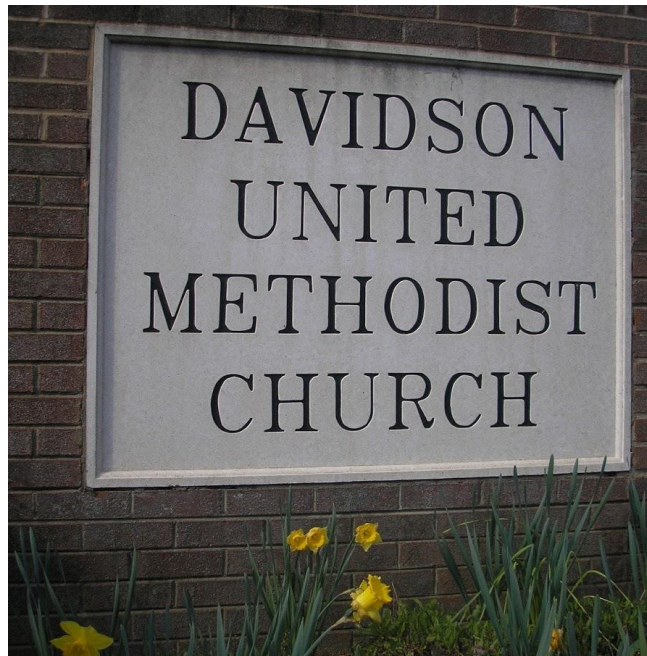


Davidson United Methodist Church Preschool

COVID Pandemic Policy 2021-2022 School Year

The Preschool is an outreach of Davidson United Methodist Church. We serve families and children of the church and the surrounding communities as space permits. We are guided in our work with children by the belief that each child is a unique gift of God, worthy of love, respect, and encouragement.



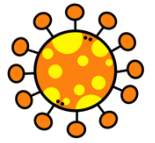
Davidson United Methodist Preschool has implemented the following guidelines until further notice for the 2021-2022 school year. These guidelines supersede any information outlined in the typical Parent Handbook.

Please be advised that we are monitoring the COVID situation and that these guidelines could change in the future. Please continue to pray that God guides all of us in working together to provide for a happy, healthy school year for our children.

The Preschool will use our thermometers as the guide for recording your child's temperature, and for allowing access into the program each day.

Because the Delta Variant is highly contagious and transmissible, our Covid Policy was updated on August 25,

2021. Updates to our policy that became effective on August 25, 2021 are shown in italic print.



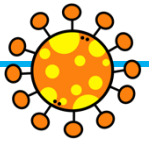
Social Distancing and Safety Strategies

1. Teachers will be required to wear a mask throughout the entire day. Vaccination is encouraged, and any teachers not vaccinated may be required to be tested weekly (using a PCR test) for Covid.
2. *Children in the 2-year-old, 3-year-old, and 4-year-old classrooms will wear masks when indoors.* Teachers and children will remain with their class only throughout the school day. Keeping the same group of children together with the same teachers is a way to minimize exposure and spread of the illness.
3. Specific schedules will be implemented for use of the Fellowship Hall and the playground allowing for only one class at a time.
4. We are using the term “school family” with the students to refer to their specific classroom of students.
5. In our classrooms we will certainly attempt to plan activities that will keep children apart or somewhat distanced if possible. In addition, the Preschool will supply each child with individual supplies in Ziploc bags as well as individual sensory experiences whenever possible.
6. All extra-curricular activities will be on hold until further notice except Chapel and Music Class. Until further notice, Chapel lessons will be recorded and viewed on a large screen in the Fellowship Hall, one class at a time beginning in early October. Music Class will be held outdoors only, one class at a time, when appropriate weather allows. We will not be bringing field trips into the classrooms at this time.
7. All classes will utilize the beautiful outdoor grounds at Davidson UMC for learning opportunities as much as possible.
8. Parents and visitors will not be allowed in the building. The exception is for **one** adult dropping off and picking up Toddlers and 2-Year-Olds during the month of September. Starting October 4th, all children will use the drop-off and pick-up line.
9. The playground will only be open for students and teachers to use during the school day and will be closed before and after school.
10. We strongly encourage you to check your child’s temperature before leaving your house each

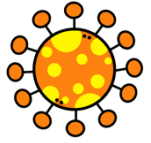
morning. At drop-off, we will record each child's temperature *with our thermometers* as they arrive.

11. Please do not send your child with a pacifier to Preschool. If it is necessary, please talk to your child's teacher.
12. **At pick-up, it will be the parent's responsibility to buckle their child securely into their car seat.**
13. Birthday Celebrations in the Classroom: Parent may send in store-bought cupcakes or cookies so we can celebrate their child's birthday in the classroom. Please note that homemade items will not be permitted. Parents will not be able to come into the classroom for the celebration, but teachers will share a photo of the birthday celebration with the parents through the HiMama app. It is best if you can contact your child's teacher (using the HiMama app) and let them know that you are sending birthday cupcakes/cookies into the classroom.
14. Rainy Days- On rainy days, children will use classrooms #121, #123 and the Fellowship Hall (when available) for play. The staff will make available items such as parachutes, balls, and other rainy day play equipment. These items will be sanitized with the same spray solution that we will use on the outdoor playground, and items will be sanitized after each "school family's" use.
15. ***We ask that if you need to contact your child's teacher in the morning before school, please contact them through the HiMama app before 8:30am. Also, please note that teachers removing students from cars at drop-off cannot be asked to pass along a message to another teacher.***
16. ***All cell phones MUST be turned off once you enter the main parking lot.***
17. ***Please note that ANY student showing symptoms cannot attend until seen by a doctor (this includes those whose parents think it is just seasonal allergy drainage). A doctor's note is required for each return to school. There are no blanket medical exemptions for symptoms or masks. Please see chart on last page.***
18. ***Only parents with prior permission from the Director can walk their child to the drop-off and pick-up location. Walking up is reserved for those children who live within walking distance to our Preschool.***

Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures

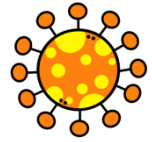


1. Teachers will also be required to complete a temperature check and health screening each day upon arrival to work. No one will be permitted to attend if a temperature reads 100.4 or higher.
2. We will use a drop-off and pick-up procedure this year. For drop-off, parents will enter through the entrance on Cathey Street, drop-off their child(ren) under the Portico, and exit through Walnut Street. At drop off, your child's temperature will be recorded, and you will be asked if they are 100% symptom free. For pick-up, the route is the same. The only difference is that after picking up your child(ren), we ask that you pull forward to secure seat belts on car seats. The preschool staff will not secure car seats. Also, please note that the entrance on Main Street will be closed. A map is attached for your reference.
3. During the month of September, all Toddler and 2-Year-Old students will be walked into the building by **one** parent/guardian. They will enter by the Director's Office, turn left and proceed to the classroom, then exit through the Gathering Space into the Courtyard. Pick-up will operate in the same manner. Please note that the parent/guardian must wear a mask while in the building. On October 4th, all students will use the drop-off and pick-up procedures.
4. Being on time for drop-off and pick-up is critical. Since we will have drop-off and pick-up, the teachers will not be able to wait for late students. We will begin accepting students beginning at 8:55am to allow for health screenings and temperature checks.
5. Children and teachers will be required to sanitize their hands immediately upon entering the building and throughout the school day.
6. In order to protect all teachers and families and children we will always err on the side of caution when any symptoms present. In order to attend preschool, we ask that your child be **100% symptom free**. We strongly encourage you to check your child's temperature before leaving your house. The health screening questionnaire is attached and has been taken from the guidance of the CDC and NC Strong Schools Public Health Toolkit for Early Learning.
7. Students that need to be picked-up early for dentist appointments, etc. will need to have their parent ring the buzzer at the Director's Office. A staff member will get your child from the classroom and bring them to you. We have decided NOT to issue door fobs at this time.



Cleaning and Sanitization Procedures

- Anti-Bacterial hand sanitizer will be available for use throughout the school day.
- *We will be using a cleaning product that is effective against viruses and is child-safe.*
- Opportunity for frequent hand washing will be provided throughout the day for both children and teachers.
- All soft plush items and dress up clothes will be removed from the classroom until further notice.
- Children will be supplied with individual supplies (crayons, paint brush, markers, etc.) where possible to limit the use of shared materials and supplies.
- Playground equipment outside will be cleaned by classroom teachers after each class leaves the playground *using a product that is effective against viruses and is child-safe.*
- All staff and students will wash/sanitize hands when entering the Preschool.
- All equipment in the Rainy Day classrooms (#121, 123, Fellowship Hall) will be cleaned after use before the next class arrives.



The following questions will be asked of both teachers and parents on behalf of their child each day. Please use the following as a guide to monitor your child's health before coming to school.

Anyone exposed to COVID-19 or showing any of the symptoms listed below should not attend preschool.

1. Have you or any of the children you are dropping off had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) in the last 14 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or has any health department or health care provider been in contact with you and advised you to quarantine?

If Yes > The individual should not be at the preschool and will be sent home. The individual can return 14 days after the last time he or she had close contact with someone with COVID-19.

If No > The individual can be at the preschool if he or she is not experiencing symptoms.

2. Do you or do any of the children you are dropping off have any of these symptoms?

- Fever of 100.4
- Chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New cough
- New loss of taste or smell
- Runny nose/congestion
- Diarrhea and/or vomiting/or nausea (includes two or more stools above the child's normal pattern)
- Headache
- Muscle or Body Aches
- Sore Throat

If an individual has any or a combination of these symptoms, they should go home, stay away from other people, and the family member should call the child's health care provider.

If a person is diagnosed with COVID-19 based on a test or their symptoms, they should not be at preschool and should stay home until they meet the criteria on the next page.

Parents are asked to be cautious and keep your child home from school if anyone in your immediate household presents the above COVID-19 symptoms. *Staying home when sick is essential to keeping Covid infections out of the Preschool and preventing the spread of the virus.*

The Director will contact the local health department if there is an exposure within the preschool.

Person has symptoms of COVID-19 and has not been tested OR person has symptoms of COVID-19 and has been diagnosed with or tested positive for COVID-19

Person can return to the preschool when they can answer yes to ALL three questions:

- Has it been at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared?
- Has it been at least 72 hours since the person had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine)?
- Has it been at least 72 hours since the person's symptoms have improved, including cough and shortness of breath? Once the criteria above are met, it is not necessary to require a negative COVID-19 test in order to return to preschool.

Person has not had symptoms of COVID-19 but has been diagnosed with COVID-19 based on a positive test

Person can return to the preschool once:

- 10 days passed since the date of their first positive test. However, if the person develops symptoms of COVID-19 after their positive test, they must be able to answer yes to ALL three questions listed above before returning to preschool.

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Person has been excluded because of COVID-19 symptoms but then tests negative for COVID-19

Person can return to the preschool once they can answer yes to both questions:

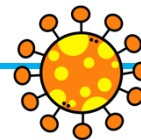
- Has it been 72 hours since the person had a fever without the use of fever reducing medicines?
- Has the person felt well for at least the past 72 hours?

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Person has been determined to be in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19

Person can return to the preschool after completing at least 14 days of quarantine at home.

- The purpose of quarantine is to determine if a person who has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 will get infected. They must complete the full 14 days of quarantine even if they test negative. However, if the person tests positive (PCR test) or develops COVID-19 symptoms, they must follow the criteria above to return to preschool.



How Davidson UMC Preschool Will Handle COVID-19 Exposures

It is requested that parents or staff members notify the director if they or any members of their immediate family test positive for COVID-19. The preschool will contact the local health department for guidance on a course of action.

If a student exhibits any COVID-19 symptoms during the school day, they will be removed from the classroom and isolated with supervision in classroom 121 on the first floor until they can be transported home by a parent or guardian.

If a staff member exhibits any symptoms during the school day, they will be sent home immediately, and administrative staff will cover their classroom.

If we are notified that a preschool parent, child or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19 we will be HIPPA compliant and notify those who were in contact with that person immediately.


Any areas that the infected person may have been in contact with will be cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected thoroughly as our cleaning and disinfecting practice states.

Along with the local health department, the Preschool Director will assess and make decisions on closing classrooms and requesting a 14-day quarantine for those who may have been exposed.

Decisions regarding this policy will be handled in the following manner:

1. Preschool Director
2. Church Staff Committee comprised of the Preschool Director, the Pastor of Faith Formation, the Facilities Manager and the Director of Administration and Finance for Davidson United Methodist Church.
3. The Preschool Board

Tuition

 John Smith 888 765 4321 Your Town 54321	DATE _____
PAY TO <input type="text"/>	
MEMO _____	
1234 5678 910 993210	

Tuition will be required in full unless the preschool is shut down due to government directives. If circumstances require the school to close indefinitely, any tuition paid ahead would be eligible for a refund.

We are optimistic that with isolating classes, we will not need to shut down the entire preschool if there is a COVID-19 exposure. If there is a child in a particular class that has been identified as COVID-19 positive, that entire class and teachers will quarantine for a 14-day period before returning. If there is a sibling that attends the preschool to a class that has had an exposure, that class will also need to quarantine for 14 days. During the quarantine period, the teachers will provide for virtual home learning experiences and tuition will not be adjusted.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where and how will temperatures be taken?

Temperatures will be taken prior to your child exiting your vehicle at the drop-off line with a forehead thermometer. Our thermometer will be used to verify their temperature.

How often will children be washing hands?

Children and adults will be required to sanitize hands with hand sanitizer before entering the building. Children will wash hands before and after eating, after toileting, and of course after any messy activity. Hand sanitizer will always be available. Our curriculum will implement an increased focus on good hand washing hygiene and preventing the spread of germs.

How will diaper changing stations be sanitized between children?

In the Toddler and 2-year-old classroom, the teachers are trained in the proper diapering techniques and sanitizing of surfaces per CDC regulations. A designated, non-porous changing station will be covered with a disposable paper for each change. Teachers will use gloves, diaper wipes and disposal of diapers out of the classroom immediately after changing. The changing station will be ~~sanitized~~ and disinfected after each use to reduce the spread of germs.

How are you handling water bottles?

It is strongly suggested that each child have a water thermos that is 7" tall, sweat proof, and has a push button lid and pop-up straw to fit on the shelf of each child's cubby. All children will have access to their water bottle throughout the day and they will be stored in their own individual cubby. Use of the water fountains throughout the building will be discontinued.

Will children be allowed to wear masks and be made to social distance?

Children WILL wear masks when indoors. Although it is developmentally inappropriate to expect young children of preschool age to understand and comply with a 6ft distance rule, the teachers will certainly attempt to plan activities that will keep children apart or somewhat distanced if at all possible



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What happens if there is a pandemic resurgence?

If there is a resurgence of the virus, we will make decisions based on the health and safety of our students, families, and staff following the CDC, federal, state, and local guidelines.

What is the protocol for a teacher or child who has tested positive for COVID-19?

- It is requested that parents or staff members notify the director if any members of their immediate family test positive for COVID-19. The preschool will contact the local health department for guidance on a course of action.
- If a student exhibits any COVID-19 symptoms during the school day, they will be removed from the classroom and isolated with supervision in the nursery on the first floor until they can be transported home by a parent or guardian.
- If a staff member exhibits any symptoms during the school day, they will be sent home immediately and administrative staff will cover their classroom.
- If we are notified that a preschool parent, child or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19 we will be HIPPA compliant and notify those who were in contact with that person immediately and communicate to the school community that a member of the preschool has tested positive.
- Any areas that the infected person may have been in contact with will be cleaned, sanitized and disinfected thoroughly as our cleaning and disinfecting practice states.
- Along with the local health department, the preschool will assess and make decisions on closing classrooms and requesting a 14-day quarantine for those who may have been exposed.



What is the protocol for a child or teacher who has a family member that resides with them who tests positive for COVID-19?

It is important to remember that anyone who has close contact with someone with COVID-19 should stay home for 14 days after exposure based on the time it takes to develop the illness. If this occurs, please contact the school as soon as possible. Communication will be sent to the families in the class, maintaining privacy and support for those affected.

When can a student come back to the physical school classroom after being absent with COVID-19 symptoms?

All students who are absent from school because they show COVID-19 symptoms should be seen by a physician. If COVID testing is negative or an appropriate alternative diagnosis is given by a physician, it is expected that students will remain absent from school until they are fever free without fever reducing medication for 72 hours and other symptoms are improving. Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be able to return to school after 10 days from onset of symptoms and 72 hours fever free without the use of fever reducing medications, as long as their symptoms are improving. Any student with symptoms who does not receive a COVID test will be able to return to school after 10 days from the onset of symptoms and 72 hours fever free without fever reducing medication, as long as their symptoms are improving.

How did you arrive at your policies for handling COVID-19 situations?

The Director of the Preschool, the Preschool Board, and the Ministry Staff of Davidson UMC have based these policy decisions on guidelines given us by the CDC, the NC Department of Health and Human Resources (specifically the Childcare Strong Initiative), the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System. We will continue to use these resources as the source of our information.

Many thanks to Bethel UMC Weekday Preschool for sharing their Covid policy template.

Flowchart to Return to Preschool

<p>Student has exposure to someone who is COVID positive (within 6ft for 15 minutes)</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Please see physician</p>	<p>Student has symptoms, has not been tested</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Please see physician</p>	<p>Student has symptoms, Positive diagnosis/test</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Please see physician</p>	<p>Student shows no symptoms but tests positive</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Please see physician</p>	<p>Student shows symptoms but tests negative</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Please see physician</p>
<p>In order to return to preschool:</p> <p>↓</p>	<p>In order to return to preschool:</p> <p>↓</p>	<p>In order to return to preschool:</p> <p>↓</p>	<p>In order to return to preschool:</p> <p>↓</p>	<p>After PCR test is confirmed negative, OR an appropriate, documented alternative diagnosis is given by a physician</p> <p>↓</p>
<p>14-day quarantine</p>	<p>10 days since first symptom appeared,</p> <p>72 hours fever free without fever reducing meds, and</p> <p>72 hours of improved symptoms</p>	<p>10 days since first symptom appeared, and</p> <p>72 hours fever free without fever reducing meds, and</p> <p>72 hours of improved symptoms</p>	<p>10 days have passed since the positive test</p>	<p>In order to return to preschool:</p> <p>↓</p>
				<p>Submit written alternative diagnosis from a physician</p> <p>72 hours fever free without fever reducing medication and</p> <p>72 hours of improved symptoms.</p>

Davidson UMC | On-Campus Covenantⁱ | Adopted: 10/13/2020

Davidson UMC's mission is: "We will be the Body of Christ in our community through worship, education, fellowship, and service." As we fulfill our mission and navigate this season, we ask the body of Christ to covenant together about how it will participate in on-campus activities.

1. We covenant to follow John Wesley's three general rules by doing no harm, by doing good, and by attending upon all the ordinances of God.ⁱⁱ
2. We covenant to care for one another. Therefore, we covenant to:
 - a. Wear a face covering/mask
 - i. This means that everyone over the age of two will be wearing a face covering/mask.
 - b. Maintain social distance (at least 6 feet)
 - c. Refrain from physical contact
 - d. Follow posted signage, travel patterns, written guidelines, and/or oral directions
 - e. Hold one another accountable to this covenant.
 - i. If we witness violations of this covenant, we will encourage compliance to it in a spirit of charity.
 - ii. If individuals still resist, we will recommend online participation.
3. We covenant to remain home and to participate online if any of the following remain true:
 - a. If you or anyone to whom you have been in proximity has tested positive for COVID-19 or await test results for COVID-19.
 - i. After a positive COVID-19 test, you or members of your household may resume on-campus activities once cleared from quarantine by a health care provider.
 - b. If you or anyone to whom you have been in proximity exhibit any of the following symptoms either now or during the past 14 days:
 - i. Fever (100.4 or greater)
 - ii. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - iii. Cough or sore throat
 - iv. Loss of taste or smell
 - v. Nausea, diarrhea, or vomiting
 - vi. Head or muscle ache
 - vii. Chills
 - If you or members of your household experience the above symptoms you may resume on-campus activities: 14 days after symptoms first appeared, 24 hours without a fever and without the use of fever-reducing medications, and other COVID-19 symptoms are improving.ⁱⁱⁱ
 - c. If you or your household remain for any reason (medical, age, or otherwise) unable or unwilling to wear a face covering/mask.

4. We covenant to evaluate our personal health and the health of our household. Our evaluation would include considering certain underlying medical conditions, as outlined by the CDC, constituting a greater risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Use this link to review the information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>.
5. We covenant to share our contact information through the online registration forms to assist Davidson UMC (DUMC) in contact tracing. Further, we agree to report if we have tested positive for COVID-19, so that DUMC may share with event attendees that someone has tested positive. DUMC, in compliance with the CDC, will share this information with the Mecklenburg County Health Department. DUMC will withhold disclosing the name of the persons affected.
6. We understand that our presence on-campus serves as an agreement to uphold this covenant and remains our choice. We acknowledge that it remains impossible to eliminate the presence of COVID-19 and thereby acknowledge that DUMC is incapable of preventing anyone from risking exposure, contracting, or spreading COVID-19.

ⁱ This covenant will be updated as needed by the Pathfinders Task Force with guidance from the Medical Advisory Team.

ⁱⁱ <https://www.umc.org/en/content/the-general-rules-of-the-methodist-church>.

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html>

Please sign and return the following page

COVID Policy Acknowledgement

Child's Name: _____

Teacher: _____

I have received, read, and understand the COVID Policy for Davidson United Methodist Church Preschool. I understand that my child must be 100% symptom free to attend preschool.

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please sign and return to the Preschool Office.