

Dear Early Childhood Families,

We are looking forward to welcoming our returning and new families back to our early childhood programs. We are excited to share the new safety plan for our panda family reunion!

Our first day of school is scheduled for Monday, August 24. We have been diligently working to create a plan that will allow us to safely return to school. Please be assured we are committed to providing the same nurturing environment and high-quality learning experiences while implementing additional measures to ensure the safety of students, families and staff. Our first weeks together will be spent deeply rooted in reestablishing trust and connection with your children. We will embrace each student where they are emotionally and support them as we navigate our new learning environments together.

The information below contains three plans depending on the spread of illness in our community. The three plans were designed for us to be able to transition from as needed based on community spread. This could be used to tailor safety needs based on data from county, district, school or classroom situations. As of now, we anticipate starting the school year on a modified schedule as described in the “Plan B” section in the attached Return To School document. We have developed the following plan for our reopening, based on recommendations from the CDC, St. Louis County Health Department and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Based on the feedback we received from our families, we have developed the following priorities:

Parkway Early Childhood Return to School Priorities

- Increased health and hygiene
- Increased cleaning and availability of cleaning supplies
- Close monitoring and tracking of symptoms for students and staff
- Limiting adults in the building and limiting large gatherings
- Practicing social distancing and limiting group sizes

In the near future, you will be receiving additional information from the individual programs in which you are enrolled. This communication will have more details that will hopefully answer some of the questions you may have. We understand our families have many unique situations. We are here to support and guide our families and staff as you navigate these challenging times. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work diligently to address your concerns and consider your feedback. We miss you all dearly and look forward to our panda reunion!

Dr. Elena Polson
Director of Early Learning

Listed below are strategies that will occur throughout the 20-21 school year regardless of which plan we are implementing.

- All adults including staff will be required to wear face coverings
- Current CDC guidelines recommend students over age two wear face coverings. We understand that this may not be appropriate for many of our early childhood students. We will continue to encourage our children to wear masks, but will not force them to do so if they are not able.
- Arrival/dismissal takes place at exterior doors
- Follow district sick policy and tracking of symptoms for students and staff
- Increase outdoor learning opportunities
- Increased hand washing and hygiene education across learning environments and programs (i.e. playgrounds, bathrooms, home visits etc)
- Increased cleaning of learning materials and supplies across all programs
- For safety and security, we will implement staggered assigned drop off and pick up times for our tuition-based full-day classes. Families will be surveyed to determine these times.
- All meetings will take place virtually.
- Building tours will take place virtually.
- Family events and group connections will all take place virtually.

The following spaces will be closed for public use this school year:

- Commons
- All building playgrounds
- All common gathering spaces
- Toy lending bags
- Parent book lending library
- Bathrooms and Water fountains

PLAN A

Minimal community spread of illness, planning, prevention, mitigation, education, hygiene, cleaning, monitoring diseases, limit large gatherings

Preschool Programs

Kids Morning Out

Early Childhood Special Education

- Classes will be held on a traditional in-person schedule with typical class sizes
- ECSE Itinerant services that are provided in Parkway buildings will still occur. Parents will be asked to wait in their vehicle.

Parents As Teachers

- Personal visits may begin to take place in the home during this plan. If it is determined the spread is minimal enough that it is safe to go in homes, we will still offer virtual visits based on

	<p>the health needs of the family and the parent educator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent educators and families will participate in symptom checks before the scheduled arrival of an educator. • Increased use of family learning materials and consumable materials (will reduce the number of items brought into the home) • Health precautions listed in the purple section above will also be followed on home visits.
<p>Play-based screening</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screenings will be held in person at the Early Childhood Center or virtually based on level of community spread. • If screenings occur in person, there will be a limit of one adult per student participating in screening; siblings will no longer be permitted. • Virtual screening will still be an option for families, even if we are offering in person screenings during this plan. • Health precautions listed above will still be followed in screening
<p>Partners In Play (PIP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classes may or may not be held depending on the level of community spread. • Limited classes will be offered with a reduction in class size. • Health precautions listed above, including symptom check, will still be followed in PIP. • Child care will no longer be provided. • We will limit one adult per family attending the in person class.
<p>PLAN B</p>	
<p>Minimal to moderate spread of community illness, social distancing, monitoring symptoms, contact tracing, face coverings for some, distance learning for some</p>	
<p>Preschool Programs</p> <p>Kids Morning Out</p> <p>Early Childhood Special Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preschool general education classrooms will be running with smaller class sizes so we can practice social distancing. • ECSE and KMO classrooms already run at lower classroom sizes so they do not need to be reduced. Additionally, we are limiting the number of peer models in our ECSE classrooms to help keep class sizes lower this year. <p>Listed below is the process we will be using to reduce the size of our general education classrooms. We anticipate starting the school year in Plan B. Parents will receive additional information with a survey to let us know of their intent to return to school for the 20-21 school year. We ask for notification of intent to return by July 24. Families will be notified of final class placement by August 7.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit the class sizes utilizing the guidelines listed below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Divide the class in half if space and staffing allow. 2. Look at square footage and layout of the room to see if it can safely hold </div>

	<p>students while social distancing.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Explore alternate classroom assignments (i.e. sessions and days, etc.). 4. There will be an ongoing review and adjustments of class enrollment. 5. On a section by section basis, we may ask families to volunteer to stay home during Plan B and we would hold their spot until we return to Plan A. 6. As a last resort, on a section by section basis, we would ask families to stay home during Plan B.
Parents As Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All visits and group connections will be held in a virtual format.
Play-Based Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All screenings will be held in a virtual format.
Partners in Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All classes will be canceled.

PLAN C	
Substantial spread of community illness, Closure, Virtual Learning	
Preschool Kids Morning Out Early Childhood Special Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Learning will be provided virtually (online distance learning). ● If we are closed for two weeks or less, families in tuition-based classes will be asked to continue to pay tuition as normal. ● In the event we are closed for longer than two weeks, tuition based families will be asked to pay a reduced fee of 30% of tuition which will include student and family access to virtual learning and keep the family enrolled during the closure.
Parents As Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All visits and group connections will be held in a virtual format.
Play-Based Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All screenings will be held in a virtual format.
Partners in Play (PIP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All classes will be canceled.