

Hand Washing Policies and Procedures During Covid 19

At the Park:

- Children will arrive to the park and check in with the welcoming educator. They will receive their 4 gems and make their way through the 4 element stations placing a gem at each station with their parent/guardian. The final station will be for hand washing. Adults will wash their hands with their children at this station using the blue water jug with spigot, which dispenses a flow of water, and a pump of the soap provided. <https://nezzanaturals.com/collections/liquid-hand-soap/products/lavender-liquid-hand-soap>. (Please use water sparingly as it will be used for washing throughout the day). Cloths will be available for drying as will a container to put them in after use. Parent and child may use the same cloth.
- Before 10am snack, and 2pm snack, children will be given cloths with warm soapy water to wash their hands with, followed by a spray of hand sanitizer. https://nezzanaturals.com/products/hand-sanitizer-sweet-orange?_pos=1&_sid=7395414e5&_ss=rin
- Before lunch children will wash hands once again with soap and water in small groups of 3 at our hand washing station. Educators will provide the children with a pump of liquid soap for washing. Hands will be dried with paper towels, which will be composted at the end of each day. Games and songs will be introduced to make the hand washing process age-appropriate, fun, and accordingly timed for each child. The remaining children and educators in the second and third groups will play a game or sing songs until it is their turn to wash.
- All Tree of Life Playschool educators will wash their hands with soap and water before playschool begins, before lunch, and at end of day. One staff member will be designated as a helper of the children throughout snack and lunch times each day to minimize educators physical contact with children's food containers. The designated educator will then eat their own snacks/lunch once the children have all been assisted and after they have once again sanitized their own hands before eating.
- Please ensure your child has a full bottle of drinking water in their backpack at the start of each outdoor play day. 500ML or more. Staff will be needing to carry significant amounts of additional water for hand washing protocols to the play site, therefore, children will be provided with water top-up's only, each day, for their drinking needs. This will be provided from a sanitized 1 litre plastic water bottle or from the park washrooms, where available.
- Please feel free to add additional wipes or wet soapy cloths in a baggy in your child's lunch for our out-days if you feel they may benefit from additional cleansing measures throughout the day.
- If a child is observed touching or blowing their nose or putting their fingers in their mouth, they will be guided to the hand washing station by an educator to wash hands afterwards with soap and water.
- Educators will wear gloves whenever helping a child with toileting, handling first aid situations, or helping a child to blow their nose. These gloves will then be disposed of after each use.

- End of day procedures will be consistent with the start of the day. Children will wash their hands with their parents, before leaving the program, using the water and soap provided. Children who may be waiting to wash will be kept busy with a story until it is their turn to join their parent/guardian. While this procedure has been somewhat flexible in the past, we respectfully ask that all families allow for this procedure to stringently take place before your child leaves with you at the end of each day, moving forward. We thank you for your patience and cooperation!

At the Studio:

- Children will arrive to the Studio and the welcoming educator in charge of sign in will ask each parent/guardian about the child's wellbeing for the day. They then will receive their 4 gems and make their way through the 4 element stations placing a gem at each station with their parent/guardian. There will be only one family per station. At the final station each adult and child will give last hugs and kisses and the child will enter the Studio without the parent.
- As children enter the studio, they will remove their gear and hang it on their hook. The child will put on their slippers. The child will then go to the bathroom with an assigned hand washing educator to wash hands before sitting down for morning drawing time.
- Cheerful hand washing songs will be used to make the experience light and fun each day.
- All Tree of Life Playschool educators will wash their hands in the bathroom with soap and water before Playschool begins, before lunch, snacks, and at end of day. One staff member will be designated as a helper of the children throughout snack and lunch times each day to minimize educators physical contact with children's food containers. The designated educator will then eat their own snacks/lunch once the children have all been assisted and after they have once again sanitized their own hands before eating.
- Children will wash hands in the bathroom with soap and water before snack times, lunch time, and again at end of day before getting ready to go with their parent/guardian.
- If a child is observed touching or blowing their nose or putting their fingers in their mouth, they will be guided to the bathroom by an educator to wash their hands with soap and water afterwards.
- Educators will wear gloves whenever helping a child with toileting, handling first aid situations, or helping a child to blow their nose. These gloves will then be disposed of after each use.
- Hands will be washed before putting on personal gloves that will be worn when disinfecting will take place. See schedule of cleaning for more details of times this takes place during the day.