

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

Staff Health and wellness: No staff will attend work with the children if presenting cold or flu symptoms that correlate with covid 19. Staff are required to sign a health and wellness declaration at the start of each shift.

Student health and wellness check: Thrive after school staff will visually and verbally assess children as they check-in after school. Hopefully, any sick children will have already been sent home from school but in the event that a child does appear or say to have any cold or flu symptoms parents will be called and the child will be taken into the school office and will wait for parent pick up without joining the Thrive group. This will be very strict in order to minimize spreading germs between cohorts and schools in the after school setting.

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

Should a child become sick while at Thrive they will be separated from the other children in a quiet supervised rest spot and parents will be required to pick up immediately. Touchpoints of that child will be sanitized.

Children or staff may return to the centre once they are assessed by their family physician or nurse practitioner and it is determined in writing 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.

Sanitization of high touch surfaces: High touch surfaces will be sanitized before during and after each program day. For minimum of three times in a 4 hour program. Sanitization records are kept on file for audit.

Format, policies & procedures for after school care 2020 during covid - 19 precautions.

After School Care format will be considerably different than prior years. As much as possible the following will be practiced:

Transportation from School: North Glenmore students will continue to walk to thrive as a group with a staff as usual and other schools will be picked up by Thrive buss or vans. Students being bussed will have assigned seats that remain the same every day. Sibling groups will be seated together. The bus will be sanitized after the school pick-ups before being used again for any out trip. Windows will be partially open to allow continual airflow. Hands will be sanitized upon entry and exit of the bus if immediate handwashing is not available.

Small Groups: Children will be placed within consistent small groups (rooms) These small groups/ rooms will have the same children and staff leaders every day and will not intermingle when inside the building. These groups will also have a designated outdoor play space for most free play times but may mix or trade outdoor play spaces occasionally or at the end of the day.

Washrooms: Groups/rooms will use the washrooms at designated times and the washrooms will be sanitized between-group uses and when deemed necessary if multiple individual uses occur between groups.

Hand washing: Children and staff will wash hands upon entering the building however times that may be, before and after eating or handling food and after using the washroom and sanitize before leaving for home. Hand sanitizer will be used on out trips before and after playground use.

Personal Belongings: 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). Personal belongings like coats and backpacks will be required to be correctly placed on the child's hook or designated spot.

Outdoor Program: 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 all recreational and free time activities will be outdoors unless there are heavy rains or other unsafe weather conditions. As winter approaches we will redirect to some limited indoor options.

Social Distancing: We will be encouraging social distancing as much is possible and logical in a play based setting. 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. Activities and rooms will be set up to support social distancing. **Hands-on behaviour will not be tolerated and children will be sent home early for recurring offences.**

Snacks and water: Send an after school snack, 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.

Out Trips: 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 picked up no earlier than 4:45pm unless otherwise pre-arranged with staff. If your child can not attend an out trip it is your responsibility to notify staff before 1pm that day. Let your room leader know if there will be recurring constant days that you will pick up early.

Communication: Please stay in communication with us! The staff will be doing their best to have open and invited communication with parents. Please first speak to your child's group/room leader about any concerns or questions and following that their manager/ director if you feel still feel un heard. If you feel that concern is not being heard by staff and managers 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.
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