



Somerville YMCA Preschool Family Presentation Reopening Information

What you need to know!



Agenda

- A Brief Recap
- What Remains the same
- Programming Information the basics
- Staffing/Group Size
- Screening
- The New Classroom
- Family Communication
- Curriculum Modifications
- When my child is sick
- Changes to Keep us Safe
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A Brief Recap

- YMCA Preschool closed in March 2020 due to COVID-19
- YMCA Preschool received Paycheck Protection loan for approximately 2 months of teacher salaries
- All teachers have remained employed by the Y and have engaged with students regularly through Zoom meetings
- Our community remains strong!

What Remains the Same

- The staff of the Somerville YMCA remains committed to the children and families in our care.
- Activities will include breakfast, physical activity, art, choice time, naps, quiet play and much more.
- Our Behavior Management plan remains committed to the goal of providing guidance and support to children as they develop self-discipline, while ensuring a safe and comfortable environment for all.
- We will continue to follow the health guidelines as required by the Department of Early Education and Care. They may change but we are committed to the health and safety of the children and families.
- Summer activities will continue and remember to apply sunscreen to your children before drop-off. Most importantly, the statement of our purpose and program goals remain unchanged.

Programing Information: The Basics

- Preschool One will operate 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
 - Drop off must be 7:30 – 8:00; Pick-up must be 3:30 – 4:00 PM
- Preschool Two will operate 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
 - Drop off must be 8:00 – 8:30; Pick-up must be 4:00 – 4:30 PM
- Modified Drop Off and Pick up Procedures (outside)
- Added Protection & Hygiene (Distancing and Face Coverings)

Staffing/Group Size

- Group Sizes: Group sizes must be restricted to a maximum of 10 children, with a maximum of 12 individuals including children and staff in each room.
- Children must remain with the same group each day and at all times while in care.
- Siblings in attendance at the same time must be kept in the same group.
- Groups must not be combined at any time.
- The same staff must be assigned to the same group for the duration of the day.

Screening

- Before arriving at YMCA Preschool, each family must perform a home health screen
- Drop-off: A gate has been added to the playground in the parking area. Families will enter through the gate and leave via the second exit.
- The Director or the Designee will conduct screening which may include taking your child's temperature.
- After screening, child will use hand sanitizer outside and wash their hands upon entering the building.
- Teachers will escort children from the playground to the classroom
- The schedule for drop off will be strictly adhered to

The New Classroom

- Environment will be re-arranged to promote 6' distancing when possible and sensible
- Face coverings will be required at all times
 - Except when eating, napping, and outside
 - Spare clean masks to be provided by family

Sneak Peak



Sneak Peak



Family Communication

- Parents can call daily on the status of their children after drop off
- Update email addresses and all phone numbers from parents of children at the program so they can be reached at any time
- Resolve communication problems immediately when detected
- Providing parents with information on COVID-19 including symptoms, transmission, prevention, and when to seek medical attention

Family Communication

- Providing parents with guidance on how to share information with their children in developmentally appropriate ways and encouraging parents to share the information with their children, as appropriate
- Identifying a person responsible for sharing information to parents if and when an exposure occurs, and how that information will be communicated

Curriculum Modifications

- Communal bins will be shifted to individualized containers of materials to be used in social interactions.
- Materials will be cleaned/sanitized between uses.
- Children will have their own boxes for items such as markers, pencils, etc.
- Each child will have their own tray table for meals and for individual activities.
- Children will be encouraged to interact and connect while using the same materials as their classmates.

Modifications Continued

- Continue with robust social/emotional curriculum with open discussions about our new routines and feelings; activities for processing those feelings
- Activities that include photos of children and teachers' faces
- Opportunities for choice and lots of time to PLAY!
- We've all participated in many trainings while working from home! We have two more coming up - specific to supporting the social and emotional needs of children amidst a global pandemic

When my child is sick?

- The center office has been designated as a space to isolate children or staff who may be presenting with COVID-19 symptoms.

If a Child Becomes Symptomatic

- Immediately isolate from other children and minimize exposure to staff
- Contact the child's parents and send home as soon as possible

Changes to Keep us Safe

- There will be enhanced cleaning which meet all Department Guidelines
- Children will be closely monitored for proper hand-washing, mask usage and social distancing
- Children may bring a single zippered backpack with nap essentials. Sleeping bags, large pillows, etc. will not be allowed.
- Breakfast and Lunch will be provided for all of the children. Snacks will be provided in sealed small packages.
- Distancing will be supported as a way to keep us all healthy.

Next Steps

- Add Questions in the Chat Room
- Look for the answers in an email coming shortly
- Prepare your child for the new drop off procedure and be strong and positive.
- Keep in touch!