

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Welcome back! We are excited to be returning to our Home Based program. Bear River Head Start staff are committed to keeping your child safe and healthy. With the outbreak of COVID-19, we have made some changes to our Exclusion Policy and home visiting procedures. Following these procedures are necessary for all children, parents and staff in order to keep everyone healthy.

1. STAY HOME/CANCEL VISITS IF ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19. Symptoms include, but are not limited to: fever of 100.4°F or higher, cough (if your child normally has a cough due to allergies or asthma, is this cough different), shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle aches and pains, decrease of sense of smell or taste. Please check symptoms prior to your visit and notify your educator if the visit needs to be cancelled due to illness.
2. Health Checks: Upon arrival to your visit, staff, children and family members present will have temperatures checked before beginning the visit. Staff will ask parents the following COVID questions to determine if it is safe for the visit to begin:
  - a. Do you have any of these symptoms? \_\_\_ fever; \_\_\_ cough; \_\_\_ new or increase in shortness of breath \_\_\_; decreased sense of smell or taste \_\_\_; sore or scratchy throat \_\_\_; muscle aches and pains \_\_\_?
  - b. Has your child been in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 2 weeks?
3. If the staff, child or family members present have a fever or any other symptoms of COVID-19, they should return home and contact their primary health care provider to find out if you should be tested for COVID-19.
4. If the staff, child or family members present have no fever and no other symptoms of COVID, the visit can begin.
5. The use of masks **IS RECOMMENDED** for all participants when participating in activities.
6. Bear River Head Start recommends all participants and staff wash their hands prior to the visit and use hand sanitizer upon arrival.
7. Visit will be conducted in an area where a 6 foot physical distance can be maintained at all times between staff and family members present (i.e. outside in the family's yard).
8. Toys and supplies will be cleaned, sanitized and disinfected by staff between each visit.

Please contact your child's educator or advocate for additional questions. We appreciate your help in keeping our program safe and healthy!

Bear River Head Start

