in any other classroom or with another group of students.

Any toy put into a child's mouth will be put into a "soiled toy" bin and washed and disinfected before being returned to classroom use or used by another student.

All tables are disinfected before and after lunch. All commonly touched surfaces such as light switches, sink handles and chairs are disinfected daily.

Floors and classroom mats are cleaned with disinfectant daily.

Commonly used items for students such as scissors, watercolors, etc. will be placed in a container for each student so that each student only uses his/her school supplies. If there is ever a case where supplies, brushes, or materials need to be shared, they will be disinfected after use.

Handwashing

Students wash hands with soap and water when they arrive to school each day, before and after lunch, after using the toilet, and before carpool each afternoon using proper hand washing technique.

****Please practice this at home in advance to help us expedite the learning process.****

Hand Sanitizer may also be used throughout the day.

Food (Does not include student lunches)

Any food sent to school must be prepackaged with a label and sealed completely. This includes birthday treats.

Homemade baked goods or items prepared at home will not be allowed to be given to other students.

Any items such as whole apples or pumpkins that a teacher may request for a learning activity or special project will be washed by the teacher.

Library Books

Book Bag books checked out from our Media Center will not be returned to circulation to be checked out again by another student until they have been out of circulation for a minimum of 10 days after being returned to school. Books are only available for check out to our Pre K and Kindergarten classes.

Special Programs

Special Programs will still take place, but they may be offered in a different format.

At this time we are not sure exactly what format we will use, but we will use proper protocols and guidelines in providing the program in a safe and fun way. As each program comes up, we will communicate to you what we plan to do to proceed in the spirit of that program to help teach the students and make it fun.

In the event that we host special programs in a face to face format, all appropriate and current health protocols for gatherings will be followed.

Health Screenings

The most important thing we can do to keep our school free from sickness is for sick students and staff to stay at home. This has always been our school wide policy, current health guidelines now requires programs to have a health screening to ensure students arriving to school are not sick.

In order to comply with this policy and the recommendations of all health agencies, we will require that you **conduct the following daily health screen at home prior to coming to school:**

1. Do you or do any of the children you are dropping off have a fever (100.4 or higher), cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, other respiratory symptoms, or at least two of the following symptoms: chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell?

2. Have you or any of the children you are dropping off:

***Had any of these symptoms since last time you were last here?**

***Been in contact with anyone with these symptoms since the last time you were here?**

***Potentially been exposed to COVID-19 or have reason to believe you/they have COVID-19?**

If your child has been ill for any reason and has not been at school, **they must be fever free for a minimum of 24 hours (1 day) without the use of medication to return to school.**

If your student has a runny nose, cough, or other symptoms he/she will not be able to attend. **For students who have on-going medical issues that may result in symptoms that are not contagious (such as a clear runny nose due to allergies or coughing due to asthma), you will need to contact your child's doctor for documentation explaining that your child's medical condition results in symptoms that are safe for school.**

Classroom Visitors

Classroom Visitors will be limited to therapists, case workers, visitors necessary for the health of students, or volunteers leading or assisting with programs.

Parents may be invited to participate in classroom activities and events from time to time and guidelines for these visits will be outlined prior to the visit based on current health recommendations.

Our school wide visitor policy will be revisited often, and we will make every effort to plan programs with parents in mind. The Nett School loves parents and families, and we want to be able to welcome all parents on site when possible.

Afternoon Carpool

In the afternoon, students will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before carpool.

Students will be dismissed from their classrooms into the hallway to meet the team helping with carpool. We will keep student groups socially distanced during carpool.

Carpool will start at 12:45 pm each day and may take longer at the beginning of the year as we become more efficient with the new procedure.

Parents must be in line no later than 1:00 pm each day.

Parents may not walk up and get students. All parents must use carpool to reduce contact.

Checking a Student Out Early

If it is necessary for your child to leave school early, they must be checked out by 12:00 pm to avoid interference with afternoon carpool and to comply with social distancing measures.

If you know that you are planning to check your student out early, please send in a note in your child's folder or call the school office so that we can prepare your student to check out early.

If there is an emergency situation and you must come to pick up your child early, please try to call us if possible. If you are unable to call, please ring the video doorbell and stand within view of the camera so that we can see you and speak with you.

Sickness at School

If a student gets sick at school, he/she will be quarantined from other students immediately and the parent will be contacted for pick up. **The student will need to be fever free and symptom free for 24 hours without the use of medication to be able to return to school.** **See school wide policy for returning to school in our Parent Handbook**

COVID-19 Financial Impact & School Closures

If a student or family member is diagnosed with COVID-19, the parent or guardian should contact the School Director or Administrator immediately so that the classroom and all items such as toys and

learning aids can be disinfected immediately. **A health alert** will be sent home to any classrooms who have been in contact with an infected student.

If a student is diagnosed and tests positive for COVID-19, his/her parent should immediately notify the School Director or Administrator. **A health alert** will be sent home, and students in that class will need to quarantine for 10 days. The Nett School will provide learning packets and/or digital resources for learning at home. ***A refund will not be issued for an initial time period whether time is missed due to school closing due to quarantine, inclement weather etc.***

If a student in the same classroom is diagnosed with COVID-19, and a second 10 day quarantine period is required, The Nett School will issue a prorated credit for the 2 week period based on the number of days the student attends during a 2 week period (10 days for 5 day per week students, 6 days for 3 day per week students).

If a family member living with a student is diagnosed with COVID-19, the school director should be notified. The student in close contact with the family member should be quarantined for 10 days before returning to school. Should the student be diagnosed with COVID-19, the parent should notify The Nett School. In this case, The Nett School will notify parents that a student's family member has been diagnosed with COVID-19. However, the classroom will not be shut down unless a student or teacher in the classroom has been diagnosed.

The Nett School expects each family to act responsibly and communicate with our administrators and quarantine any student who has been exposed to someone who is diagnosed with COVID-19 for the safety of all students.

The Nett School reserves the right to close for up to 2 weeks without issuing a refund to parents. Closure may be school wide or select classrooms.

Two weeks of unit based curriculum for each age group will be prepared and will be made available if The Nett School closes the school building or your student's classroom.

Should a student in our program be diagnosed with COVID19, The Nett School will close the classroom or surrounding classrooms for a period of time for additional cleaning measures or to encourage quarantining.

If The Nett School closes your student's classroom because of exposure at school for longer than 2 weeks total during a school year, you will be issued a partial credit based on your student's overall daily rate based on the total number of days in the school year not in the actual month he/she attends because tuition is divided into equal monthly payments for the entire school year.

If your child needs to quarantine because of exposure outside of school, and The Nett School does not initiate closure, tuition will still be due to maintain your child's spot in our program. However, we will give you access to learning packets and/or digital resources during your quarantine since you will be paying tuition during this time.

Afterschool Classes

Students in our afterschool classes will be dismissed to their afterschool teacher following afternoon carpool.

Teachers may wear masks or face shields during after school programs but this is not required. Reasonable social distancing will be observed.

Parents acknowledge that allowing their children to participate in afterschool activities means additional contact with students from other classes.

Parental Acknowledgement

All parents will be required to sign a form acknowledging and agreeing to our policies for COVID-19.