

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PLAN TO OPEN THE COTS EARLY LEARNING CENTER

June 3, 2020

The pre-school Early Learning Center at Church of the Saviour in Cleveland Heights, Ohio was closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic on March 20, 2020. Now with the State of Ohio starting to reopen, the ELC is starting to plan how to safely reopen and maintain a healthy environment for the children and staff.

The ELC is located in a 13-year-old building in a lower level but with windows to the outside. It currently occupies four rooms, one for infants 6 weeks to 12 months, a second infants' room for infants 12 to 18 months old, the third room is for toddlers 18 to 36 months, and the fourth room for preschoolers 3 to 5-years old. The infants can be constrained to their cribs but usually are given some floor time in play pens. Both the toddler and preschool rooms have tables, toy and bookshelves and carpeted areas for floor activities. Each of the rooms has its own bathroom. Play time for toddlers and preschoolers occurs in the Great Hall directly above the ELC or weather permitting in an open-air play space on the roof.

CENTER PREPARATION FOR RE-OPENING:

Following closure, the facility underwent extensive cleaning including, 1) Infant Rooms: all crib bedding was sent home with the individual parents for washing; all surfaces and cribs were washed with recommended bleach water solution; staff washed all of the toys with detergent, bleach and water; 2) Toddler and Preschool Rooms: all surfaces were cleaned with bleach water solution; all toys were washed with detergent, bleach and water; hard floors were stripped of old wax, mopped with detergent and water and three coats of new wax was applied; the carpets were vacuumed and detergent/hot water machine washed professionally. The rooms have been closed to any further activity.

PROPOSED MAINTENANCE:

Children, parents and staff will all have health/exposure history and screening (temperature measurement) each time of drop off which will be scheduled on an individual child basis to avoid families overlapping in the reception area. Any family or staff with a fever or a history of COVID-19 exposure will be precluded entrance. All adults, parents and staff, will wear masks at all times. The children and staff will not be wearing their shoes in the Center, rather socks or the equivalent.

INFANT ROOMS- There are currently two infant room both with a 2:6 staff to infant ratio. Toy activity will be closely watched by staff to preclude any cross infant sharing and for frequent washing. Porous/cloth toys will be precluded. Floor time will be constrained by physical distancing of the infants and limited to two children in the playpen at a time, which is a vinyl covered padded surface gated with a rubberized gate; it will be cleaned and disinfected with a bleach solution). The crib sheets and blankets will be marked for the individual infant in order to limit their use to that infant only. Crib sheets and blankets will be washed and dried by staff in the COTS laundry facility. The diaper changing stations and the toilet will be cleaned after each use first with soap and water followed by a bleach solution and then rinsed. Toys will be hand washed by staff with detergent, bleach and hot water on a daily basis, some toys multiple times a day. Each infant will have their own highchair and comfort seat. All hard surfaces will be wiped down every evening with Hydrogen Peroxide-Peroxide Multi Surface Cleaner and Disinfectant Cleaner (an Ecolab product).

TODDLER and PRESCHOOL ROOMS- The toddler room will have 2:6 staff to child ratio and the pre-school room a 2:9 staff to child ratio. Similar toy surveillance and daily washing by the staff will

occur. Floor time will be limited by the number of children in an area to three and physical distancing as practical. Table time will also have physical distancing. Individual child floor mats will be laundered daily. All hard surfaces including door handles will be wiped down every evening. The bathrooms will be extensively cleaned and disinfected with Hydrogen Peroxide-Peroxide Multi Surface Cleaner and Disinfectant Cleaner, (an Ecolab product) each evening. Each child has their own napping cot and individualized bedding which will be washed daily. The carpeted areas will be vacuumed (HEPA filter vacuum) following disinfection spraying every evening (see below).

GENERAL PROTOCOLS:

CARPETING- Every evening the carpets and each class room will be sprayed (misted) with a botanical-derived, non-toxic disinfectant Benefect* by a COTS staff member. A half hour after the misting, the carpets will be vacuumed with a HEPA Vacuum cleaner and then an hour later the rooms will be ventilation purged by the building VAV system (details being pursued by Terry Angle, the building's Architect Engineer; chairman of COTS Board of Trustees). Once a month the carpets will be detergent/hot water machine washed and dried by COTS staff.

PLAY AREAS- In the Great Hall and roof playground, all play items will be wiped down with bleach wipes between play times.

AIR CLEANERS- Each of the classrooms will be equipped with a free-standing, HEPA filter air cleaner appropriate for the room size (Medify MA-40W2 V2.0 Medical Grade Filtration H13 True HEPA). The ionizer option will not be used (produces ozone) and close attention will be paid to the child lock. These are recirculating room air and will not affect the building VAV system. They will run only during room occupancy and specifically not during the disinfectant misting procedure.

*'Benefect' is a botanical disinfectant (oils from thyme and lemongrass) with no known human toxicity (see description and SDS sheet; can even be used on food). It is on EPA's N-list of disinfectants appropriate for use against COVIP-19. It is both bactericidal (even TB) and effective against viruses, e.g. HIV. Coronaviruses are easily killed by detergents and disinfectants. It was selected for use here to avoid using disinfectants that can leave residual toxics especially on carpeting.

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Following the CDC document- "Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open" 4/21/20

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