



Children on the Green **COVID-19 FAQs**

Parents have many questions about COVID-19 and the steps taken to ensure their children's safety in a group setting. Children on the Green follows the guidance of the CDC and the NJ Dept. of Children and Families, as well as coordinating closely with the Town of Morristown Division of Health. These FAQs will answer many of your questions and you may always reach out to with any other concerns you may have at 973.984.0094 or joann@childrenonthegreen.org.

1. Are staff and students screened before coming to Children on the Green? How and how often?

Yes. Every day, all staff and children are screened with a temperature check, physical observation and 6 screening questions. Any teacher or child who exhibits symptoms, has a fever of 100.4 or higher or has been exposed to anyone with symptoms or a positive test is not permitted to enter.

Any staff or child who has returned from a state on the NJ list for self-quarantine *cannot* enter the center until the quarantine period is over.

2. What are your group sizes? How many teachers per group?

Our infant classes have no more than 8 children. All other classes are limited to no more than 10 children. Preschool classes are led by 1 - 2 teachers; infant/toddler classes, by 1 – 3 teachers.

Each class is kept separate from the other classes throughout the day. Classes are never combined. Our downstairs infant/toddler area and upstairs preschool area are kept separate from each other, with only directors allowed to enter both areas.

3. What are your hours of operation?

For summer 2020, our temporary hours of operation are 7:15 am to 5:15 pm.

4. Do the children get to go outside? When? Where? How often?

Each class goes outside twice a day on our playground. Infants and toddlers may also go for a stroll in our neighborhood and preschoolers may go on an “adventure”—walks related to their studies or outdoor field trips.

5. What do I need to bring for my child?

To reduce the spreading of germs, each child uses his/her own art supplies (markers, crayons, scissors, glue sticks, etc.) At this time, COG provides these materials for all children.

We do ask that parents bring *two* extra sets of clothes, instead of just one, because children now need to change any clothing that has *any* “secretion,” which can include drool or spray from a powerful sneeze.



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6. Does my child need to wear a mask?

Children over the age of 2 years are encouraged to wear face masks whenever feasible. All children in our early preschool and pre-K classes wear masks and we ask parents to please bring 2 face masks (to have a back-up) to school. Children do *not* have to wear masks while playing outside.

7. Am I allowed in the building?

At this time, parents are not allowed in our center. No visitors—enrichment teachers, volunteers, service providers, etc.—are allowed to enter the center, in order to reduce children's potential exposure.

8. How often do children wash their hands?

Often! Children wash their hands when they arrive in the morning, when they come in from being outdoors, before and after lunch, after toileting/diaper changes, when their hands or fingers have been in their mouths, when they leave for the day and whenever their hands are dirty.

9. How frequently do you clean and disinfect toys and surfaces? (After centers, after use, at lunch, at end of day)

Child care regulations have always required us to clean and disinfect meal tables before and after each use, diaper tables after each use and toys whenever they are mouthed. Now, as extra precautions, toys are also disinfected after they are played with and shelves, doors, railings and other surfaces are disinfected daily. On the playground our climber, balls and other toys are disinfected after each class's use.

We've expanded our nightly cleaning service to include more surfaces (light switches, doors, railings, etc.) and more spaces and we've contracted for regular deep cleanings with an electro-static cleaning company.

10. What happens if someone tests positive for COVID?

If anyone at COG tests positive, we will immediately notify parents, the Town of Morristown, Division of Health and the State of New Jersey, Department of Children and Families. DCF provides specific instructions on how to proceed—e.g., who must self-quarantine, which areas of the center might need to close and for how long (see link below). This guidance may be superseded by local Division of Health rules or by a state mandate.

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_guidance_reopening_childcare.pdf