KEON PARK KINDERGARTEN INCORPORATED

Virus Safe Plan

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From 13 October 2022, the Pandemic Declaration and associated Pandemic Orders formally ended. Keon Park Kindergarten remains responsible for the health, safety and wellbeing of all children and educators in the service. Keon Park Kindergarten will continue to apply Virus Safe practices and policies and will take reasonable steps to prevent the spread of all Viruses within the service.

**Vaccinations for ECEC workers**

Educators and visitors are no longer required to show evidence of vaccinations.

1. **Promote and encourage physical distancing between adults**

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|  |  | **Action** |
| Shape  Description automatically generated |  | * Information and signage regarding physical distancing displayed outside near the building entrance. * Conduct drop off and pick up outside, where possible, to avoid people congregating in foyers and in the indoor space. * Educators must maintain physical distancing from each other as much as practicable. * Parents advised to maintain physical distancing and to avoid congregating at pick up and drop off times. * Parents encouraged to say goodbye and /or greet their child at the door if settled. * Continue to keep front gate locked whilst session is in progress. * Signage is displayed on the front gate directing parents, visitors, and delivery drivers to telephone the kindergarten upon arrival. * Parent information sessions and educator/ committee meetings will be conducted with 1.5 metre physical distancing or virtually |

1. **Wear a face Covering**

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|  | **Requirements** | **Action** |
| Shape  Description automatically generated | * Wearing a face mask within Keon Park Kindergarten is a personal choice. A range of factors may influence a person’s choice to wear a mask, such as health, | * Masks will be welcomed and provided for educators and visitors who choose to wear a mask. wellbeing, cultural, medical, and family considerations. |

1. **Practice good hygiene**

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|  | **Requirements** | **Action** |
| Shape  Description automatically generated | * Everyone entering the kindergarten environment must undertake regular hand hygiene, particularly on arrival to the service, before and after eating, after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing or using the toilet. | * High touch surfaces and common areas will be cleaned and disinfected after each session. * Alcohol-based hand sanitiser will be available at the signing in book table. * Encourage covering of sneezing and coughing by displaying visual posters to remind the community. * Ensure tissues and rubbish bins are available in several areas of the inside space and in the foyer. * Encourage Educators and children to regularly wash hands throughout the session. * Encourage handwashing for a duration of 20 seconds. * Educators and cleaning contractors will monitor cleaning supplies stock levels and regularly restock. * Children/educators will be reminded to avoid sharing food or drink and to wash their hands thoroughly before eating. * Educators to use a sanitising wipe to wipe surfaces of shared equipment after use (iPad, telephone) * Posters on correct washing and sanitising of hands will be displayed in wet areas. |

1. **Keep records and act quickly when someone is unwell.**

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|  | **Requirements** | **Action** |
| Shape  Description automatically generated | * Children/educators/visitors who are symptomatic (even with mild illness) must stay home. * Educators must be advised if someone has tested positive to COVID19 and or if someone has been symptomatic with ANY illness symptoms. * Children cannot attend kinder for 72 hours after the last attack of illness including: * Diarrhoea * Upset stomach or vomiting * Cold or flu symptoms * Fever * Eye/nose mucus * Cold sores/ Body sores * Sore throat * Difficulties breathing/coughing. * Educators to contact parents or carers in the event a child becomes unwell at Keon Park kindergarten as soon as possible. * Unwell children must be collected from kinder as soon as possible. * Educators, children, family members and visitors must be symptom free for 72hrs before entering the kindergarten. * Record of child or educator symptoms will be written and filed in Illness and accident folder. | * Educators and children will be encouraged to be medically checked by a GP if they have illness symptoms. * All members of the kinder community will be regularly reminded to not attend the service if they are symptomatic. * Regular communications will be shared with families to remind them of the 72hr symptom free policy. * Educators will telephone parents immediately if their child is symptomatic whilst at kinder. * Educators and parents will be notified via SMS or email when there is a Virus outbreak. * Information of signs and symptoms of the applicable viruses will be shared with families when there is an infectious concern. * The Department of Education will be contacted through the National Quality Agenda IT System (NQAITS) if there is a virus outbreak. * If the kindergarten closes temporarily, the Committee of Management will seek advice from DHHS on whether further deep cleaning of the kindergarten is required. * If the kindergarten is closed either temporarily by the Committee of Management or by direction from DHHS, the kindergarten will only re-open once DHHS advises it is safe to do so * The Committee of Management and educating team will communicate with educators and families at least every 48 hours whilst the kindergarten remains closed and will communicate any decision on re-opening of the kindergarten as soon as practicable. |

1. **Maximise Indoor Ventilation**

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|  |  | **Action** |
|  |  | * Educators will maximise learning and programming in outdoor areas. * Educators will utilise opportunities to adapt indoor activities outdoors. * Set air conditioning systems/heaters on optimum air flow at the start of each day. * Turn on air purifiers each morning and operate until the end of the day. * Open windows and doors daily. |
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