



Willow Preschool

A Great Place to Grow

Safety & Health Policies

2022-2023

Willow Preschool
Willow Creek Community Church
67 Algonquin Road
South Barrington, IL 60010

At Willow Preschool, we believe that parents and teachers share the responsibility for maintaining health and preventing the spread of contagious diseases. We do this by including illness prevention practices in daily routines, keeping staff informed about child illness, and alerting parents to symptoms of illness. We ask parents to make sure children receive immunizations and regular checkups, give us accurate information concerning their child's daily health, and make arrangements for timely pickup and diagnosis when their child becomes ill. Thank you for your partnership in helping keep the children healthy!

Prevention

Children showing signs of illness should remain at home. Each day, Willow Preschool staff will observe each child's general wellness. If a child seems uncomfortable, lethargic, irritable, not feeling well, without other symptoms, in some cases we may need to call a parent to have his/her child picked up if he/she is not able to comfortably participate in group care.

The children are under direct adult supervision at all times. Fighting is not allowed; running and throwing objects are not allowed except as a supervised part of curriculum.

All poisonous substances are stored in a locked cupboard out of reach of children. All sharp objects are stored out of the reach of children. Objects such as scissors are used only under adult supervision. The classroom equipment is observed continually for stability, smoothness of wooden objects, and safe corners.

The playground is fenced and no child is allowed outside to play unless there is a staff member present.

Whenever cooking is done as a part of the curriculum, the children are cautioned and are under direct supervision of staff.

Anytime the children leave the building as a group, they are required to walk in an orderly fashion and are accompanied by the staff, and other adults.

Parents are required to bring their children into the building and pick them up inside each day.

Willow Preschool Staff members are not allowed to be personal babysitters nor are they allowed to transport Willow Preschool children in their personal vehicles.

Health and Hygiene

All children are required to have up-to-date immunization records as indicated by the Cook County Health Department on file with the Director by the first day of attendance. A copy of these records is available from your pediatrician. The only exception to these requirements will be a signed and dated directive from your child's doctor stating that your child cannot complete all immunizations, as it would be hazardous to your child's health or for religious reasons.

After enrollment, it is the responsibility of the parents to update immunizations as required, in order to ensure the protection of all the children. Children immunizations must be kept current. This is the responsibility of the parents.

In the event of an outbreak of contagious illness for which the child has not been immunized, parents will be asked to keep the child home to protect the health of the child until the outbreak has ended.

Medication/Sunscreen/Topical Medication

Willow Preschool will not administer any medication to your child while they are in our care. This includes oral and topical medications. Because we are in school for only 3 hours a day, medications of all kinds will need to be administered BEFORE your child enters the classroom. This includes SUNSCREEN. The only exception to this rule is possible life saving medications for anaphylaxis/diabetes etc.. . If an EpiPen or Inhaler is needed, we will administer that medication in an emergency situation. **EpiPens /Inhalers will be kept away in a locked cabinet and only used with written permission from parents** Each situation will be considered on a case by case basis.

Accidents and Injuries

At Willow Preschool, we make every effort to examine equipment and play areas in order to provide a safe environment for play and learning. When accidents occur, we immediately assess the situation and enact one of the following procedures

First Aid

Minor injuries include scrapes, cuts, bumps that can easily be washed with soap and water or saline and treated with ice or a bandage. In these situations, a parent may be called during school hours to be notified or may be informed at pick up time (depending on the situation).

Some injuries may require a parent to seek further medical advice, beyond simple first aid given by Willow Preschool staff. Examples may include, injury to teeth or gums, deep cuts that may require stitches, or any bodily pain/injury that needs further medical attention, such as limping or a child complaining of pain. Willow Preschool staff will call parents immediately upon such an occurrence.

Willow Preschool staff are trained in CPR and First Aid. A condition is considered a medical emergency when one or more, but not limited to, the following symptoms are present: seizure, excessively high fever (105 or higher), extreme breathing problems (inhaler/EpiPen administered if applicable), severe stomach pain, vomiting following a head injury, uncontrolled bleeding or an apparent broken bone. Parents will be called as well as 911. *911 will be called first in the event of a life threatening situation*

Payment for all medical care following an accident is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian.

Common Illnesses and Exclusion Policies

Children should NOT attend school if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever of 100 or higher. They must be fever free without medication for 24 hours
- Diarrhea - if your child has more than one abnormal/loose stool, please keep them home
- Vomiting - please keep your child home if they have vomited within the last 24 hours
- All rashes
- Diagnosed illness with antibiotic treatment - please keep them home for at least 24 hours after starting an antibiotic
- Lice/Scabies - children cannot return to school until treated and “nit-free”

- Willow Preschool will not administer medication/creams of any kind to children in our care (exceptions will be made in life saving situations ex: EpiPen)

Willow Preschool staff may contact you during school hours if your child is acting unusually sick or ill and ask you to come get them. Please make sure to keep your contact information up to date at all times so we can reach you if your child becomes ill or injured.

Mandated Reporting

Willow Preschool and staff are obligated by law to report any suspected cases of abuse or neglect to the DCFS (Department of Children and Family Services) of Illinois.

Fire - Earthquake - Tornado - Lockdown

Fire

In the event of a fire, the building will be evacuated. Staff will contact parents and remain with the children in a safe place designated by authorities. Fire Drills will be conducted during the school year.

Earthquake

In the event of an earthquake, if the children are indoors, they will be seated on the floor along the inside walls. If the children are outside, they will be kept outside in the open, away from the building. Staff will contact parents and will remain with the children in a safe place designated by authorities.

Tornado

We will closely monitor the weather at all times. In the event of a Tornado warning, the children will be protected until the threat has passed. In the event of an actual Tornado, the staff will remain with the children until authorities arrive and will follow their instructions. Staff will contact parents when it is safe to do so.

Lockdown Procedure

We have a lockdown procedure in place to keep our staff and children as safe as possible.

Lead Testing and Mitigation Actions

Willow Preschool will do annual lead testing of all of its water sources for the presence of lead. Parents shall be informed of those results, posted in a prominent place. Any mitigation actions shall be communicated to families and also posted.

Radon Testing and Mitigation Actions

Willow Preschool will do radon testing of all of its preschool rooms for the presence of radon. Parents shall be informed of those results, posted in a prominent place. Any mitigation actions shall be communicated to families and also posted.