

Little Blessings Christian Childcare Center

Holiday Plans, Procedures and Policies

November 11, 2020

Holidays are right around the corner and this year we are not only planning for the festivities, but how to do them safely!

At Little Blessings, the health and safety of our children, families and staff is of utmost concern. It has been highly recommended by local health officials that each childcare center be made aware of the holiday plans of each family enrolled in their center in order to monitor and plan for classroom participation upon return from the holiday.

As a result, Little Blessings is asking you to share with us your anticipated plans, be it for travel, house guests or family gatherings.

The local Health Department, the Office of Early Childhood Education and CDC have put forth the following guidelines:

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) has updated previously released guidelines for Thanksgiving during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Unfortunately, the COVID-19 epidemic is worsening, and small household gatherings are an important contributor to the rise in COVID-19 cases," the agency said in a statement released Monday, Nov. 9. "Traditional Thanksgiving gatherings with family and friends are fun but can increase the chances of getting or spreading COVID-19 or the flu."

The CDC says "the safest way to celebrate Thanksgiving this year is with people in your household."

If you are with friends or family outside your household, you should wear a well-fitting mask, keep 6 feet of distance from people who do not live with you, and keep your hands clean."

The CDC also outlined seven factors that contribute to the risk of getting and spreading COVID at small in-person gatherings:

- Community levels of COVID-19
- Exposure during travel
- Location of the gathering
- Duration of the gathering
- Number and crowding of people at the gathering
- Behaviors of attendees prior to the gathering
- Behaviors of attendees during the gathering

Travel Guidelines: If you are traveling out of state or are having guests that reside out of CT, the following Executive Order needs to be followed:

Executive Order Regarding Travel: Pursuant to Governor Lamont's [Executive Order No. 9I](#), anyone traveling into Connecticut from a state, other than New York, New Jersey, or Rhode Island, with a positive case rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents, or higher than a 10% test positivity rate over a 7-day rolling average, or from a country for which the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) has issued a [Level 3 Travel Health Notice](#), are directed to self-quarantine for a 14-day period from the time of last contact within the identified state or country.

For the purposes of Little Blessings' Policies, all 50 states are included in the travel advisory.

Little Blessings respectfully requests you fill out the following information and return to us by November 20, 2020. We understand that the answers to these questions are flexible and that plans change, however this will help us to plan for the monitoring practices we need to have in place.

Please fill out and return by November 20, 2020.

Name: _____

During the Thanksgiving holiday my family plans to: (please check all that apply)

_____ Stay home and celebrate with our immediate family only

_____ Stay home and have local guests into our home (under 10 total)

_____ Stay home and have guests from out of state to our house:

State that guests are from _____ Will guests be sleeping at your house ____ (Y) ____ (N)

_____ We will be traveling to someone's house **within the state of CT** for a gathering

_____ less than 10 people _____ more than 10 people _____ day only _____ staying overnight

_____ We will be traveling to someone's house **outside of the state of CT**

State Traveling to: _____ Staying Overnight: _____ (Y) _____ (N)

The same questionnaire will be distributed as we get closer to Christmas. For your planning, Little Blessings will be closed on Thursday and Friday December 24 and 25, we will close at 3:00pm on Thursday, December 31 and be closed Friday, January 1, 2021.

As a preliminary plan, will your child be in attendance on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 28-30, 2020? _____ Yes, Normal Schedule _____ Yes, Modified Schedule _____ No

If you checked modified schedule, please be specific. _____

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Holiday COVID Policies

1. If you and your family travel outside the State of CT for less than 24 hours, your child may return to Little Blessings as usual with proper health monitoring. They will be checked and monitored closely for any fever or COVID symptoms. If symptoms manifest, your child will either have to quarantine for 14 days or present us with a negative COVID test result as well as be symptom free to return to Little Blessings.
2. If you and your family travel outside of the State of CT for more than 24 hours and/or use public transportation (Bus, train, plane), your child will need to quarantine for 14 days upon return to CT or present us with a negative COVID test administered 72 hours after return to CT. This means that your child will not be allowed back into the classroom for a minimum of 3 days upon return to CT.
3. If you have guests coming to your home from out of State (any state), they will either have to present a negative COVID test result upon arriving in CT, or your child will need to quarantine for 14 days after your guest's arrival. A negative COVID test result 72 hours after the departure of guests is acceptable.
4. If your child does not attend Little Blessings for any of the above quarantine policies, you are still responsible for full weekly tuition charges.
5. If you stay home with only your immediate family, normal monitoring procedures will continue to be practiced.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we attempt to keep the holidays fun and healthy for everyone.

Blessings,

Robin Costa, Director