



Parent Handbook
2022-2023

973-377-0244
mchpreschool@tmcmch.org



The handbook is also available on our website.
www.tmcch.org



Welcome to the Madison Community House Preschool. We want to make this year a positive, happy experience for you and your child. Our staff is warm and friendly and provides a safe, stimulating and nurturing environment. Our goals are for each child to gain self-confidence and independence, to find his or her special talents, and to learn the readiness and cognitive skills necessary for kindergarten. We plan to accomplish this through varied learning experiences, both on an individual basis and in-group situations. We are all looking forward to a rewarding year with each child.

Patty Driscoll	Director / Head Teacher	973-377-7376
Judy Miele	Lead Teacher	973-822-1799
Joyce Brown	Assistant Teacher	973-224-9354
Susan Hoover	Assistant Teacher	973-377-4417
Jenna Miele	Assistant Teacher	973-975-6604

Janet Allocco	MCH Director	973-377-2792
Cyndy Tracy	Administrative Assistant	973-377-0244

The *TMC-MADISON COMMUNITY HOUSE PRESCHOOL* is a state-licensed, non-profit preschool established in 1960. It is sponsored by the Madison Community House, which is owned and operated by the Thursday Morning Club. The Thursday Morning Club / Madison Community House does not discriminate and prohibits discrimination, as required by state and/or federal law, in all programs and activities, including employment and access to programs.

Our Daily Schedule (also posted in the classrooms):

9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.	Free play/Center Time/Small Group Project
10:15 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.	Clean-up time
10:20 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.	Circle/Story time/Stem Unit
10:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Wash Hands/Snack
11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Outdoor Play/Gym
12 p.m.	Half Day Dismissal
12 p.m. to 12:20 p.m.	Story Time/Book Review
12:20 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Wash Hands/Lunch/Clean-up
1:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.	Rest/Quiet Time (Mandatory)
1:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.	Group Activity
2:15 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.	Center Time
2:45 p.m.	Dismissal

A well-balanced preschool program is provided with both indoor and outdoor activity. The Community House has its own fenced in play area, which includes a play scape, a sandbox, play houses, trike paths and chalk boards. During inclement weather, the children have use of the Community House gym.

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Basic Requirements for Every Child

The child must be potty trained before entering school (no diapers/pull ups permitted).

Age requirement: Your child must be 3 years old by October 1st for the 3 year old class. Your child must be 4 years old by October 1st to be eligible for the 4 year old class. This requirement follows the Madison Public Schools Kindergarten age entry requirement. Rising 3's may be considered if openings are available (3 by January 1st).

The school has a Director/Head Teacher, a Lead Teacher, and two (2) group teachers. There is a maximum of 16 children per class. Each classroom has two teachers. Classes meet 5 days per week and the school hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. All children will be served a mid-morning snack and full day children will bring their own lunch. Full day children will also bring their own crib size fitted sheet in a labeled Ziploc bag to be used during our mandatory rest time. Sheets will be sent home at the end of the week for laundering.

The Preschool year begins in September and continues to early June. We generally follow the calendar established by the Madison Public Schools. There are some differences, however, and so a calendar is given out at the beginning of each school year. A monthly calendar with snack, themes and special events will be sent home prior to the start of the month.

In case of school closings:

- * Inclement weather closings follow the Madison Public School system.
- * Closings are posted on the internet on Madison's school website www.madisonpublicschools.org. The Preschool will also send an email notifying parents of closings.
- * If there is a delayed opening in the Madison Public Schools due to inclement weather, the Preschool will **BE OPEN** for all children 11am-2:00pm. Children will bring their lunch and we will follow a shortened schedule. Full day children may remain until 2:45pm.

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Philosophy of the Preschool:

- ☺ To develop the whole child in a nurturing and supportive environment.
- ☺ To encourage a positive self-image, sense of uniqueness and develop self-confidence.
- ☺ To develop fine motor and gross motor skills through a variety of age appropriate activities.
- ☺ To stimulate creativity through arts, crafts, music and dramatic play.
- ☺ To increase language skills through conversation, stories, puppetry, songs and childrens' literature.
- ☺ To introduce reading, math and science concepts through play, hands on learning centers and guided lessons.
- ☺ To foster curiosity, creativity, enthusiasm and a love of learning.

Preschool School Guidelines and Information

1. A record of all inoculations and an Annual Universal Health Record are NJ State requirements for all pupils. The completed form should be returned to the main office before **September 1st**. Children may not attend school until these forms are submitted.
2. Children must be potty trained before entering the 3 & 4 year old programs and meet the age requirements by October 1st of the year. Rising 3's must meet the age requirement by January 1st. Diapers/Pull Ups are not permitted.
3. Please be considerate of others when your child is ill; do not send him/her to school. According to NJ Department of Health requirements regarding early childhood, a child should **NOT** come to school if he/she shows any of the following symptoms: rash, fever, vomiting, diarrhea, earache, sore throat, eye infection, swollen glands, or persistent cough. *Please see excludable disease page in this handbook. Children must be fever free for 24 hours without medication prior to returning to school.
4. **THE TEACHERS MAY REFUSE TO ADMIT A CHILD IF THEY FEEL HE OR SHE IS NOT WELL ENOUGH TO ATTEND.** In addition, parents may be called to pick up a child who arrives to school ill. Our foremost concern is the health and well-being of all of our children and staff.
5. Children should come to school dressed suitably for indoor crafts and outdoor recreation.
6. Please label all outer clothing, lunch boxes and book bags.



7. **IF YOUR CHILD IS TO BE PICKED UP BY ANYONE OTHER THAN A PARENT/REGULAR CAREGIVER, PLEASE EMAIL MCHPRESCHOOL@TMC MCH.ORG BY 9:00AM**
8. Children should not arrive to school before **8:45 A.M.** Children must be delivered to the teacher at the classroom door / class line up.
9. Progress reports will be issued in the Fall & Spring. Parent conferences will be held for all children in the Spring. If a problem or concern should arise, the teacher or parent may request a conference at any time. Children are not permitted at Parent/Teacher conferences.
10. Always feel free to call the teacher or director if any questions should arise.
11. Please inform us of any health problems, allergies, or unusual happenings at home that will help us better understand your child.
12. A calendar is distributed monthly to all parents. This will contain events for the month, as well as other pertinent information and announcements. Please keep informed and mark all dates on your calendar at home.
13. Parents will be notified by email for sign ups for parties, events, and activities. Please check frequently.
14. Parents are welcome to learn about and be involved in the licensing process.
15. All tuition payments are due by the 15th of every month, payable to ***TMC-Madison Community House***. September's tuition is due at registration and October's tuition is due by September 15th. Both tuition months are non-refundable if your child drops out. If your child becomes ill/injured, tuition is still required.
16. Please do not walk through the playground when the teachers have the preschool class outside. This is a state mandate for safety. We appreciate your cooperation.



Emergency Procedures for Disasters and Lockdowns

The Madison Police Department and Madison Office of Emergency Management has on file all the Madison Community House Preschool identifying information, including locations where the center children will be evacuated.

In the event of an EVACUATION, staff would:

1. Notify director / director designee of the emergency.
2. Notify Madison Police Department at 973-593-3000 / 911.
3. Take class attendance books, all family and emergency telephone numbers, all allergy information, medication, emergency medical consent forms, first aid supplies and medical tags.
4. The director / director designee will carry cell phones to contact families or designated emergency contacts.
5. Walk to the designated evacuation location.
6. The designated evacuation location is: Vision Electric, 6 Main St., Madison rear entrance.
7. Staff will count and roll call children before leaving the center, while walking to the designated location and upon arrival at the new site.
8. Children will be dismissed once roll call has been completed at the evacuation location.

In the event of a LOCKDOWN, staff would:

1. Notify director / director designee of the emergency.
2. Notify the Madison Police Department at 973-593-3000 / 911.
3. Take children into an area away from windows and doors.
4. Staff will count and roll call children.
5. Lock all doors and pull down window shades or blinds.
6. Have on hand emergency non-perishable food and water supply available.
7. Have on hand flashlight, extra batteries, and cell phone.
8. Take class attendance books, all family and emergency medical consent forms, first aid supplies and all allergy information, medication.
9. Bring quiet activities such as paper, crayons, and books to keep the children occupied.
10. Remain in this room until the police notify you that it is safe to leave.



Rules of Safety for Field Trip Drivers

Drivers must be sure to comply with the following safety regulations when driving on our field trips. It is for the safety of your children that we ask that you remember these few safety rules. Thank you.

1. Never leave children unattended in vehicle.
2. Load and unload children from the curbside of the vehicle.
3. All passengers are to wear seatbelts and children are required to be in a car seat or booster seat as specified by NJ State Motor Vehicle Laws.
4. Only one child is allowed per seat.
5. All passengers must remain seated when vehicle is moving.
6. The driver shall ensure each child is received by his/her parent or person designated at the end of the field trip.
7. An adult chaperone must accompany the driver.

The children take a number of field trips during the year. We schedule trips to the Madison Pet Shop, a local dentist, the Madison Public Library, the Madison Fire Department, a pumpkin farm – just to give you an idea of most of the places the children will visit. The field trip fee is \$35.00 for the 3's class and \$45.00 for the 4's class for the year to be paid with September's tuition bill. Parents are requested to volunteer to drive / chaperone the children on some of the field trips. Parents are responsible for their own admission fees. A trip t-shirt must be worn for all trips. Parents can purchase trip shirts at the beginning of the school year. Siblings are not permitted on school field trips.

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Snack Information

Each day the children will have snack time. Parents supply the snack on a rotating basis. Your snack day will be assigned and printed on our monthly calendar.

Each class has a maximum of 16 students. In keeping with the new DCF guidelines we will only serve snacks from the approved list below. Please be certain you choose one of the healthy snacks listed below and provide enough for the entire class on your child's snack day. Please send in a labeled water bottle daily. We encourage you to make healthy choices for lunches sent from home as well. Sugary snacks, popcorn, nuts, and snacks not approved by DCF guidelines will not be served.

Fruit	Pretzels (no pretzel nuggets)	Mini bagels
Vegetables	Bread/Bread products	Granola/Granola Bars
Cheese	Muffins/Fruit or Veggie breads	Crackers including: cheese crackers, pita, whole wheat,
Humus	Cereal/Cereal Bars	Graham, bagel, rice
Apple Sauce	Yogurt	

Children may bring in cookies/cupcakes/donuts/brownies etc. only for special occasions such as holidays and birthday celebrations. You will be assigned to bring in a snack as close to your child's birthday as possible. If your child has a summer birthday and you would like to designate a "Special Day" during our school year, please let the Director know and a day will be arranged. She will be sure your child is given a day of your choice.

If your child is sick on your assigned day, the Preschool will have something on hand (i.e., cereal treats or crackers) to substitute for your snack.

Snack must be in sealed original packaging that includes an ingredient list. Home made goods are not permissible.

Please send in fruit/vegetables washed, cut, and ready to be served. Baby carrots and grapes must be cut lengthwise. No nut items can be served.

The Preschool celebrates the following holidays with a party:

Halloween (children can come to school dressed in costume), Thanksgiving, December Holidays, Valentine's Day (Valentine cards may be exchanged), Chinese New Year and Easter. Parents are asked to contribute for class parties and events.



Policy on the Release of Children

Each child may be released only to the child's parent(s) or person(s) authorized by the parent(s) to take the child from the center and to assume responsibility for the child in an emergency if the parent(s) cannot be reached.

If a non-custodial parent has been denied access or granted limited access to a child by a court order, the center shall secure documentation to that effect, maintain a copy on file, and comply with the terms of the court order.

If the parent(s) or person(s) authorized by the parent(s) fails to pick-up a child at the time of the center's daily closing, the center shall ensure that:

1. The child is supervised at all times.
2. Staff members attempt to contact the parent(s) or person(s) authorized by the parent(s);
3. An hour or more after closing time, and provided that other arrangements for releasing the child to his/her parent(s) or person(s) authorized by the parent(s), have failed and the staff member(s) cannot continue to supervise the child at the center, the staff member shall call the Division's 24 hour Child Abuse Hotline (1-877-652-2873) to seek assistance in caring for the child until the parent(s) or person(s) authorized by the child's parent(s) is able to pick-up the child.

If the parent(s) or person(s) authorized by the parent(s) appears too physically and/or emotionally impaired to the extent that, in the judgment of the director and/or staff member, the child would be placed at risk of harm if released to such an individual, the center shall ensure that:

1. The child may not be released to such an impaired individual.
2. Staff members attempt to contact the child's other parent or an alternative person(s) authorized by the parent(s); and
3. If the center is unable to make alternative arrangements, a staff member shall call the Division's 24 hour Child Abuse Hotline (1-877-652-2873) to seek assistance in caring for the child.

Patty Driscoll
Preschool Director

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Expulsion Policy

Unfortunately, there are sometimes reasons we have to expel a child from our program either on a short term or permanent basis. We want you to know we will do everything possible to work with the family of the child (ren) in order to prevent this policy from being enforced. The following are reasons we may have to expel or suspend a child from this center.

Immediate Causes for Expulsion

- The child is at risk of causing serious injury to other children or himself / herself.
- Parent threatens physical or intimidating actions toward staff members.
- Parent exhibits verbal abuse to staff in front of enrolled children.

Parental Actions for Child's Expulsion

- Failure to pay / habitual lateness in payments
- Failure to complete required forms including the child's immunizations records.
- Habitual tardiness when picking up your child. – 4x in one month.
- Verbal abuse to staff.

Child's Actions for Expulsion

- Failure of child to adjust after a reasonable amount of time.
- Uncontrollable tantrums / angry outbursts.
- Ongoing physical or verbal abuse to staff or other children.
- Excessive biting.

Schedule of Expulsion

- If after the remedial actions above have not worked, the child's parent / guardian will be advised verbally and in writing about the child's or parent's behavior warranting an expulsion. An expulsion action is meant to be a period of time so that the parent / guardian may work on the child's behavior or to come an agreement with the center.
- The parent / guardian will be informed regarding the length of the expulsion period.
- The parent / guardian will be informed about the expected behavioral changes required in order for the child or parent to return to the center.
- The parent / guardian will be given a specific expulsion date that allows the parent sufficient time to seek alternate child care (approximately one to two weeks notice depending on risk to other children's welfare or safety). Failure of the child / parent to satisfy the terms of the plan may result in permanent expulsion from the center.



A Parent/Guardian:

- Made a complaint to the Office of Licensing regarding a center's alleged violations of the licensing requirements.
- Reported abuse or neglect occurring at the center.
- Questioned the center regarding policies and procedures.
- Without giving the parent sufficient time to make other child care arrangements.

Proactive Actions That Can Be Taken In Order To Prevent Expulsion:

- Try to redirect child from negative behavior.
- Reassess classroom environment, appropriateness of activities.
- Always use positive methods and language while disciplining children.
- Praise appropriate behaviors.
- Consistently apply consequences for rules.
- Give the child verbal warnings.
- Give the child time to regain control.
- Document the child's disruptive behavior and maintain confidentiality.
- Give the parent/guardian written copies of the disruptive behavior that might lead to expulsion.
- Schedule a conference including the director, classroom staff, and parent/guardian to discuss how to promote positive behaviors.
- Give the parent literature of other resources regarding methods of improving behavior.
- Recommend an evaluation by professional consultation.
- Recommend an evaluation by local school district study team.



Policy on the Use of Technology and Social Media Use of Social Networking and Websites

Our center uses our center website TCMCH.org and our Facebook page Madison Community House Preschool to relay information, post photos and network in the community.

Our website contains:

- School Philosophy
- Overview of our Class offerings and Enrichment Program
- Preschool Calendar
- Parent Handbook
- Photographs

Our Facebook page guidelines for Parents:

- Posting of photographs or videos of children, other than your own, is prohibited including, but not limited to photographs or videos of children obtained through hand held devices, computers, video monitoring systems or any other electric device or transmission.
- Any breaches of the center's Policy on the Use of Technology and Social Media identified must be promptly reported to the Director.
- Center's posting of photographs or videos of children with written permission from the parent to do so on file is permitted.
- General center information/updates may be posted by the Director.
- Staff/Parent communication is limited to center sites only.
- Posts that reveal the center's current off-site location are prohibited.

Parents are permitted to share posts/ comment on posts/ post upon approval of Director/ Moderator of Facebook page. Tagging is not permitted.

Methods Used to Communicate with Staff and Parents

Our center uses our email mchpreschool@tcmch.org to communicate with parents.

Upon emergency or rare occasion, a staff member/ parent is permitted to communicate through text message on personal cell phone, personal computer, personal tablet or center computer.

Our center may electronically communicate to parents:

- Requests for records, supplies, sign-ups for parties and trips
- Behavioral concerns
- Emergency Closures
- Photographs
- Community Information

*Parents will be notified by **PHONE** of a child's head injury/ bump, bite that breaks the skin, fall from a height greater than their own, or an injury that requires professional medical attention.



Statement of Policy on Discipline

The children enrolled in the Madison Community House Preschool are disciplined with an emphasis on a positive approach. Acceptable behavior is encouraged by giving a positive verbal reward. In the case of unacceptable behavior, a teacher will divert the child by offering a more positive verbal reward or offering a more positive activity. The teacher will discuss the situation with the child.

If the situation escalates, or if the behavior is repeated, the child may be directed to a “time out” area for a few minutes. The child will rejoin the group in a satisfactory manner.

1. Staff members shall not discipline children for failing to eat, sleep or for soiling themselves.
2. Staff shall not withhold active play time as a means of discipline unless the child’s actions or behavior present a danger to themselves or others.

For repeated behavior problems, we request a conference with the parents. Every effort would be made to correct the situation by working with the child and parents.

The Madison Community House Preschool is a private non-profit school program and may not be suitable for all children. Madison Community House Preschool teachers or director or the child’s parents reserve the right to remove a child from the program if the parties feel it is not a suitable fit for the child.

Office of Licensing Information to Parents Document

In keeping with New Jersey’s child care center licensing requirements, we are obligated to provide you, as the parents of a child enrolled at our center, with this informational statement. The statement highlights, among other things: your right to visit and observe our center at any time without having to secure prior permission; the center’s obligation to be licensed and to comply with licensing standards; and the obligation of all citizens to report suspected child abuse / neglect / exploitation to the State’s DHS Child Abuse / Neglect Hotline Toll Free at 1-877-NJABUSE (1-877-652-2873).

Please read the Information to Parents Document carefully and if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at the Madison Community House office at 973-377-0244.

Patty Driscoll
Preschool Director

Department of Children and Families
Office of Licensing
INFORMATION TO PARENTS

Under provisions of the Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers (N.J.A.C. 13A:52), every licensed child care center in New Jersey must provide to parents of enrolled children written information on parent visitation rights, State licensing requirement, child abuse/neglect reporting requirements and other child care matters. The center must comply with this requirement by reproducing and distributing to parents this written statement, prepared by the Office of Licensing, Child Care and Youth Residential Licensing, in the Department of Children and Families (DCF) In keeping with this requirement, the center must secure every parent's signature attesting to his/her receipt of the information.

* * * * *

Our center is required by the State Child Care Center Licensing law to be licensed by the Office of Licensing (OOL), Child Care & Youth Residential Licensing, in the Department of Children and Families (DCF). A copy of our current license must be posted in a prominent location at our center. Look for it when you're in the center.

To be licensed, our center must comply with the Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers (the official licensing regulations). The regulations cover such areas as: physical environment/life safety staff qualifications, supervision and staff/child ratios; program activities and equipment; health, food and nutrition; rest and sleep requirements; parent/community participation; administrative and record keeping requirements; and others.

Our center must have on the premises a copy of the Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers and make it available to interested parents for review. If you would like to review our copy, just ask any staff member. Parents may view a copy of the Manual of Requirements on the DCF website at <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/licensing/laws/CCCmanual.pdf> or obtain a copy by sending a check or money order for \$5.00 made payable to the "Treasurer, State of New Jersey", and mailing it to: NJDCF, Office of Licensing, Publications Fees, PO BOX 657, Trenton, NJ 08646-0657.

We encourage parents to discuss with us any questions or concerns about the policies and program of the center or the meaning, application or alleged violation of the Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers. We will be happy to arrange a convenient opportunity for you to review and discuss these matters with us. If you suspect our center may be in violation of licensing requirements, you are entitled to report them to the Office of Licensing toll free at 1 (877) 667-9845. Of course, we would appreciate your bringing these concerns to our attention too.

Our center must have a policy concerning the release of children to parents or people authorized by parents to be responsible for the child. Please discuss with us your plans for your child's departure from the center.

Our center must have a policy about dispensing medicine and health care procedures and the management of communicable diseases. Please talk to us about these policies so we can work together to keep our children healthy.

Our center must have a policy concerning the expulsion of children from enrollment at the center. Please review this policy so we can work together to keep your child in our center.

Parents are entitled to review the center's copy of the Office of Licensing Inspection/Violation Reports on the center, which are available after every State licensing inspection of our center.

If there is a licensing complaint investigation, you are also entitled to review the OOL's Complaint Investigation Summary Report, as well as any letters of enforcement or other actions taken against the center during the current licensing period.

Let us know if you wish to review them and we will make them available for your review or you can view them online at <https://data.nj.gov/childcareexplorer>.

Our center must cooperate with all DCF inspections/investigations. DCF staff may interview both staff members and children.

Our center must post its written statement of philosophy on child discipline in a prominent location and make a copy available to parents upon request. We encourage you to review it and to discuss with us any questions you may have about it.

Our center must post a listing or diagram of those rooms and areas approved by the OOL for the children's use. Please talk to us if you have any questions about the center's space.

Our center must offer parents of enrolled children ample opportunity to assist the center in complying with licensing requirements; and to participate in and observe the activities of the center. Parents wishing to participate in the activities or operations of the center should discuss their interest with the center director, who can advise them of what opportunities are available.

Parents of enrolled/children may visit our center at any time without having to secure prior approval from the director or any staff member. Please feel free to do so when you can. We welcome visits from our parents. Our center must inform parents in advance of every field trip, outing, or special event away from the center, and must obtain prior written consent from parents before taking a child on such trip.

Our center must inform parents in advance of every field trip, outing or special event away from the center, and must obtain prior written consent from parents before taking a child on each trip.

Our center is required to provide reasonable accommodations for children and/or parents with disabilities and to comply with the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination (LAD), P.L. 1945, c. 169 (N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et. seq.). and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), P.L. 101-336 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.). Anyone who believes the center is not in compliance with these laws may contact the Division on Civil Rights in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety for information about filing a LAD claim at (609) 292-4605 (TTY users may dial 711 to reach the New Jersey Relay Operator and ask for (609) 292-7701, or may contact the United States Department of Justice for information about filing as ADA claim at (800) 514-0301 (voice) or (800) 514-0383 (TTY).

Our center is required, at least annually, to review the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), unsafe products list, ensure that items on the list are not at the center, and make the list accessible to staff and parents and/or provide parents and/or provide parents with the CPSC website at <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls>. Internet access may be available at your local library. For more information call the CPSC at (800) 638-2772.

Anyone who has reasonable cause to believe that an enrolled child has been or is being subjected to any form of hitting, corporal punishment, abusive language, ridicule, harsh, humiliating or frightening treatment, or any other kind of child abuse, neglect, or exploitation by an adult, whether working at the center or not, is required by State law to report the concern immediately to the State Central Registry Hotline, toll free at (877) NJ ABUSE/(877) 652-2873. Such reports may be made anonymously. Parents may secure information about child abuse and neglect by contacting: DCF, Office of communications and Legislation at (609) 292-0422 or go to www.state.nj.us/dcf.



POLICY ON THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

If a child exhibits any of the following symptoms, the child should not attend the center. If such symptoms occur at the center, the child will be removed from the group, and parents will be called to take the child home.

- Severe pain or discomfort
- Acute diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Elevated temperature of 101.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Lethargy
- Severe/excessive coughing
- Yellow eyes or jaundice skin
- Red eyes with discharge
- Infected, untreated skin patches
- Difficult or rapid breathing and/or wheezing
- Skin rashes without a doctor's note
- Skin lesions that are weeping or bleeding
- Mouth sores with drooling
- Stiff neck

Once the child is symptom-free, or has a health care provider's note stating that the child no longer poses a serious health risk to himself/herself or others, the child may return to the center, unless contraindicated by local health department of Department of Health. Children must be fever free without medication for 24 hours before returning to the center.

TABLE OF EXCLUDABLE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

A child who contracts any of the following diseases may not return to the center without a health care provider's note stating that the child presents no risk to himself/herself or others:

A complete list of excludable communicable disease can be found at http://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/reportable_disease_magnet.pdf.

Respiratory Illnesses

- Chicken Pox*
- Covid-19*
- German Measles*
- Hemophilus
- Influenza*
- Measles*
- Meningococcus*
- Mumps*
- Tuberculosis*
- Whooping Cough*
- Strep Throat
- Covid*

Gastrointestinal Illnesses

- Campylobacter*
- Escherichia coli*
- Giardia Lamblia*
- Hepatitis A*
- Salmonella*
- Shigella

Contact Illnesses

- Impetigo
- Lice
- Scabies
- Shingles

*Reportable diseases that must be reported to the health department by the center.



Note: If a child has chicken pox, a health care provider's note is not required for re-admitting the child to the center. A note from the parent is required, stating either that at least six days has elapsed since the onset of the rash, and that all sores have dried and crusted.

If a child is exposed to any reportable disease at the center, parents will be notified in writing.

Please advise the teacher or director if your child is ill with one of these diseases. Children having a fever for whatever reason may not attend school until the child is fever free for 24 hours without medication. Your cooperation in these matters is greatly appreciated.

Following state guidelines regarding Covid 19, all children and staff will continue to be screened by the center upon arrival. The center will maintain documentation.

Children with Allergies

The Madison Community House will assist and support children with allergies as best to our ability. Our foremost concern is the health and well being of all our children. We may not be able to accommodate all children. Children at risk of anaphylactic shock/respiratory distress may leave medication to be used at school in an emergency with a doctor's directive for administration and dosage. Our staff is trained in CPR/ First aid and will administer medication in emergency situations only. Please see the director to review procedures. Allergy / Asthma action plans must be completed and on file for children requiring emergency medication.

Medication Policy

The Madison Community House Preschool will not administer medication to children, either prescription or non-prescription. The parent is free to come to the Community House at any time if medication is needed. Advance notice would be appreciated but is not necessary.

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***Due to Covid-19 and new practices going forward, please see the following addendum to our current parent handbook.**

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- 8. Children will arrive at a staggered entry time 8:55-9:05. Parents will drop off at the playground gate.
- 13. Most communication will be sent home via email. Please note teachers may not be able to respond during class time. This will be the main source of communication.
- 16. Our playground is CLOSED.

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Field trips are currently on hold. It is not necessary to purchase a trip shirt at this time.

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Snack! Only sealed, pre-packaged snacks are permitted and staff members will open and distribute wearing gloves. We prefer individual servings. Snack must be in original packaging with an ingredient list. NO homemade items are permitted.

You may send in snack at the beginning of the month for your child's snack days. Please label with your child's name. The staff will collect and store. Children with allergies may drop personal snack supply. We will serve water.

Sealed, pre-packaged treats /cupcakes are permitted for birthdays. You may bring these in on the celebration day.

Snacks that do not meet the guidelines will not be served.

Sliced apple packs	Graham crackers	Individually wrapped cheese	Washed fresh fruit
Apple sauce	Cereal bars	Pretzels (no nuggets)	
Yogurt	Crackers	Granola/Granola bars	
Fruit cups	Raisins	Veggie snacks	
Bananas	Clementines	Rice cakes	

Lunch boxes must be labeled and clean. Lunches will be stored separately. No peanut butter. Please be sure your child has napkins, plastic utensils if needed and a water bottle.

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Children with an elevated temperature of 100.4, active cough or shortness of breath will be excluded. Children will be excluded from school until they are fever free for 48 hours. Your Health care provider should be contacted if your child is exhibiting signs of COVID-19. If your child or a family member is positive for COVID-19 you must report it to the school and the Madison Health Department.