

Children First Association



Children First Association
27th October 2020

Health and Safety in the Environment (H.S.E.) policy and procedures Schutzkonzept

Introduction

During the Covid-19 epidemic, Children First has benefitted from expert guidance from senior researchers in Switzerland who are working with the Swiss Government taskforce to prevent contagion. Thanks to our Director Michael Hauser and the fit4school Foundation, from the first day of the government shutdown we have intensively worked to ensure safety for everyone in our community at our two locations in 8032 Zurich. On 11th May 2020 we were able to welcome all children and staff back with minimal changes to their timetables.

Precautionary measures: hygiene and distance

Click here for information about the rules currently in place following Federal Office of Public Health guidelines.

<https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/krankheiten/ausbrueche-epidemien-pandemien/aktuelle-ausbrueche-epidemien/novel-cov/empfehlungen-fuer-die-arbeitswelt.html#2010037495>

Freiestrasse 175 (Nursery, Preschool and Kindergarten)

We have the luxury of space in our large villa which makes it possible to observe new distance rules without any problems. Airing rooms on every floor is possible throughout the day.

Our health and hygiene measures were already strict and cleaning standards are maintained by cleaning at least three times per day. Inspection charts in the bathrooms, kitchen and all communal areas ensure a functioning and transparent system that staff can follow and tick off easily every day. Surfaces must be kept clear as regular disinfecting of surfaces is a key requirement.

We use special cleaning products (for example floor disinfectant) at the end of day when children are no longer in the building, where previously we would have used domestic child-safe products only.

Children are flexible, open to learning and capable of adapting to new rules. No distance is needed between children in the Early Years but we nevertheless have taught the Kindergarten children how to keep a respectful distance which will help

them to be polite and careful in the outside world. Children of all ages are now used to seeing staff wear masks occasionally but regularly (for daily food preparation, for example) and are not unsettled by masks.

We are holding events outdoors with max. 15 households in attendance in order to keep to the social distance measures. Once all parents attend together we will have a back-up date scheduled in case of rain.

Staff at Children First have attended tailor-made training to ensure they are up-to-date with the latest guidelines. We have provided masks for journey to and from work. Tailor-made protective clothing has been bought for teachers and assistants in each age group.

External staff including the Piano and Playball teachers have signed up to the updated CFA HSE procedures.

CFA guidelines if you have been tested positive or have had contact with someone with the virus:

If your child has been tested positive, they must stay at home with everyone living in the same household and observe Swiss quarantine guidelines.

Given the low risk of transmission and illness in children, it is not necessary to quarantine the entire daycare group.

If more than two children in the same group test positive less than 10 days apart, or if a carer is tested positive, the canton will determine whether the quarantine of the whole daycare centre or one group within the daycare centre is necessary. The sick child, their caregiver and all people living in the same household are in quarantine.

The responsible municipality has to be informed about a positive case.

Depending on the time of day on which the test result is received, it may not be necessary for others to self-isolate even if a CFA colleague, child or parent has contracted the virus. The authorities will check if we were following the guidelines up to that time, and then will inform us who needs to go into quarantine.

Travel outside Switzerland

As of 20th July 2020, if you have travelled to a higher risk region within specified time periods, you will need to quarantine on your return. There will be no financial compensation available for parents or staff in this situation.

Contact tracing

Visitors complete a form on arrival at Freiestrasse 175 to ensure we can inform them if anyone is tested positive for Covid-19 after the date of their visit and to remind them of their responsibilities.

All CFA mobile phones have the official app which staff must keep activated by keeping bluetooth on. The app checks regularly to see whether any users that you have encountered have reported testing positive for the virus.

Freiestrasse 175 (Nursery, Preschool and Kindergarten)

Rules for visitors

1. Wash hands upon arrival
2. Keep 1.5 metres distance to others at all times
3. Wear a mask at all times if standing and in communal areas. Even once sitting, if distance cannot be maintained or when sick
4. When sneezing or coughing use tissue or into elbow

Contact tracing – visitor form must be completed and is valid until rules change.

Rules for parents

1. Drop-off and pick up at the entrance to the building unless an individual agreement is made to come into the cloakroom
2. Wear a mask and slippers, take off coats and wash hands on entering the building
3. Report travel plans, at-risk members of the household, colds and coughs.
4. Do not send children to CFA for 24 hours after a fever has gone, a persistent cough or 24 hours if they have diarrhoea

Rules for children and staff

1. Outdoor shoes must be changed to indoor shoes or slippers
2. Outdoor clothes must be left downstairs in the cloakroom on the hooks labeled with the child's name
3. Wash your hands and fruit brought from home on arrival
4. Sneeze into elbow (Montessori exercise, Grace and Courtesy curriculum)
5. If you use a tissue, put it into a closed bin and wash your hands please.

[Englischviertelstrasse 42 \(fit4school-Zuerichberg\)](#)

Rules for adults

1. Wash hands on arrival.
2. Maximum 13 adults in the centre respecting distance and from 28/10/20 wearing a mask
3. Respect 1.5 m distance at all times when teaching - if not possible, or if not sitting behind plexiglass, wear a mask.
4. Staff to clean writing materials, equipment including tables, chairs and screens before departure.
5. Air the classroom for 10 minutes at least between lessons.

Rules for students

1. Wash hands on arrival. No shaking hands.
2. Report any dwindling supplies eg. hand towels
3. No food or drink in the classroom.
4. Bring your own books and writing materials.

Monica Shah Zeeman and the CFA team

Last updated: 27/10/2020