

Welcome to a great year at Happy Days Preschool.

We look forward to a happy year with the children filled with new friendships, learning experiences, and fun.

Start date **Sept 7th** 8:45-11:00 or 8:45-11:45(depends on the length of time you choose)

Guidelines that help make the beginning of class flow smoothly

When the children arrive they hang their backpack and coat on a hook with their name beside it. The children then wash their hands and sit down on the rug with a book. If your child needs you to stay you can but be mindful to keep your 2 meter distance from staff and the other children. Please leave as soon as possible so we can limit the chance of covid.

We will have a staggered entry with only three parents and child entering the preschool at a time.

It is good to let the children know ahead of time that they will see lots of toys that they will get to play with but in the beginning they are to be on the colored mat with a book.

At the end of the day we will get your child ready and dismiss them one at a time so you don't have to come into the preschool.

A few things to remember.

Please don't send your child in tie shoes unless there is a medical reason as they frequently come untied and can cause an accident.

Please don't send shoes that leave black marks on the floor.

Please send your child with a back pack, a change of clothes and inside shoes only **if wearing boots** or the shoes are muddy or wet.

Backpacks should be around 16"x12"x5" If they are smaller than this it is hard to put their crafts etc in the bag too.

Send your child with a snack that would be put in the back pack. (**no additional lunch boxes please**)

The snack can be put in the smaller pocket at the front of the back pack.

Please don't have a separate lunch box. It is much easier for your child to unzip one zipper at snack time.

Tying a colored ribbon on that zipper with the snack makes it easier for your child to find their snack.

Snack should include something to drink, something nutritious to eat and nothing with peanuts or tree nuts.

School Fees

Tue/Thurs- 2 day program- 140 a month or 3hr program 200 a month

Tue/Wed/Thurs- 3 day program -300 a month for 3hr program or 200 a month for 2:15 hr program.

If you are receiving a subsidy you will be responsible for the balance

In Sept the first and last month is due.

If you are interested in helping out at the preschool, or helping with Field Trips(Fire Station) please let me know as parents need to have a police clearance and vulnerable sector search letter now. When you apply through the preschool agency you will need a letter from me saying you do volunteer work at the preschool. Hope to hear from you.

Please read the info below on covid mitigation so you know what you are responsible for and what we do to mitigate covid.

Covid -19 Risk Mitigation

We are doing the following steps to prevent the risk transmission.

Where possible, practices that encourage spacing will occur, for example:

We avoid close greetings like hugs or handshakes.

We plan for spaced activities.

We set up the room to avoid clustering or congested areas.

Staff, parents/guardians and children must not enter the space if they are not feeling well or have COVID-19 symptoms. Parents should wear a mask when entering the preschool.

- Before leaving home, staff and children who will access the preschool should self-screen or be screened by a parent/guardian for symptoms each day that they enter the preschool using the applicable checklist for their age group (Child Alberta Health Daily Checklist or Adult Alberta Health Daily Checklist).

- <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/covid-19-information-alberta-health-daily-checklist>
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- **We will ask parents/guardians if the child is feeling well.**
- This check list is to be completed before your child comes to preschool and the results texted to us at 403-236-1268 along with the child's temperature.
- If a child develops symptoms while at the facility or on a field trip, the child will be isolated two meters away from the other children and the parent/guardian will be notified to come and pick up the child immediately.
- The staff will continue to care for the child until the parent/guardian is able to pick-up the child. We will wear a mask during all interactions with the child and avoid contact with the child's respiratory secretions.
- We will wash our hands before donning a mask and before and after removing the mask (as per Alberta Health mask guidance), and before and after touching any items used by the child.
- All items, such as bedding, toys etc used by the child in the 48 hours prior to the onset of their symptoms and while isolated will be cleaned and disinfected as soon as the child has been picked up. Items that cannot be cleaned and disinfected (e.g. paper, books, cardboard puzzles, etc.) will be removed from the centre and stored for a minimum of 24 hours.
- Anyone that reports symptoms will be directed to stay home, seek health care advice as appropriate (e.g., call Health Link 811, or their primary health care practitioner, or 911 for emergency response), and use the AHS Online Self-Assessment tool to determine if they should be tested.
- <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page17058.aspx>
- Proof of a negative COVID-19 test result is not necessary to return to child care.
- We will keep records of children's known pre-existing conditions. If a child develops symptoms that could be caused by either COVID-19 or by a known pre-existing condition (e.g., allergies), the child should be tested at least once for COVID-19 to confirm that it is not the source of their symptoms before entering or returning to child care. This will be considered the child's baseline health.

- Written confirmation by a physician that a child or staff member's symptoms are due to a chronic illness is not necessary. Repeat testing is not necessary unless the nature of the symptom changes (e.g., a chronic cough worsens).
- The AHS Coordinated Early Identification and Response (CEIR) team is available to the preschool at 1-844-343-0971. We contact the CEIR team for additional guidance and decision-making support as soon as there are 2 or more children/staff members are showing symptoms of illness, within 48 hours of each other, OR have reported to the preschool that they have tested positive for COVID-19, within 14 days of each other.
- We will adhere to AHS requirements. This may include temporary program closure to allow for outbreak management processes to occur.
- **We will allow only 3 parents in the preschool at a time during drop off times being mindful to maintain spacing from staff and other children. As soon as your child is comfortable we would like your child to enter the preschool by themselves. We will dismiss one child at a time at the end of the class.**
- Program attendance is reported monthly to the Ministry of Children's Services.
- Hand sanitizers are placed in convenient locations throughout the preschool and are kept out of the unsupervised reach of children.
- We adhere to hand washing guidelines outlined in the AHS Health and Safety Guidelines
- Hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol is provided as there is evidence that it reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19 when hand washing is not possible.
- If you have questions about your child using alcohol-based hand sanitizer Please let us know.
- Masks **are not** required but if you prefer your child to wear a mask that is fine too.
- If masks are worn, Alberta Health mask guidance will be followed and can be found here: www.alberta.ca/masks.
- Once a disposable mask has been removed, it will be thrown in a lined trash bin or if it is a reusable mask, it will be placed in a sealed container to be laundered.

- If a child gets sick during a field trip we will know where we could isolate at the facility ahead of time. The rest of the procedure would be the same as it is at the preschool.
- When going to a public or school playground, we ensure that children engage in hand hygiene before and after play.
- When our space is utilized by other after-hours user groups the space is cleaned before and after using the space. We have a cleaning log posted and used to track cleaning.
- We increase frequency of daily cleaning and disinfection of common areas and surfaces and pay particular attention to door knobs, light switches, table tops, washrooms and other high touch surfaces.
- **Cleaning and disinfecting of toys is done by:**
 1. Washing with detergent and water;
 2. Rinsing with clean, warm water;
 3. Or we wipe, spray or immerse toys etc for two minutes in an approved Disinfectant; 1 cup water to 1 Tsp. bleach.
 4. Air dry.
- We clean permanent carpets frequently.
- We ensure mouthed toys are immediately put into a designated bucket to be cleaned and disinfected.
- Soft toys (plush toys and blankets) are laundered in hot water and dried thoroughly between children.

Regarding items that travel with the child from home to the child care centre on a daily or regular basis:

- Bringing in non-essential personal items are discouraged.
- Equipment that is required for children's day-to-day use (e.g., mobility or feeding devices, weighted blankets, headphones) will be cleaned and disinfected at drop off and pick up, and will not be used by anyone other than the child.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Sept.

If you want to have a visit on Monday Sept 6th with your child you can come by anytime between 1 and 3 pm.