

## GREAT EXPLORATIONS CHILDREN'S MUSEUM'S COVID-19 ACTION PLAN

*Prepared by:*

*COVID-19 Health and Safety Supervisor – COO, Alan Kahle, akahle@greatex.org*

### **GREAT EXPLORATIONS STATEMENT REGARDING HEALTH & SAFETY:**

Great Explorations Children's Museum considers the well-being of our families, staff and community fundamental. Museum leadership has and will continue to follow CDC, Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Child Care License Board and other health agency recommendations for best practices and protocols to minimize risks to guests and staff. As a children's museum, we recognize that how children play and learn in our hands-on environment differentiates us from other museums. We adhere to industry standards for museums, specifically children's museums, as outlined by the Association of Children's Museums. As we continue to monitor the situation and stay current with information from federal and local health departments we will keep the public and our stakeholders informed of any changes that impact the Museum.

Great Explorations will continue to monitor the CDC and the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County for guidance in making decisions for the health and welfare of our guests, staff, and community. For more information please contact Chief Operations Officer Alan Kahle at akahle@greatex.org.

### **GREAT EXPLORATIONS REOPENING PLAN\***

#### **PHASE 1:**

Preschool will reopen at reduced capacity on May 18, 2020. We will adhere to or exceed all requirements set forth by the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Child Care License Board.

Summer Camp will open at reduced capacity on June 2, 2020. We will adhere to or exceed all requirements set forth by the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Child Care License Board.

#### **PHASE 2:**

As of May 31, 2020 private rentals will be available on weekends.

As of July 1, 2020 we will open additional spots in preschool on a limited basis and in accordance with guidelines from Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Child Care License Board.

#### **Please note:**

- Preschool and Camp hours will remain 8am-430pm until further notice.
- Except for the change in classroom ratios, all protocols as detailed in the Great Explorations COVID-19 Action Plan will remain in effect.

#### **PHASE 3:**

As of June 22, remote staff will begin moving back to work onsite

June 29-July 3, the museum will be open to members for timed, limited capacity sessions outside of camp and preschool hours.

Every effort is made to keep this document up-to-date. However, in order for us to remain flexible and responsive, please be aware that the procedures detailed in this document are subject to change without notice.

July 6, the museum will be open to the public for timed, limited capacity sessions outside of camp and preschool hours.

*\*All current and future plans for re-opening are subject to change and are in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations of national, state and local health authorities.*

### **GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES**

#### **CLEANING & SANITIZATION:**

- The museum's classrooms, exhibits, general areas and work areas will be thoroughly cleaned, sanitized and disinfected every evening by the museum's professional janitorial team using products, including industrial foggers, that meet or exceed all OSHA and CDC guidelines related to COVID-19 and other pathogens.
- Surfaces and frequently handled materials will be cleaned continuously throughout the day.
- Items throughout the museum's exhibits, classrooms, general spaces and work spaces have been assessed for potential exposure risk and items in question, including toys, props, costumes and other interactives, have been modified or removed to lessen the risk of spreading germs.
- Staff has undergone additional training related to the spread of COVID-19 and the measures we are taking to avoid it.

#### **SCREENING:**

- Staff, guests and anyone else, including children, who is admitted into the building will undergo a health screening that includes questions and a touch-free temperature screening before they come into the building.
- We encourage staff and guests to stay home if they don't feel well.
- The museum reserves the right to refuse entry to anyone exhibiting COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms or with a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.

#### **HYGIENE:**

- Acrylic shields are placed between Staff and Guests during screening and admission processes.
- Masks should cover the nose and mouth. Masks should NOT be worn by children under the age of 2 or anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. Masks will be provided for Staff. The museum will have limited masks available for Guests.
  - Staff must wear masks when interacting with the public, such as during screening, sign-in and sign-out and during ticketed play sessions and rentals.
  - Staff must wear masks in the building except when they are in their offices alone.
  - Guests and campers over the age of 5 are required to wear masks.
- Frequent and proper hand washing is encouraged. Instructions for hand washing are prominently displayed.
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer is available to staff and guests throughout the museum.

#### **SOCIAL DISTANCING:**

- The number of students, campers and staff allowed in our classrooms is consistent with the guidelines put forth by the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Child Care License Board and all current executive orders, ordinances and mandates.

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- The number of people allowed in the museum allows for more than adequate distance between people and is consistent with current guidelines set forth by the CDC, the Florida Department of Health and local authorities.
- Signage promoting proper mask wearing, respiratory etiquette, hand washing and social distancing is prominently displayed throughout the museum.
- Great Explorations follows Florida Department of Health guidelines for reporting cases of COVID-19 and will adhere to or exceed actions recommended by Epidemiology or other health agencies to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19.
  - This may include temporary closure of specific areas, programs, or of the facility itself.
  - Every effort will be made to communicate any closures to relevant parties via email, social media, pre-recorded notices for incoming calls, and signage.

The specific health and safety measures for individual programs can be found on the pages that follow.

## PROGRAM PROTOCOLS

### Preschool and Camp:

*On May 18, 2020, Preschool opened with a maximum of 8 students allowed in 4 classrooms. As of July 2, Preschool classrooms opened up to maximum licensed ratios with 1 main teacher per classroom with additional teachers available to assist and support (5 classrooms):*

2s – 1:10

3s – 1:15

*On June 2, Summer Camp opened with up to 9 students in each classroom with 1 main teacher per classroom with additional teachers available to assist and support (4 classrooms).*

- **Check-in** will be located in the lobby of the building
  - ◆ **Preschool and Camp check-in** will be conducted at separate tables to allow for social distancing.
  - ◆ Adults will be asked to wear a mask upon entry to the lobby until exiting the building.
  - ◆ Parents will park their cars in the lot and walk their child to one of the marked spots in the lobby. When it is their turn the child will have their temperature checked and the parents will answer health screening questions. When approved for admission, the parents will sign them in, and children will be escorted into the building by a member of the Early Explorations team. Children will wash their hands immediately upon arriving in the classroom.
- Masks are required for:
  - All staff whenever in the presence of another person, adult or child
  - Campers in our school-age programs (ages 5 and up) when in the building and/or when social distancing is not possible.
- Masks will be encouraged and supported for campers age 3 and up when in the building and/or when social distancing is not possible. Masks are never appropriate for children under the age of 2.
- **Class ratios** are in adherence to the guidelines of the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Child Care License Board.

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- Surfaces, toys and other objects in the classrooms will be cleaned by teachers throughout the day.
- **Classrooms and all general spaces** will be cleaned by our professional janitorial crew each night.
- Napping, mealtime and other activities will be designed to promote social distance.
  - Only 2 students to a table at lunch.
  - Cots placed at least 6 feet apart and students will lie down head to toe.
- Each class/group will be in the same room each day. Shared spaces will be cleaned and sanitized in between groups.
- The number of different people allowed in preschool and camp spaces will be limited to those essential for operation of the program. Office staff will remain in the office whenever possible during camps and preschool hours.
- Frequent and proper handwashing will be required.
- Personal items will be limited.
- **Pick-up** will be located in the lobby of the building
  - ◆ **Preschool check-out** and **Camp check-out** will be staged at different tables to allow for social distancing.
  - ◆ Parents will park their car in the lot and walk to one of the marked spots in the lobby. When it is their turn the child will be escorted to the parent and parents will sign the child out and walk back to their car.

For more information please contact Lael Arango at [larango@greatex.org](mailto:larango@greatex.org).

#### **Private Rentals:**

- A maximum of 25 guests and 5 staff members will be permitted in the museum at one time (this includes individuals and groups or a combination thereof).
- Masks are required for:
  - Staff
  - Guests over the age of 5. Masks are not appropriate for children under the age of 2.
- Staff and guests will be asked health questions and screened for body temperature prior to being allowed into the museum.
- Anyone with flu-like symptoms or that appears to have symptoms and/or registers a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher may be refused entrance to the museum. We reserve the right to deny any guest and staff entrance into the museum at any time for any reason we deem related to general safety and/or COVID-19.
- Sanitizer will be offered to all guests before they enter the gallery.
- Guests will be asked to store their belongings in a designated area.
- The museum will clean surfaces, exhibits and props throughout the time of the rental.
- Bins for dirty toys will be placed throughout the museum.
- The museum will clean and sanitize surfaces, exhibits and props between rental sessions, when there are no guests present.
- The museum will be sanitized every evening using our regular products as well as industrial foggers.

For more information please contact Chel Personius at [cpersonius@greatex.org](mailto:cpersonius@greatex.org).

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### Timed admissions:

- Tickets for timed sessions are available online for advance purchase. Advance purchase is encouraged.
- Cash will not be accepted for sales that take place at the museum.
- The number of people allowed in the building (guests and staff) will be in accordance with guidelines set forth by the CDC, the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas and local authorities and will allow for social distancing.
- Masks are required for:
  - Staff
  - Guests over the age of 5. Masks are not appropriate for children under the age of 2.
- Staff and guests will be asked health questions and screened for body temperature prior to being allowed into the museum.
- Anyone with flu-like symptoms or that appears to have symptoms and/or registers a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher may be refused entrance to the museum. We reserve the right to deny any guest and staff entrance into the museum at any time for any reason we deem related to general safety and/or COVID-19.
- Sanitizer will be offered to all guests before they enter the gallery.
- All guests are asked to wash or sanitize their hands immediately upon entry and frequently throughout their visit. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the museum.
- Guests will be asked to store their belongings in a designated area.
- Social distancing will be facilitated and encouraged through signage and the arrangement of play spaces.
- Certain exhibit components may be modified to reduce contact and allow for social distancing.
- The museum staff will clean surfaces, exhibits and props throughout the session.
- Bins for dirty toys will be placed throughout the museum.
- The museum will clean and sanitize surfaces, exhibits and props between timed sessions, when there are no guests present.
- The museum will be sanitized every evening using our regular products as well as industrial foggers.

For more information about safety and operations, click [here](#) to contact us.

For more information about ticketing, contact Chel Personius at [cpersonius@greatex.org](mailto:cpersonius@greatex.org).

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