



**FAIRLINGTON
PRESCHOOL**
Come and see how we play!

3900 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22302
703.671.3939 [P]
preschool@fairlingtonumc.org

August 2021

Dear Families:

I wanted to update you on the operating procedures during Covid for the upcoming year.

We learned a lot last year while operating during the pandemic. We plan to keep a lot of what worked in place to keep all our staff and children safe. All Fairlington staff are vaccinated but will still wear masks inside the building. All families must enter the building using the handicapped entrance, NOT the Green awning door entrance.

Drop Off Procedures

- Drop off will take place at the classroom doors. To reduce hallway crowding, all 4-year-old classes will operate 9 - 12. 2 and 3-year-old classes will operate 9:10 - 12:10
- Parents must sign children in and out of their classes each day.
- Parents and children must wear masks inside the building regardless of vaccination status.

Once children are inside the classrooms, they are inside their "pod". Each "pod" will social distance from other classroom "pods" to ensure health and safety. Teachers will monitor the health of children throughout the day, including monitoring for symptoms and taking temperatures as needed. If a child shows signs of illness, he or she will be removed from the class into another space until a parent can get to the school to pick up the ill child. The child will be supervised by an office staff member.

Masks

- All children must wear masks when in the classroom and in common areas in the church.
- Staff will also wear masks inside the classroom and common areas of the church.
- Masks will also be worn outside, except during snack and lunch (K Class).
- Parents and any visitors over the age of 2, must wear masks if they are in the Preschool.

Snacks

Parents will provide a small snack for their child each day. We ask that it be in packaging that children can open easily and does not require refrigeration. Parents also need to send in a refillable water bottle for their child every day.

- Please label all containers and water bottles with the child's name.
- (PARENT TIP: keep extra packages of snack in the trunk of your car in case you forget snack on those occasional crazy mornings!)
- All food items MUST be nut-free!

- Parents who wish to send in birthday treats, must send in a single serving sized prepackaged treat as opposed to homemade treats.
- Children will eat snack outside most days.

Pick-Up Procedures

Parents will pick up their child at the end of the day from the child's classroom. Parents are asked to be mindful of social distancing in the hallways and must wear masks when inside the preschool.

Health and Wellness

- We expect, as a community and family, that our preschool families, including staff, practice safe behaviors, so we can keep our school open.
- Staff and children are required to stay home if they are sick.
- Staff and children who have been in close contact with a person testing positive for Covid-19 are asked to stay home. Staff and children must quarantine for 10 days following contact with a person who has tested positive for Covid-19.
- We request that staff and parents let the preschool office know of any exposure to the virus within 24 hours.
- If an adult or child in the preschool tests positive for Covid-19, we will inform parents, staff, FUMC leadership and the Alexandria Health Department. If there is a confirmed case of Covid -19 in the school community, every family will be notified without breaching confidentiality and we will follow Alexandria Health Department guidelines which may include closing an individual class or the entire preschool for an undetermined amount of time. Thankfully, with the cooperation of everyone involved, this was not necessary last year!
- Families who have travelled overseas or domestically out of the NOVA area will be required to quarantine for 10 days upon their return before they can come back to the preschool. Please, if you travel, keep your child safe by asking if family members have been vaccinated and if visiting families with children, practice safe distances and masking.
- Anyone presenting with the following symptoms will not be admitted to the preschool: Fever over 100, diarrhea, vomiting, green runny nose, pus/oozing eyes, any disease or condition such as fifth disease, measles, chicken pox, pink eye, etc.
- Staff and children may return when their symptoms are gone for 24 hours without medication.
- Children with seasonal allergies that may present with any of the above symptoms need to have a note from a health care provider that the symptoms are not related to Covid-19, and that your child is free from a potentially contagious illness. The Delta variant often presents with runny nose and sore throat.

Communication Plan during the Pandemic

Communication is important and will be imperative as we engage in partnership and community during this time.

How do parents notify the school?

Please use email or phone as the primary source of communication.

Preschool office: preschool@fairlingtonumc.org

Preschool office phone: 703-671-3939

Classroom teachers will give parents their email contacts as school begins.

Fairlington Preschool will notify you by the following sources:

Email is the primary source of communication. Please ensure that your email address is correct with the office. Please give the office the email address that you check regularly.

- Newsletter: Monthly newsletters are emailed at the beginning of the month
- Phone Calls: When a child is sick or gets hurt, the preschool will call you.

I look forward to seeing you all in September!

Carol

Carol Keller

Director

Fairlington Preschool

3900 King St.

Alexandria, VA 22302

703-671-3939

www.fairlingtonpreschool.org