

ST. LUKE PRESCHOOL COVID-19 POLICY

2021/2022

St. Luke Preschool will again be using the Child Care Strong NC Public Health Toolkit to help guide us through the school year. The Toolkit can be found at <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov>. Lee County's Health Department may be consulted for advice regarding quarantine in cases of contact and exposure within the Preschool family. The Toolkit emphasizes the following:

1. Vaccinations. All eligible individuals, both staff and preschool families, are encouraged to be vaccinated to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 and to lessen the risk of severe illness. Any unvaccinated staff must submit to weekly COVID-19 testing.
2. Face coverings. All children two year of age and older are encouraged to wear a face covering when indoors. St. Luke Church policy requires that all adults wear a face covering inside the building. All staff will wear a face mask at all times. Unvaccinated staff are required to wear a KN-95 mask.
3. Screening and monitoring for symptoms. Families are encouraged to conduct a daily health check before bringing children to preschool. Check for symptoms of illness such as fever, chills, sore throat, cough, nausea/vomiting, headache, etc. If a child presents with any of these symptoms, he/she should remain at home. Children should be symptom-free for 24 hours before returning to school. Teachers will monitor children for symptoms and may conduct temperature checks throughout the day. Parents will be expected to promptly pick up a sick child if needed during the school day. All staff will have a temperature check upon arrival.
4. Cohorting and physical distancing. There will be no large gatherings of students. Students will remain with their classes throughout the day. Social distancing is not to be expected in the preschool classroom; efforts will be made by teachers to keep space between children when they might typically be more closely situated such as during circle time and when eating.
5. Cleaning and hygiene. Children will wash their hands frequently throughout the day. Rooms will be cleaned as needed during the day and cleaned and sanitized at the end of each day.
6. After the first week of school, children will be dropped off and picked up in the carpool line. This is for both the safety and health of our students and staff.
7. As matters pertaining to COVID-19 remain fluid, these policies will be reevaluated on a regular basis. If/when the state, St. Luke United Methodist Church or Lee County Schools' policy changes, St. Luke Preschool policy may change accordingly.

As a Christian preschool, we believe that it is our responsibility to care for one another. We ask that you protect our students and staff by being diligent with helping to stop the spread of COVID-19 both inside and outside of preschool. We will become one another's bubble and we will show our love by getting as many people vaccinated as possible and by protecting each other with our diligence in following the three W's (Wear, Wait, Wash)