



Center Is Open During Pandemic

Dear Family,

Many people throughout the United States and in other countries are becoming sick with the flu. Health officials are calling this worldwide outbreak a “flu pandemic.”

In our local community, home care, child care and early care centers, as well as public and private schools, remain open. Children may go to child care and school as usual. We will keep you updated with any important information.

We are also taking several steps to help keep the flu from spreading among our children. For example, we:

- Check children and staff often for signs of illness.
- Use disinfectant to clean all surfaces, such as desks and doorknobs.
- Make sure children and staff wash their hands often.
- Space cribs and cots farther apart (more than three feet).
- Provide tissue for coughs and sneezes.

Please keep your sick children at home to help us limit the spread of flu. If *anyone* in your household is sick with the flu, please keep your children at home, even when they seem well. If your child becomes sick during the day, we will contact you at once and ask you to take your child home.

We also ask that all members of your household take these simple steps to help prevent the spread of flu.

- **Wash your hands often.**
- **Cover your coughs and sneezes with your elbow or sleeve or tissue—not your hands.**
- **Keep your hands away from your eyes, nose, and mouth.**
- **Stay home if you are sick.**

Public health officials are also asking that everyone:

- **Avoid large crowds.**
- **Keep errands to a minimum.**
- **Stay away from others if you must go out.**



If the flu keeps spreading and many more people become sick, public health officials may request that home care, child care, and early care centers close. Schools may even be closed for weeks or months. These steps will help limit the spread of flu.

Please think about a plan to care for your child at home or someplace else if your regular care becomes unavailable.

Please be sure the contact information we have for you is up to date. We will use this information to contact you if your child becomes sick, or to let you know if the center must close. If you have any questions about whether we are open or closed, here are two ways you can reach us:

Sincerely,