

After School Enrichment Program; COVID-19

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools along with The Division of Child Development Early Education and Governor Cooper have provided the following guidance as well as requirements and recommendations for reopening schools and child care centers. This is an effort to minimize exposure risks to staff and students.

Covid-19 and Epidemic Control Policy. For the protection of all students enrolled in the program, students and staff will have daily health screenings. Parents/caregivers need to be on the alert for any symptoms of COVID-19 and to keep the child(ren) home if showing any signs of illness. ASEP will not allow staff to work or a child to participate in ASEP if s/he shows any of the following symptoms: Covid-19: a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, shortness of breath or trouble breathing, congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, cough, fatigue, diarrhea, vomiting, a rash, nasal discharge or discharging eyes or ears, or conjunctivitis (pink eye). Should a child develop these symptoms while in day school and be sent to ASEP when school is over, or develop symptoms during ASEP time, the child will be removed from the group and the Site Coordinator or designated ASEP staff member will contact the parent or guardian to pick up the child from the program. In the event of Covid-19 is confirmed in the program, CMS/ASEP will work with the appropriate agencies to inform parents and staff. Non-covid-19 related symptoms staff/child may return to the program when s/he has been symptom-free for 24 hours.

Arrival and Pick-up Procedures. Due to Covid-19 only essential personnel will be allowed to enter schools. Programs are required to post the door sign at all entrances to the facility. An ASEP staff person will greet students and parents upon arrival. Students will complete a health screening before being signed into the program and parents departing. Students and staff will wash/sanitize their hands at a handwashing station set up at the entrance. At pickup each evening, parents will be greeted at the door. Students will be released once the parent/guardian has signed out their child. Staff will escort students to and from their classroom location. The staff person greeting students should wear a cloth face covering and be a person who is not at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19

Cloth Face Coverings. Child care programs are required to have all workers and students eleven years or older onsite to wear a face covering when they are or may be within six (6) feet of another person, unless the person (or family member, for a child) states that an exception applies. Child care programs are required to teach the importance of wearing a face covering and reinforce the importance of not touching your face. Face coverings are recommended for students between the ages of two (2) and ten (10) years old if they can reliably wear, remove and handle following the CDC guidelines. Cloth face coverings should be worn by staff if feasible, and are most essential in times when physical distancing is difficult. There are exceptions, not all students should wear face coverings. Anyone who cannot tolerate a cloth face covering due to developmental, medical or behavioral health needs, has trouble breathing or is unable to remove a face covering without assistance.

Handwashing. Staff will teach and reinforce hand hygiene guidance for adults and children such as washing hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (about as long as it takes to sing "Happy Birthday" twice). Handwashing will be monitored to ensure both children and staff are washing hands correctly. Frequent handwashing and sanitation breaks will be incorporated into classroom activity. Hand sanitizing products with 60 percent alcohol may be used in lieu of handwashing when outdoors if hands are washed upon returning indoors. Hand sanitizer should be stored out of reach of children when not in use. Hand sanitizer cannot be for diapering, eating preparing or serving food. In addition to usual handwashing, everyone should wash hands:

- o Upon arrival in classroom in the morning;
- o Before and after eating meals and snacks;
- o After blowing noses, coughing, or sneezing or when in contact with body fluids; or
- o After toileting

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Cleaning Schedule. All ASEP sites are cleaned by school custodians. Areas used by the ASEP, such as the cafeteria, bathrooms, gym, and classrooms, are cleaned on a daily basis. Enhanced cleaning practices will be implemented during the program day. Staff will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the day such as doorknobs, light switches, tables, chairs, desks, and activity materials. Daily schedules will allow time between activities for proper cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces. Equipment and materials will be cleaned and sanitized at the end of the day. Major cleaning tasks such as waxing floors are done during school breaks.

Social Distancing. ASEP will practice social distancing. **Signage will be posted in key areas through the school to remind people to keep 6 feet of distance whenever feasible, use face coverings and wash hands; the Three W's.** Social distancing can decrease the spread of COVID-19. Social distancing (“physical distancing”) means keeping space between yourself and other people outside of your home. Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms’ length) from other people; do not gather in groups; stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings. ASEP will follow DCDEE student to staff ratios. Student groups and staff will meet in classrooms in an effort to limit interaction with other student groups.

Field Trips and Contract Services. The Division of Child Development and Early Education has informed ASEP that all field trips and on-site services are prohibited for the 2020-2021 school year.