

Grace Children's Learning Center

"A Ministry of Grace United Methodist Church"

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March 8, 2022

Dear Staff and Parents of GCLC,

Masking Policy at GCLC

The GCLC School Board and GCLC Administration have made the decision for parent choice, meaning that effective immediately, masks are optional for our students, staff and any individual entering our building. This change in policy is due to the current low risk level of Covid in Prince William County and surrounding areas as well as recommendations from the Virginia Department of Education.

We are acutely aware that guidelines and infection rates can and are fluctuating daily, and we will continue to monitor these changes via the Virginia Departments of Education and Health.

Since the children in our care are not yet eligible for vaccinations, we recognize that children, families, and staff may continue to wear masks for their own health and safety. We fully support that choice.

These policies may change depending on the current risk levels in our area. We ask for your patience and understanding as we make every effort to stay informed and make sound decisions. The safety and care of our children and staff remain our top priorities.

We ask that parents notify GCLC if their child has tested positive as soon as possible.

Changes in Quarantine/Isolation Policy

The School board is aware of the CDC's recent changes to the quarantine and isolation requirements. At our board meeting yesterday, we decided to follow the recommendations of Prince William County Schools.

Prince William County Health Guidelines

Isolations for students are required for those who have received a positive test result or have a physician's diagnosis. Affected students may return to school on day eleven.

Isolations for staff are required for those who have received a positive test result or have a physician's diagnosis. Affected staff may return after five days. Masks are required for days 6-10.

Quarantine for students and staff with no illness, but identified as a close contact. For those individuals not vaccinated, the length of quarantine is 5 days and return on day 6. There could be instances where entire classrooms will need to quarantine for 5 days.

Below you will find links to VDOE and PWCS Health Guidelines:

Virginia Department of Education:

<https://www.doe.virginia.gov/cc/covid-19-docs/covid-guidelines-child-care-english.pdf>

PWCS Health Guidelines:

<https://www.pwcs.edu/cms/One.aspx?portalId=340225&pageId=45115887>

The GCLC Board and Administration appreciate your understanding and patience as we navigate these ever-changing times. We want you to know that all policies and practices are made with great thought and care, and will always be in what we feel is in the best interest of all of our children, families, and staff.

Sincerely,
GCLC School Board