March 24, 2022

Parents/Caregivers,

Our Transitional COVID-19 Operating Procedures and new Return to Campus Guide for Childcare are available. Your Teacher or Family Advocate will provide the procedures. You can also find the Return to Campus Guide for Childcare on our website. New procedures informed by WADOH, CDC, Office of Head Start, and LCC will be implemented on Monday, March 28th, 2022. A couple of highlights about the changes include:

• Reduced COVID-19 quarantine is now 5 days
• Close contacts of a confirmed case are no longer required to quarantine
• Classrooms resume family style meals instead of individual plating
• General health check instead of full COVID-19 Health Screening will speed up your sign-in process

Please continue to keep your child home if they have COVID like illness symptoms.

Our programs are supported by federal funds and the federal mask mandate has not been removed. Therefore, masks will still be required in our centers, classrooms, home visits, and school buses until further notice even though the statewide indoor mask requirement ended. The federal Office of Head Start has communicated with programs that they are currently evaluating the mask requirement. If you have feedback regarding the federal mask mandate you can find several options at https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/contact-us.

We will continue communicating with you as we learn about more changes to requirements. We thank you for your continued patience and partnership as we transition together.

Sincerely,

Mindy Leasure, Head Start/EHS/ECEAP Director
Lower Columbia College
360-442-2800