

## Archway Programs: Just Kids

### COMMITMENT TO HEALTH AND SAFETY: COVID-19

Updated NJ State Childcare Guidelines- June 2021

High quality childcare begins with a commitment between parents/guardians and the childcare provider. Knowing this, Just Kids has developed this Commitment to Health and Safety: Covid-19 document to outline the partnership that is needed to provide the very best care during this pandemic.

Just Kids commits to following the actions outlined below and also need you as family members to commit as well. Please read the commitments below prior to enrolling your child. In enrolling, you are signing off that you too are committed to these actions listed below. Together we will have a safe and healthy school-age childcare environment that meets all NJ state applicable health and safety guidelines as well as enables children to thrive.

#### PARENT/ GUARDIAN COMMITMENT

1. Understand that Just Kids program may look different and have newly established protocols or rules due to Covid-19 that we must all abide by. Please ask questions, but comply so that we can all meet the established guidelines.
2. Understand that limitations in program enrollment and other programmatic practices may be necessary in order to meet the NJ Health and Safety Guidelines for Child Care Facilities including the updated Executive order No. 149.
3. Abide by established health screening protocols established for the safety of your child and all participating in Just Kids. (See details below.) Practice social distancing while waiting to drop off and pick up your child outside the designated door to the program.
4. If your child, or anyone in their household, shows COVID-19 symptoms (fever over 100.4 degrees F, shortness of breath, fatigue and muscle/body aches, cough, vomiting, diarrhea, new loss of smell/taste), he/she should remain at home and follow medical advice for testing and isolation. Please contact the Just Kids to let them know of the situation. Any student who is COVID symptomatic should follow advice of physician and CDC guidance on isolation, and may need medical clearance before returning to the program. **Just Kids will follow the NJ Department of Health Covid-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools when determining when a student can return after symptoms, exposure, or positive test results. This includes the NJ School Exclusion list. Please communicate with the Just Kids Director to receive further guidance.**
5. If your child shows symptoms of the virus during the screening process, be prepared to take your child home or have your child picked up immediately when contacted by the childcare staff. The child will not be allowed to enter the program.

6. Teach your child to sneeze/cough in his/her sleeve and to wash his/her hands often, especially before eating and after toileting. If you really want to achieve impact, teach your child to accompany hand washing with another behavior: keeping their hands away from their face.
7. Demonstrate and reinforce the process of hand washing for 20 seconds with thoroughness on tops and palms of hands.
8. If your child is having emotional, physical or social health challenges, talk with the Just Kids Supervisor by calling the program cell number. Proactively discussing a Just Kids' ability to accommodate a child's needs can help minimize – if not eliminate – potential problems.
9. Provide your child with a face covering daily and know that it is mandatory for them to wear it at Just Kids both inside and when the temperature is below 80 degrees while outside. (See details below.)
10. Encourage your child to stay within his/her assigned small group/ pod, even when good friends may be assigned to other groups. (See groupings details below.) Know that your child may not be assigned with their favorite or preferred staff person. Please assist your child in making new relationships with both staff and new peers.
11. Have your child keep all his/her personal toys/ belongings at home. It is not currently allowed for students to bring personal items into the program.
12. Talk with your child about telling their Just Kids childcare provider about problems or things that are troublesome to them. These professionals can be quite helpful as children learn to handle being lonesome from home or cope with conflicts. These staff can't be helpful if they don't know about the problem – so talk to them.
13. Should something come up during Just Kids or after that concerns you – you are confused about staff actions or the child shares a disturbing story – contact the Just Kids' Supervisor or your child's group leader by calling the program cell number and let them know. Just Kids wants to partner effectively with parents; sharing information makes this possible.

#### JUST KIDS COMMITMENT

Archway Programs: Just Kids wants you to know that the health and wellbeing of our students, employees, families, and community remains our top priority as we monitor the evolving situation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. We are committed to clearly communicating how we are meeting this goal.

1. Just Kids policies and practices follow all current NJ State Office of Licensing guidelines for childcare facilities and Department of Education guidelines that overlap into our program. We are following the NJ Department of Health COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools when determining a staff or child's restriction from the program due to Covid-19 related symptoms, exposure, or positive testing.
2. All employees are trained in safeguards including but not limited to Infection Control Standards, use of Personal Protective Equipment, Signs/Symptoms of COVID-19, Handwashing and Hygiene Etiquette, and Cleaning/Disinfecting Practices. Additionally, posters from the CDC and other signage will be displayed throughout the program as reminders of the importance of safe practices.

3. If an employee, shows COVID-19 symptoms (fever, shortness of breath, fatigue and muscle/body aches, cough, vomiting, diarrhea, new loss of smell/taste), he/she will remain at home and follow medical advice for testing and isolation. Any employee who is COVID symptomatic should follow advice of physician and CDC guidance on isolation, and will need medical clearance before returning to the school. **Just Kids will follow the NJ Department of Health Covid-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools when determining when an employee can return after symptoms, exposure, or positive test results. This includes the NJ School Exclusion List.**
4. Screening: Prior to the start of each before/ afterschool session, Just Kids staff will be screened for fever and answer a short survey of questions. Students will have their temperature taken prior to entering the **morning** program and parents will be asked a short survey of questions, if present. In both cases, a contactless thermometer will be used. Students entering Just Kids in the afternoon directly from school will not have screening done due to being screened prior to entering school day. Staff will visually screen students doing visual check for any symptoms upon the start of the afternoon program. Anyone showing signs/symptoms of illness or with a temperature over 100.4 will not be permitted to enter the program and will be sent home immediately with the parent or isolated until a parent or designee can pick up the child. As noted above, parents need to be prepared to pick up the child immediately from the program if contacted that the child did not pass the health screening.
5. A daily log of screenings for all staff and students will be kept and submitted as required to the state.
6. Upon entering the building/ program, all students and employees will be directed to wash/sanitize hands immediately.
7. Face coverings, which cover the nose and mouth, will be required for anyone entering the program, and will be provided to anyone who does not have one. **Students will also be expected to wear face coverings at all times inside the building, unless eating or drinking. Students are required to wear face masks outside, if social distancing is not possible. If the temperature is 80 degrees or higher outside, students and staff will not be required to wear masks as long as 6 feet of distance can remain between pods. At any time, a child or staff person can take a “mask break” by stepping at least 6 feet from others while removing their mask for a period of time.** Please note that face covering are not meant to be re-worn. If disposable, they should be discarded after use; if cloth, they should be washed after use.
8. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including but not limited to face coverings, face shields, gowns, and gloves, will be provided as needed by Archway.
9. Frequent handwashing, which is the single most effective way to prevent the spread of infection, will be conducted throughout the day and will include at time of entering the program, before/after meals/snacks, after using restroom, after outside play, after touching nose/mouth or removing face coverings, prior to leaving the program and after contact with frequently touched surfaces/items. Hand sanitizer meeting the CDC guidelines will be used if soap and water is not available at the time.
10. Students are grouped together in pods of up to **30** students with specifically designated staff. The same group will remain together all program session in the same space as much as possible, including during breakfast and snack time. These groups are established and maintained every day

without switching students between groups. Siblings are assigned to the same group when possible to limit exposures to one family. When numbers are significantly low (at beginning and end of program time), children may congregate between groups but must social distance and wear masks. Childcare staff will limit contact as much as possible to one pod of 30 students. Fully vaccinated staff can mingle between pods. Each pod of students has a designated area with 6 feet or a physical barrier between pods. Social distancing will not be required between students within the same pod. Social distancing will be maintained through transition times such as screening, lines to move outside, in bathrooms, in hallways etc.

11. Staff utilize handwashing and gloves with minimum contact when distributing food to students.
12. Just Kids coordinates with the school district regarding overall cleaning and disinfecting of program areas to ensure heightened practices. All high-touched items/areas and common surfaces including but not limited to tables, doorknobs, light switches, and counters will be assigned to staff for cleaning at the beginning and end of each morning/ afternoon session. Programs are equipped with EPA/ CDC approved sanitizing wipes and disinfectants including a spray-and-leave product to be used as needed.
13. Toys, supplies, and equipment items that cannot be sanitized can be used unless disposable, single use, or individually packaged so that they cannot be shared. Toys and supplies shared within each pod will be disinfected at the beginning and end of each session. Toys or supplies that are used by multiple pods will be disinfected prior to being used by another pod of students.
14. Visitors and parents will not be allowed to enter the program except those outlined in the Guidance for NJ Covid- 19 Related Health and Safety Requirements for Childcare.
15. **FOR CAMP-** Field trips (both walking and using bus transportation) or outdoor education where social distancing/ health and safety practices can be maintained may be approved after review by Just Kids administration. Fieldtrips are highly discouraged at this time by the state of NJ but will take place in combination with on-site educational experiences throughout the camp season.
16. If there is a confirmed positive COVID-19 case, the incident will immediately be reported to local health department authorities, NJ DOE, NJ Office of Licensing and other governing entities where required. Employees, students, and families who may have been in close contact with the person will be alerted to possible exposure. Instructions provided by Department of Health authorities will determine resulting protocols including disinfecting, screening, and closures.

Please note that the above is subject to change, based on federal and/or state directives and best practices for Archway Programs: Just Kids. Should anything change, Archway reserves the right to make a last minute decision of limiting enrollment, changing practices and other programmatic operations. We will continue to follow guidance from the NJ Office of Licensing and will make adjustments to the above commitments as changes take place.