

## HEALTH & ILLNESS



Student health is of major importance at preschool. We will teach and monitor proper handwashing during scheduled breaks throughout the day. Posters showing proper handwashing steps are near the sinks. Hand sanitizer will be in every classroom. Students should keep fingers out of mouth and nose, turn face away from others and cover nose and mouth with tissue or elbow when they cough or sneeze and then wash or sanitize hands. Masks are optional, but students will be asked to wear a mask if they cannot cover their cough or sneeze.

The custodian cleans the classrooms, restrooms and highly touched surfaces per CDC guidelines every day. All staff members are trained to properly clean, sanitize and disinfect surfaces following licensing standards. Classroom materials and supplies including toys, games, doorknobs, light switches, sink handles, countertops, tables, chairs, cubbies and rest mats will be cleaned and sanitized regularly.

The most important thing we can do to slow the spread of any illness is stay home from school or work when we feel ill. The staff will be vigilant for symptoms of personal and student illness. Do not bring your child to preschool if he/she has had a rash, matted eyes, severe nasal/chest congestion, discharge of green or yellow mucus from nose, sore throat, swallowing difficulty, fever of 100 degrees, diarrhea or vomiting as well as any symptoms listed on the Health Questionnaire on Appendix B. Students must stay home until symptom free for 24 hours without fever/symptom reducing medications to avoid spreading illness to other children.

Please text on Bloomz, call the office at 636-272-4505 ex. 106 or email [preschool@hcross.com](mailto:preschool@hcross.com) to report reason for the absence within an hour of your expected arrival. For the safety of all, we will text on Bloomz or call if we have not received notification of absence. Please contact the Director **immediately** if your child or family has been exposed to COVID-19 or any communicable diseases so that parents can be notified. If COVID-19 is confirmed in a child or staff member we will contact the St. Charles County Health Dept. for further directives regarding our operations. We will inform families of the directives with an announcement on Bloomz while maintaining confidentiality.

A child who appears to be or complains of being ill during class will be checked by a staff member. If the child has a fever or other apparent illness, we will isolate them then the parent or designated person will be called and asked to pick up the child immediately. Please have an emergency plan to be able to pick up your child quickly. We will follow CDC guidelines to clean and disinfect after the sick child or staff have left.

If it is necessary for your child to receive medication while in our care, you will need to fill out a medication form. Please hand forms and all medications in their original container to a staff member. Do not put in your child's book bag.

If the health department or a higher state source decides to close schools, we are prepared to shift to e-learning. Details will be shared at that time.