

The Whole Child, Inc.

Covid-19 Safety Guidelines

Parents/Guardians

Below are additional guidelines that The Whole Child, Inc. will be implementing for our Summer 2020 Services. These new guidelines are in line with the Massachusetts Child and Youth Serving Programs Reopen Approach Minimum guidelines for Health and Safety Issued on June 1, 2020. While our program is not considered a camp or childcare center, we are using these guidelines to the maximum extent feasible for our programs to ensure staff and student safety. In addition to this guidance, we have consulted information released for the provision of Extended Year Services by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on June 5th and 8th found [HERE](#).

Our staff has reviewed these guidelines and have made the proper adjustments and modifications to our programs to ensure that your child will be safe while still enjoying their Social Empowerment Groups.

The updates on the following pages should be considered in addition to the safety measures we already employ. We understand that you may have additional questions or concerns about how groups will operate. A link to the states guidelines can be found [HERE](#)

We have also left page and section numbers for guidance to some of the updates. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Director of Administration:
sarag@thewholechildmatters.org 508-603-1711 (unattended message line)

Group Changes

In order to meet the state guidelines there have been several changes to how we will be operating this summer. Each action is to ensure the safety and security of staff and families.

Masks and Gloves - All staff and students will be required to wear masks when we are unable to maintain 6 feet of distance. Gloves will be used by staff when taking temperatures and assisting any students in a hands-on capacity. **Pg. 15 7A (1) & Pg. 20 9A**

Materials & Equipment - Each student will have their own materials, writing implements, and sensory tools. Sharing of items will not be permitted. Access to and use of certain equipment may be limited as sanitation between groups may not be possible. **Pg. 28 E1**

Training - All staff will be trained with information about COVID-19, including how the illness is spread, how to prevent its spread, symptoms, and when to seek medical assistance for sick children or employees. **Pg.8 2B. (4)**

Staff will also be trained on proper hand washing and hygiene protocols. In addition, they will follow a schedule on proper sanitation of items after use. These areas will include, but are not limited to, chairs and tables, light switches, door handles, and bathrooms. **Pg. 9 2B (9)(10)**

Group sizes/ratios – No group will have greater than 12 total people, including both students and staff.

Hand washing/sanitizer - Students and staff will be encouraged to wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer whenever possible. These are the following times individuals will be asked to sanitize. **Pg. 14 6B**

- At drop off or when they arrive
- Before and after eating;
- After sneezing, coughing or nose blowing;
- After using the restroom;
- After handling any equipment

Snack & Drinks – Snacks and Drinks will not be provided during groups. We have water available in case of emergency.

Parent Wrap-up – Parent wrap-up will be done via email. If an immediate issue arises, coaches may ask to speak to you, outside, at your vehicle. Both coaches and parents must wear masks during this interaction.

Before Arriving

Before your child comes to group we ask that you look at these additional guidelines.

Please make sure that you self-screen your child for any Covid-19 symptoms and if your child does exhibit any symptoms, please keep them home.

What to bring –

- Face Mask
- Hand Sanitizer – There will be hand sanitizer available in all group rooms, however if you prefer your child to use a specific product, we are requesting that you provide it.
- Fidgets – We may be very limited in the items we can provide for handheld sensory input. If your child often uses fidgets, you may send them in with the expectation they will not share with others.

What not to bring –

- Toys from home that are not fidgets
- Food or drink
- Phones or other technology unless they can be secured on their person from entry to exit.

Arrival Procedures

These new procedures will make dropping off your child take longer than before. To help make everything go more smoothly we are asking all parents/guardians to adhere to these new procedures.

**The Community Room and Red Building will be closed to all visitors.
Only enrolled students will be allowed access to the building.**

Entering the building

Each group will have a specific door to use for entry to the Red Building (2 Maple Ave).

After parking, please walk your child to the assigned door. **Make sure that you and your child are wearing masks and maintain at least 6ft distance from others while queuing.** A coach will be outside the assigned door to perform a quick health screening before allowing your child inside. Parents are asked to return to their cars without lingering.

Temperature checks and screening – Parents/guardians will be asked to self-screen at home before bringing their child to group.

Coaches will ask each Parent/Guardian for a verbal attestation regarding:

- any symptoms experienced within the past 24 hours
- household contacts with COVID-19
- whether you give permission for your child to remove their mask once seated

If a parent/guardian or student declines to complete the screening questionnaire, they will not be permitted to enter the program space.

In accordance with the recommendations from DESE's (Department of Elementary and Secondary Educations) Initial Guidance on Re-Opening for Summer Services, we will not be performing temperature checks. The COVID-19 Command Center's Medical Advisory Committee does not recommend temperature checks on students at entry due to the significant number of both false positive and false negative results. **Pg. 2-3**

After Entering

All students must wear a mask upon entry and will be directed to the sink to wash their hands.

After washing, students will be directed to a seat within the space. Seats will be arranged to allow a minimum of 6 feet distance from other students. Once all students are seated, and if the activity planned allows, students with Parental permission to remove their masks may do so.

During Group

When we are in group, Coaches will make sure students maintain proper social distancing. Games and skills that require close proximity will be changed or eliminated. Students will not be required to wear masks as long as they are able to stay 6 feet apart and have Parental Permission to remove their masks.

Restrooms & Moving around the space

All staff and students must wear masks when moving around the space, including using the restroom.

All staff and students must follow proper handwashing after using the restroom or handling shared materials.

Pick Up

Parents will pick up their student at a designated door. Please follow the same procedure as drop off. Parents must wear masks and practice distancing while queuing. A Coach will be at the door and will dismiss students one-by-one.

In order to clear the entrances and parking lot for the next group, we ask that families not congregate around doorways or in the parking lot. Coaches will not be available for updates or feedback unless there is an immediate concern so that they may sanitize the space prior to the next group's arrival.

Other Items

Monitoring of Students - Coaches will monitor students throughout the group for Covid-19 symptoms. If a student appears to be exhibiting signs or symptoms, they will be separated from the group and isolated until they are able to be picked up. **Pg. 12 4B**

Reporting symptoms - If your child exhibits any signs or symptoms please notify the Director of Administration sarag@thewholechildmatters.org **Pg. 9 2B (7)**

Exposure or testing Positive - If a student or staff member is exposed to a sick or symptomatic person or tests positive for Covid-19 families and staff will be notified but we will maintain confidentiality. **Pg. 13 5E**