

Preschool Program at Marcus Autism Center

At-a-Glance COVID-19 Plan



NIH Autism Center
of Excellence

<p>Modified school day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-K school day will begin at 8 a.m. and end at 1:30 p.m. • 2s and 3s school day or half-day options only: Classrooms will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (no after-school care until further notice).
<p>Health screenings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To keep our facility, staff, children and community safe, do not enter the building if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – You have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 10 days. – You or anyone in your household have been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting results. Children will not be admitted to the Preschol Program while test results are pending. – You or anyone in your household think they have COVID-19. • If you or anyone in your household (including children) have these symptoms or have been in close contact with anyone with these symptoms, you may not enter for 14 days: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fever – Cough – Shortness of breath – Difficulty breathing – Respiratory symptoms – At least two of the following symptoms: chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or new loss of taste or smell • If you have any of these symptoms, contact a healthcare professional. We may ask for doctor clearance before being able to return to school.
<p>Drop-off procedures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families will continue to enter the building through the first floor lobby for screening. Parents and children 3 years and older must wear masks. After you and your child are screened, you may escort them down the elevator and just inside the preschool wing. • 2s families should drop off between 8 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.; 3s families should drop off between 8:15 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.; and pre-K families should drop off between 7:45 a.m. and 8 a.m. • Parents will not be able to walk their child directly to the classroom; instead, a member of the preschool staff will meet you at the arrival and dismissal table just inside the preschool wing and walk them to their respective classrooms. • Limit to one parent with each child. • Help your child transition and quickly depart from the drop-off area.
<p>Pick-up procedures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families will continue to enter the building through the first floor lobby. Keep your sticker from the morning so you don't have to be screened twice. If you can't show your sticker, you will be screened again. Don't forget to wear your mask. • 2s families should pick up between 3 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.; 3s families should pick up between 3:15 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.; and pre-K families should pick up between 1:30 p.m. and 1:45 p.m. • Parents will not be able to pick up their child in the classroom; instead, a member of the preschool staff will walk children to the arrival and dismissal table inside the preschool wing.
<p>Personal protective measures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All teachers are required to wear masks and either eye-covering or face shields throughout the day. • Masks are required for children in the 3s and pre-K classrooms upon entering. Wash your child's mask daily. Teachers will do their very best to give children reminders throughout the day, but understand that some children may be struggling with this. Masks are optional in the 2s classroom. If you forget your mask at home, there are some available at the health check table in the lobby.

<p>What children should bring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water bottle, morning snack, lunch (if staying until 3:15 p.m. or 3:30 p.m., bring an afternoon snack). • For children staying for nap: We prefer to provide children with our own blankets, which we will individually store for each child and wash weekly. If you choose to send items, such as a pillow or a blanket, be prepared to wash them over the weekend.
<p>Other important considerations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We require that parents are available to pick up sick children within one hour of notification. • Consider assigning one constant adult to be your child’s drop-off and pick-up person; keep grandparents and immunocompromised family members safely at home during these transitions. • Only one parent or caregiver can enter the building during drop-off and pick-up. • All preschool families are strongly encouraged to maintain strict social distancing procedures at home.
<p>Emergency contacts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you need to communicate with the preschool during school hours, contact Hilary Miller, Preschool Supervisor, at 404-785-9434. In urgent cases, call Michael Siller (850-567-7474) or Lindee Morgan (850-309-0487).
<p>Social distancing expectations at home</p>	<p>Limiting face-to-face contact with others is the best way to reduce the spread of COVID-19. We are requesting preschool families continue to practice social distancing, meaning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If at all possible, avoid social gatherings, including play dates, such as going to a friend’s house, going to the park, unnecessary shopping, etc. • Wash your hands often. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. – If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. – Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands. • Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Everyone should wear a cloth face cover when they go out in public; for example, to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities. – Cloth face coverings should not be placed on children under age 2. – The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected. – Continue to keep at least 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.

Additional information on staying safe during COVID-19 can be found at cdc.gov/coronavirus.