

ICS POSITIVE PANDEMIC PREVENTION **& SAFETY PROCEDURES**

April, 2021

- ICS has returned to Face-to-Face classes. This is for both Early Head Start (EHS) and Head Start classes.
- For parents concerned about safety and health who were hesitant to join Face-to-Face classes, ICS continues to offer online Virtual Learning classes until April 30, 2021 for those that signed-up for Virtual classes.
- Learning Activities have been expanded along with ways to keep parents informed using online tools and social media.
- Safety Measures have been enhanced that include: Daily Wellness & Temperature Checks. Temperatures are taken before entry to an ICS bus, both for staff and children. Temperatures are taken before entry into classes at a center, both for staff and children. ICS has obtained hands-free temperature machines where an adult or child can stand and have temperature measured.
- Social distancing is practiced. Group sizes are limited. When outside, children play within their own group in a designated area. Frequent handwashing occurs. Face masks are worn by children and staff except when eating. Gloves are available for use when needed. Disposable gowns are provided for use to protect children and staff when there are accidents or incidents.
- At this time for safety and health reasons, ICS Centers and Central Office will restrict visitors. For the most part, only staff will be allowed in the centers.
- Call first, if you must come to the center and want to come inside.
- If you must visit a center, you must (1) wear a mask, (2) maintain social distancing, (3) have your temperature taken and (4) answer COVID-19 health questions. Any person, approved for entering a center, who has no mask will be provided with a mask.

- Daily cleaning occurs in classrooms, centers and on buses with any needed disinfecting or sanitizing. Weekly in-depth cleaning occurs. Ultra-violet light cleaning tools have been purchased and air purifiers provided in centers.
- If any contagious disease occurs, ICS will follow instructions by the MS Dept. of Health for parent notification as well as disinfecting / sanitizing procedures.
- If any children or staff members contract COVID-19, procedures are in place to notify needed persons. Required quarantines will occur.
- As with our staff, ICS encourages our parents to obtain COVID-19 vaccinations.
- If you have any parent concerns, please speak with your Center Director to resolve issues.
- It is imperative that parents keep telephone numbers current and Emergency /Release Person information accurate and in writing. These are other adults who may act for the parent on behalf of the child as relates to Head Start/EHS.
- Be sure to sign up for REMIND 101 at your center for parent notices about your center. Center Directors can provide this information.
- Obtain an email address if you do not have one and provide it to the center.
- Be sure you have the center's telephone and fax numbers.
- No End of the Year ceremonies will occur in efforts to support safety and social distances. Children will receive certificates of completion of Head Start.
- Return of Tablets will occur for Head Start and EHS. Dates will be announced to parents.
- For families needing to apply for EHS or Head Start, the ICS website www.ics-hs.org has a section for starting an application for EHS age children (infants and toddlers) and Head Start age children (pre-school age).