



Adelaide Miethke Preschool

Oval Avenue
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Phone - 8345 5019

Our response to coronavirus (COVID-19)

As the situation in regard to COVID-19 continues to evolve we are closely following advice and procedures as directed by the Department for Education in accordance with those from SA Health to support the safety and wellbeing of staff, students and the broader community.

Personal hygiene and the hygiene standards in our centre are critical to reducing the risk of infection. For this reason, we are implementing social distancing measures to reduce unnecessary contact with others. This is based on the most recent advice from SA Health that limiting occasions where people come together and are in close proximity to one another in a static environment lowers the chances of spreading the virus. However, we do understand that this is very difficult when working with very young children and we are doing our best to manage this on a daily basis.

For this reason, we have chosen to suspend our playgroups and other community events at this time.

Other actions we are taking at our site to minimise the risk of transmission include:

People

- Upon arrival all children, parents, staff and visitors will be directed to wash their hands.
- Visitors to the centre are being limited and cancellation of non-essential appointments will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Staff will ensure posters outlining hygiene procedures are displayed within the centre and referenced.
- Educators will explicitly teach effective handwashing practices to all children and ensure they are supported when washing hands. Handwashing will be closely monitored and encouraged throughout the day.
- Educators will explicitly teach cough and sneeze procedures to all children.
- Children will be farewelled as their parents arrive to reduce gatherings.
- Please try to limit the number of adults and children who enter the centre at drop-off and pick-up times but do not leave young children alone in vehicles.
- If a child becomes unwell with flu-like symptoms, we will contact their parents/carers immediately and infection control practices will be enacted.
- All children, parents and staff are required to stay away from our centre if they are unwell to avoid spreading infections to others (including COVID-19 and other colds and flus).

Procedures and resources

- Posters outlining handwashing and other health and hygiene procedures are displayed throughout the centre and are being used in our teaching with children.
- Outdoor play is being preferred.
- Times when the children gather together are being limited wherever possible.
- Playdough is not being offered at this time.
- Soft furnishings and resources such as cushions and dress-ups will be limited, those in use will be washed each day.
- Table cloths used on lunch tables are cleaned daily and hung in the sun to dry.
- Daily and weekly cleaning procedures will be maintained. In addition, all table tops, door handles, kitchen benches, lockers, taps, toilets and benches will be wiped down mid-morning, mid-afternoon and at the end of each day.



Programs

- Preschool and Occasional Care will remain open at this time.
- Our playgroup has been suspended until further notice.
- Programs such as Occasional Care and our Friday Speech & Language Sessions for individual children will be considered on a case-by-case basis based on information provided by the Department for Education and SA Health.

I am following all advice from the Department and will keep families informed via email of any new information or changes to our service.

While our programs remain open we understand that families will make individual decisions that are best for them at this time. If you are choosing to keep your child at home, please give us a call or send an email to inform us that this is what you are doing.

We do want all families to know that **as long as our centre remains open EMERGENCY CARE is available for all children and families in need**. Please contact us if you ever need additional support.

If needed we will follow all directions from the Department for Education in regards to self-isolation of staff, children or families and the closure of our site if necessary. Information will be sent directly to all families via email about any procedures if this occurs.

Families wanting up-to-date information about Covid-19 can read the daily alert published by the Australian government that includes the latest medical advice and official reports. Visit this website:
<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>

Families seeking more information can call the National Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080.

Suzanne Dawson
Director

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