Young Children's Community West

Welcome to the 2021/2022 school year!

Car line/Drop off

Morning car line begins at 8:20 and ends at 8:40. If you miss the morning car line, please bring your child to the front desk and the receptionist will call the classroom and a classroom representative will meet you at the front desk. We have found this to be better for the children who have already begun their work cycle and makes the separation easier on the late child. We require all children to be dropped off before 10:00am in order to give them the opportunity to have a work cycle before lunch and nap (with the exception of pre-discussed appointments). We appreciate your understanding of this protocol.

The mid-day pick up time starts at 12:20 and ends at 12:30. Afternoon pick-up begins at 3:20 and ends at 3:40. Children will have had a snack and will have used the toilet or had a diaper change before he or she is brought to the car.

Snack/Lunch

Healthy snacks are provided, such as fruits, vegetables, grains, and proteins (yogurt or cheese). The snack is served between 9:00 and 9:15 during the morning and after nap around 3:00. We eat family style, sitting together with a full table setting. Children are welcome to skip snack if they are not hungry. The process of getting ready for snack requires each child to wash hands and sit down at the set table with hands in his or her lap until we are ready to begin our snack. Children pour water from the small pitchers into their cups and serve their own food according to their skills. When they are done eating, they place the leftover food in the compost bucket and place dirty dishes on the dish cart. The children are not allowed to walk with the food around the room, rather they are redirected to eat at the table. The children have access to water throughout the day. For children staying in Friends' Club, the late afternoon snack is provided around 4:40.

Birthday Celebrations

To honor your child's birthday, the children in our classroom bake birthday muffins or another special snack for the morning. We eat together and sing "Happy Birthday." In preparation for this, please email a photo of your child as a newborn and at one year old; we will display these in the classroom for the week and discuss how the child has grown and how they have stayed the same.

Illness/Medication

Please familiarize yourself with the school's COVID-19 policy. We promise to do our best to follow safety protocols to ensure the health and safety within our community. Some of these protocols include taking your child's temperature throughout the day, washing hands frequently (and using hand sanitizer when hand washing isn't feasible,) wearing masks (adults-only, but children 2 and up are welcome to practice wearing masks), and lots of extra cleaning of materials and the classroom environment. Please also familiarize yourself with the school's updated illness policy. Medications, even over the counter, can only

be given at school if the medication form is filled out. Your diligence in following these guidelines is greatly appreciated as it will help us to keep the community, as a whole, healthy throughout the year. Major infections/illnesses should be reported to the main office so that other parents can be made aware and watch for symptoms in their own children.

Non-Parent Pick Up

Children can only be released to adults that are listed on your child's information card; this card is created by you on The Children's House Online Parent Portal. If a staff member is releasing any child to an adult they have not met, they will check this information and also ask for identification. Prior notice of a non-parent pick up is appreciated.

Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences are held twice a year: in November and March. This is a great opportunity to talk about your child's progress and expectations for the future. More details on this will follow; please watch the compass

Supplies for School

- Diapers, if needed
- Three changes of extra, easy on and off play clothing (possibly more if you are beginning the toileting process; we will discuss this separately)
- Reusable wet bags are helpful for sending wet clothing home
- Rubber soled indoor shoes
- Weather appropriate outdoor clothing, including a rain suit

Contact information

If you have any questions or need to contact us, please do not hesitate. We will be at school every day, 8-4pm. We are not always able to take your calls during class time and messages will be directed to our voicemail if we are unable to answer. In an emergency, please leave a message with the front desk receptionist who will pass the message to us. Otherwise, you may email us or leave a voice message on the classroom phone 929-9325 ext. 145 and we will return your call or email within 24 hours. E-mail:

betsy@traversechildrenshouse.org jeanette@traversechildrenshouse.org