



Dear SVLS Preschool families,

2020 has been a year like we have never experienced before. Parents, guardians, and educators have had to make drastic changes in order to provide schooling to children. The 2020-2021 school year will be a different school year, but we can be sure that God will continue to bless us.

This passage from Paul really highlights the planning for the 2020-2021 school year, **“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others.”** (Philippians 2:3-4). These words need to be on our lips this year as we reopen for the school year. As you know from the many people whom you regularly interact, there are many different opinions on how to handle this pandemic. Everyone has different beliefs on how our society needs to move forward in this COVID-19 world. The entire School Board and teaching staff at SVLS respects everyone’s individual beliefs. As we reopen, I ask that you respect other opinions and in everything think about the needs of all our students and school staff.

Many of you have probably heard or read different recommendations from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Both institutions have provided valuable research and suggestions on how to open schools in the fall of 2020. It is key to remember these are suggestions. In Wisconsin, it is up to local school districts on how to best open. We will be looking for guidance through the Winnebago County Health Department and with our area WELS Fox Valley Lutheran Schools with whom we have partnership.

Since Governor Evers announced the schools would not reopen last spring, the teachers have been talking about how to properly reopen in September. As I have talked with school leaders, the best plan, it seems, is to begin with robust safety and mitigation procedures in place. We will continually assess the extent of these procedures if they need to change or whether they could be relaxed. These rules and procedures are for when we reopen on September 8th and are subject to change throughout the year based on changing scientific evidence. God-willing, it will not take long for us to start easing back and going back to normal.

The biggest takeaway from these rules and procedures is that we as a staff will do our best to educate our students on how to live a hygienic and sanitary life, and if anyone shows any signs of sickness, they need to stay home. By keeping sick children home and only having healthy children in school, our school will be able to function on a more normal basis.



As we begin the year, the biggest thing you can do as parents is support the school. As the staff teaches the rules and procedures, we will make sure students understand the most important reason as to why we are doing these is to show love to all of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Please read through all of the rules and procedures and help explain them to your children. If you have any questions, please ask.

I ask for your continued prayers as we prepare for a new school year. As an SVLS family and as brothers and sisters in Christ, let's remember to continue showing love to each other and supporting each other through this difficult time. With God's guidance, I know we will come out of this pandemic stronger than ever.

**In Christ's service,
Mrs. Schoenbach and the SVLS School Board.**



SVLS Preschool's Return Plan 2020 COVID-19 Rules and Procedures

*We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD,
his power and the wonders he has done.*

Psalm 78:4

Please read this document carefully, and sign and return the Parent Agreement (page 7) before the first day of school on September 8th.

Social Distancing

1. Children will be kept with the same group of children and staff everyday.
2. Common areas (i.e. classroom, play room, story rugs) will be used by the same group and will have routine cleaning.
3. Parents may enter the preschool for drop off and pick up, BUT WITH GUIDELINES (see Drop-off/Pick-up).
4. Staff will wear face coverings when social distancing is not possible (i.e. health screenings, assisting with snacks, and assisting with handwashing, etc.)
5. Classrooms
 - a. Tables and chairs will be spread apart to allow social distancing
 - b. Teachers will plan for and set up multiple activities in the morning to allow individual engagement without sharing items.
6. Nap room
 - a. Cots will be placed 6 feet apart.
 - b. Children will be placed head-to-toe.
 - c. Blankets and pillows will go home EVERYDAY to be washed. Children will not be allowed to bring a stuffed animal.
 - d. Cots will be disinfected after each use.

Drop-off/Pick-up

1. Parents will be required to wear masks any time they are picking up or dropping off their children. Children are NOT required to wear a mask.
2. Parents and children are asked to wash hands or sanitize upon entering the building.
3. When picking up or dropping off a child, wait outside for a staff person to assist you.
 - a. Maintain 6 feet social distance if other families are waiting as well (you may wait in your car too).



- b. Enter through the main doors and exit through the doors down the hall to the right.
- c. At drop-off:
 - i. A staff member will screen your child for symptoms. They will also screen you if you are walking your child down the hallway.
 - ii. You may help your child drop off their materials in their cubbies, but you may NOT enter the classroom.
- d. At pick-up:
 - i. Inside (cold or raining): Maintain 6 feet social distance while waiting to pick up your child by the classroom, especially when other families are waiting. Wait at the classroom door for your child (they will have their things ready to go) and exit through the doors down the hall and to the right.
 - ii. Outside (by playground): Maintain 6 feet social distance when lining up by the fence. A staff member will let your children out one by one.
 - iii. A staff member will alert you to any symptoms.
- e. Before care drop-off:
 - i. Ring the doorbell at the main doors and a staff member will assist you. They will screen you and your child. You may walk your child down the hallway, but may NOT enter the classroom. Exit through the doors down the hall and to the right.
- f. After care pick-up:
 - i. Same procedures as before care drop-off. Remember if other families are waiting to maintain 6 feet social distance. Exit through the doors down the hall and to the right.

Diligent Hand Hygiene

1. Children and staff at Preschool will wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol) will be available throughout the building if soap and water are not readily available.
2. The teachers will go over proper hand washing hygiene with the children and have scheduled times for them to wash their hands throughout the day.
3. The teachers will remind children to practice good hygiene by telling them to avoid touching their face, eyes, and mouth. They also will be reminded to cover their cough and sneeze with the inside of their elbow or with a tissue. They will be reminded to wash their hands afterwards.

Cleaning and Disinfection

1. Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected daily.
2. Any toy item that has been in a child's mouth will be removed and set aside to be washed and sanitized.



3. Use of materials that cannot be cleaned and sanitized (i.e. playdough) will be provided in individualized containers and labeled for each child. This will be the same for any sensory materials as well (sand, rice, beans, etc.).
4. Children will have separate, labeled art materials of their own rather than shared supplies (crayons, markers, glue sticks, scissors, etc.).
5. Children may bring a backpack since it will be kept in their own cubby for the day.
6. Lunch boxes and snacks will be kept in their cubby.
 - a. Please try to pack food that needs no additional preparation and heating.
 - b. Snacks and lunch boxes **MUST** be removed from the child's cubby at pick-up.
7. All children must bring a complete change of clothes to be stored in a labeled zip lock bag at Preschool throughout the school year. When a change is necessary, the items will be sent home and must be replaced by the next day of attendance.
8. Drinking water will be provided in all areas used by children and staff. Water will be poured into disposable cups. Please do not send a refillable water bottle with your child.
9. Birthday treats **MUST** be prepackaged snacks.

Health Screening and Exclusion from Attendance

1. Any person with a fever of 100.4 or above or other signs of illness will not be admitted to the facility.
2. Students and staff should stay home if they have any signs of sickness, especially those which are known COVID-19 symptoms.
 - The most prevalent COVID-19 symptoms in children tend to be mild and cold-like and may include fever, runny nose, cough, fatigue, aches, vomiting, and diarrhea.
3. Children and staff will be screened daily before entering the Preschool. Health screening includes:
 - **Before sending your child to school each day, please assess your child's health. If you would answer NO to ANY of the following statements, please do not send your child to school.**
 - i. My child does not have, and has not had in the past 72 hours, a temperature over 100°F.
 - ii. My child does not have, and has not had in the past 72 hours, potential symptoms of COVID-19, such as excessive or persistent coughing, shortness of breath, vomiting, diarrhea.
 - iii. I have not given my child medication to lower his/her temperature in the past 72 hours.
 - iv. No one in my household has COVID-19.



- v. We have limited the number of people we come into contact with and are abiding by the CDC Guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
 - Visual checks for signs of illness
 - Temperature scan with a touchless thermometer
4. Children who develop signs/symptoms of illness at Preschool will be isolated. It is up to the discretion of the school to send home a sick student. Staff will contact a parent or emergency contact to pick up the child. The child must be picked up within one hour of the notification.
 - Students who go home with a fever must be fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 72 hours before returning to school, per CDC guidelines.
5. Any person who has a suspected case of COVID-19 or living in the same house with someone who has tested positive needs to stay home for a period of time.
6. Preschool will implement reasonable and feasible safety protocols and procedures so we can do our part to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and make our school a safe place for our students and teachers.

Conclusion

The measures delineated in this document will be administered lovingly as we care for children's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. The Preschool Director will monitor and respond to advice of CDC and DHS. With the ever-changing nature of the pandemic and the scientific findings connected with it, these plans and procedures are subject to change throughout the year based on changing scientific evidence, government guidance or mandates, and the like. Parents will be notified promptly if and when changes are made to these health and safety precautions. We at Preschool pray that we will be able to safely resume more of our normal routines in the months ahead.

Thank you for helping us keep you and your child(ren) safe and healthy. If you have any questions, please contact the Director, Mrs. Megan Schoenbach at (920) 725-1822 or megan.schoenbach@svls.us.

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways (Psalm 91:11)