

**COVID 19 procedures for Thrive Out of school care. (updated July 6th 2020)**  
**(This document may be updated as the Province changes policies and procedures)**

**COVID-19 Health and Wellness Statement**

Parents will be asked to sign a statement each morning, confirming that their child is symptom-free & that their child has not been given acetaminophen or ibuprofen in the last 12 hours.

Symptoms that require a child to stay home or be picked up if developed at the center are Temperature of 100 F / 37.8 C or higher (orally) or 99 F / 37.2 C or higher (under the arm) Runny nose, Cough, Sore Throat, Difficulty breathing, or wheezing, Unexplained fatigue, aches or cold and flu-type symptoms, Sinus congestion, skin rash.

**Children or staff may return to the centre once they are assessed by their family physician or nurse practitioner and it is determined that they do NOT have COVID-19, and their symptoms have resolved.** A letter from the health care practitioner is required for children or staff to be present with any related symptoms. For example, seasonal allergies resulting in runny nose and eyes need to be confirmed in writing by a healthcare professional.

Childcare centers have been given guidelines and best practices from the government of BC to help develop their own safety policies that work for their individual centers. The following are policies and procedures put in place at Thrive concerning COVID 19.

1. You will be asked to be in compliance with the health and wellness commitment every day. Each morning you will be asked to sign indicating:
  - a. That you and your child are practicing the health and safety policies regarding, travel and quarantine.
  - b. That your child is free from all cold and flu and rash symptoms
  - c. Staff are also required to sign a wellness declaration at the start of every shift.
  
2. Each morning we ask that you assist your child in:
  - a. Placing their belongings as directed by staff
  - b. Monitor a 20-30 second-hand wash of your child, some centers will have outdoor handwashing centers to do so.
  - c. Please note that parents are discouraged from entering the building unless necessary and sign in and morning free play will be outside unless heavy rain
  
3. Do not allow your child to bring toys, trading cards or other personal belongings from home other than necessary clothing and food and drink and requested items for a particular activity (like a bike/ helmet or lifejacket).

4. Explain to your children that in order to help with social distancing and to be breathing in fresh clean air as much as possible that they will be playing outdoors for the majority of the day including early morning arrival & end of the day free time unless there are heavy rains or other unsafe weather conditions. This may be hard for some to get used to.
5. We will be working on creating personal bubble zones the size of fingertip to fingertip with arms outstretched. If there is not enough space to spin with arms outstretched then kids are too close and should give space. Staff will be helping kids throughout the day by calling out “space spin” everyone will stretch out their hands and move far enough away as to not be able to touch another outstretched hand. Hands-on behaviour will not be tolerated.
6. Send belongings with them to help them have a comfortable day outdoors. Hats, hoodie, t-shirt, shorts, send a swimsuit and towel and full water bottle every day.
7. Send two snacks, lunch and a refillable water bottle labelled with their name. It is important to note we are not allowing use of Thrive cups or spare water bottles right now so it is essential that your child has their water bottle every day.
8. Thrives program moto is EXPLORE DISCOVER THRIVE. We believe kids are happier, healthier and smarter when interacting with nature therefore we are often out on trips to natural parks and forest areas. Because of this, it is important that your child is dropped off by 9:30 (9:00 for the explore group at Grace location only) and picked up no earlier than 4:00pm unless otherwise pre-arranged with staff. If your child can not attend an out trip you will need to find alternate care for that day.
9. Transportation- in order to have kids outdoors for an entire day we are keeping with our out trips. To make transportation as safe as possible, windows will be open for ventilation, vehicles will be sanitized between uses, children will sit in the same seats to and from destinations and children will be seated spaced apart when and if possible and will be transported in small groups whenever possible. We believe your kids are safer and healthier being transported without social distancing for a short part of the day than having a primarily indoor program. If you have any questions please direct them to Jennilee at the support office. [Jennilee.thrivekelowna@gmail.com](mailto:Jennilee.thrivekelowna@gmail.com)
10. Out trips and day plans may continue to change as time goes on. For example, certain parks and beaches that have had plenty of space for groups in the past have now been found to be overfull causing more program changes. Certain places we hoped would open aren't open yet. The closure of the drivers licensing offices has created an incredible backlog for commercial drivers tests resulting in fewer commercial divers available which means some activities have been cancelled due to the inability to adequately transport the children.

11. Please stay in communication with us! The staff will be doing their best to have open and invited communication with parents. If you feel that concern is not being heard by staff on-site please do not hesitate to call us at the support office. We continue to train and mentor our young staff through the ever-changing policies and procedures of childcare during COVID. Your feedback is always valuable. [office.thrivekelowna@gmail.com](mailto:office.thrivekelowna@gmail.com)

## **Summer parent Policy Details 2020**

### **Sunscreen Policy**

- All children must **come to Thrive with sunscreen pre-applied** for their protection in the morning. If it is a swim/waterpark day please have your child wear their swim suits under their clothes and sun screen as if they are in a swimsuit. 8-hour protection is preferred. Parents are responsible for this first application & must sign that their child has it on. NO sunscreen will be applied by staff until noon. If the morning application is not signed off it indicates that you do not want sunscreen on your child for the morning.
- For re-application at noon, parents can choose between the following choices:
  1. Pay a SUNSCREEN fee of \$5.00/ week and have staff apply Thrive owned spray-on, non-rub in sunscreen at noon.
  2. Send a **NON SPRAYABLE** sunscreen with your child to apply themselves without the physical rub in assistance of staff. (Spray on is not allowed to be applied by kids due to miss use spraying it in eyes etc)

For both of the above staff will sign off beside your child's name on the team checklist once your child has had sunscreen applied one way or another. You can ask to see this sheet at pick up if you desire.

**Hydration Policy** -Please send your child with a **refillable water bottle**. Staff do water checks at 10:00 am snack, lunch, and 3:30 pm and sign off each time that the child has drank the appropriate amounts and that their water bottles are refilled. Please note a juice box on its own is not adequate. But can be added as a bonus (frozen ones make great ice packs) If your child arrives without a water bottle a disposable one will be given to them for a \$2.00 fee.

**Hat Policy** - Children must be in sun hats every day. If they do not arrive with one they will need to wear one provided by Thrive. Please have your child arrive with their hat ON.

**Swimsuit & towel**- kids may be getting wet/swimming or water games every day regardless of water activities on the calendars. They will also be using their towels to sit on for socially distant picnic style snacks & lunches. Swim gear & towels must be sent every day.

**Shade Breaks-** All children take a half-hour shade break at lunch. It is mandatory that they chill for this entire rest time in the shade. Staff will also be seeking shade for the kids as much as possible during activities & out trips. We are doing our best to continue to add multiple small shade options at our centers to encourage kids in shaded social distancing during free time.

**Water shoes-** Due to the number of sharps & water hazards these days, it is mandatory that your child has water shoes or sandals to wear in the water. Bare feet are not permitted.

**No Flip Flops -** Children's shoes must be firmly attached to their feet. Flip flops are not allowed.

**Cooler Lunches-** ensure your child's lunch is sun safe with ice packs and in thermal lunch kits. **Absolutely no nuts**, and sharing can only occur between siblings. Your center will notify you of other local allergy alerts if need be.

**Green Thrive T-shirts -** Must be worn on ALL OUT TRIP days other than waterslides. Due to COVID-19, we will not be washing your child's shirts at the end of the day. You can buy a new Thrive shirt for \$20 or a used and washed shirt from previous years for \$5.

**Life jackets -** all 5 and 6-year-olds and all children who do not pass a swim test will need to wear a life jacket in the water. Due to COVID, we do not want kids sharing jackets back and forth this year so please send your child with their own clearly labelled with their name. If you are unable to for financial reasons please speak to your manager and they will try to assign your child a life jacket for the week.