

GREAT EXPLORATIONS CHILDREN’S MUSEUM’S COVID-19 ACTION PLAN

Prepared by:

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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 the 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.

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.

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 the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Child Care License Board.

Please note:

- Preschool and Camp hours will remain at 8 am-4:30pm 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.

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

As of August 31, 2020, operating hours for Preschool will be 7:30 am-5:30 pm. Operating hours for School-Age programs will remain from 8 am-4:30 pm. *Please see specific protocols for those programs in this document for updates.

PHASE 4:

As of September 21, the museum will open to the public for a 2.5-hour play session while preschool and school-age programs are not scheduled for gallery time.

**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.*

Phase 5:

As of October 12th, Great Explorations Children's Museum will open to the public from 10:30 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Saturday and Sunday will remain the same until further notice.

Phase 6:

As of Monday, May 10, 2021, Great Explorations will no longer require temperature checks to enter the building. Masks are still **strongly recommended** for our public guests.

For staff, we would like for everyone to wear a mask while public-facing. Great Explorations **strongly recommends** you wear your mask as continued protection to yourself.

As an organization, we encourage you to continue to social distance and practice self-care with frequent hand washing. This is for your safety and the safety of those around you.

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Phase 7:

The CDC has recently updated the recommended precautions as they related to COVID 19. Great Explorations is incorporating these newest recommendations effective June 14, 2021.

Fully Vaccinated Employees

1. Masks will not be required to be worn by **Fully Vaccinated** employees who choose to share their vaccination information. Employees who do not want to volunteer this information should continue to follow the guidelines for **un-vaccinated** employees.
2. **Fully Vaccinated** = 2 Moderna / 2 Pfizer or 1 J&J + 2 weeks
3. Employees must verify vaccination to HR.
4. **Fully Vaccinated** employees will be required to wear a **button** that must be worn at all times while at Great Explorations. These **buttons** will be issued by HR upon verification of vaccination.

Un-Vaccinated employees are required to continue following all current precautions to include:

1. Wearing face mask
2. Social distance (6' apart from others)

Phase 8:

update

1. All team members regardless of vaccination status will be required to wear a facial covering when interacting with others, public-facing or not, when social distancing cannot be enforced.
2. Temperature checks are being done in preschool on children upon entering class.
3. Mask not required for preschoolers Ages 2 – 5 while in preschool. Parents are able to send their child in a mask if they choose. We will do our best to encourage their child to keep their mask on during the day.
4. Temperature checks are being done on school-age students upon arrival
5. Masks required for school-aged students.

Phase 9:

Nov 1, 2021, following the guidelines set out by the Florida Health Department and will no longer be mandating mask use for those team members who have either contracted COVID-19 and/or have been vaccinated.

Those team members who have not contracted the virus or have not been vaccinated should continue to wear their masks for their safety. School-age students will still be required to wear a facial covering while in Stay & Play vehicles and program until further notice.

Non-masked Vaccinated employees are required to wear vaccinated buttons.

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Phase 10:

January 4, 2022 CDC updated

COVID-19 cases due to the Omicron variant have increased along with seasonal increases in influenza and other respiratory virus infections. The potential for a large number of cases raises serious concerns about societal impact due to illness, as well as isolation and quarantine requirements. CDC has been monitoring the emerging science on when and for how long a person is maximally infectious with Omicron, as well as the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines and booster doses against Omicron infection. Data related to the mental health effects of the pandemic and adherence to prevention interventions have also been considered.

The date of your exposure is considered day 0. Day 1 is the first full day after your last contact with a person who has had COVID-19. CDC updated guidance for the general public.

Update: COVID-19 isolation and quarantine recommendations with shorter isolation (for asymptomatic and mildly ill people) and quarantine periods of 5 days to focus on the period when a person is most infectious, followed by continued masking for an additional 5 days. These updated recommendations also facilitate individual social and well-being needs, return to work, and maintenance of critical infrastructure.

STATE OF FLORIDA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR:

May/3/2021

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 21-102

(Suspending All Remaining Local Government Mandates and Restrictions Based on the
The COVID-19 State of Emergency)

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the
the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section I (a) of the Florida Constitution and by the Florida
Emergency Management Act, as amended, and all other applicable laws, promulgate the following
Executive Order:

Section 1. In order to mitigate the adverse and unintended consequences of the COVID19 emergency
and to accelerate the State's recovery, all local COVID-19 restrictions, and mandates
on individuals and businesses are hereby suspended.

Section 2. This order eliminates and supersedes any existing emergency order or
ordinance issued by a county or municipality that imposes restrictions or mandates upon businesses
or individuals due to the COVID-19 emergency.

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CDC Update:

CDC clarification as of January 1st, 2021 all workers should wear face masks unless respirators are required.

CDC Update:

CDC recommends that in Phase 1b and Phase 1c, which may overlap, vaccination should be offered to people in the following groups. 2021

CDC Update:

Frontline essential workers such as firefighters, police officers, corrections officers, food and agricultural workers, United States Postal Service workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, and those who work in the educational sector (teachers, support staff, and daycare workers.)

People aged 75 years and older because they are at high risk of hospitalization, illness, and death from COVID-19. People aged 75 years and older who are also residents of long-term care facilities should be offered vaccination in Phase 1a.

CDC Update:

People aged 65—74 years because they are at high risk of hospitalization, illness, and death from COVID-19. People aged 65—74 years who are also residents of long-term care facilities should be offered vaccination in Phase 1a.

People aged 16—64 years with underlying medical conditions which increase the risk of serious, life-threatening complications from COVID-19.

Other essential workers, such as people who work in transportation and logistics, food service, housing construction and finance, information technology, communications, energy, law, media, public safety, and public health.

As vaccine availability increases, vaccination recommendations will expand to include more groups

The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get a COVID-19 vaccination as soon as large enough quantities of vaccines are available. As vaccine supply increases but remains limited, ACIP will expand the groups recommended for vaccination.

CDC Update:

As of February 20, 2021, Great Explorations Children's Museum will open to the public from 10:30 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Saturday will open to the public from 10:30 to 4 p.m. and Sunday will open from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

CDC Update:

What You Can Start to Do If you've been fully vaccinated:

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- You can gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask or staying 6 feet apart.
- You can gather indoors with unvaccinated people of any age from one other household (for example, visiting with relatives who all live together) without masks or staying 6 feet apart unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- You can gather or conduct activities outdoors **without** wearing a mask except in certain crowded settings and venues.
- If you travel in the United States, you do not need to get tested before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel.
- You need to pay close attention to the situation at your international destination before traveling outside the United States.
 - You do NOT need to get tested **before** leaving the United States unless your destination requires it.
 - You still need to show a negative test result or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 **before** boarding an international flight to the United States.
 - You should still get tested 3-5 days **after** international travel.
 - You do NOT need to self-quarantine **after** arriving in the United States.
- If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms.
 - However, if you live in a group setting (like a correctional or detention facility or group home) and are around someone who has COVID-19, you should still stay away from others for 14 days and get tested, even if you don't have symptoms.

CDC Update:

November 2, 2021

CDC Recommends Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine for Children 5 to 11 Years

Today, CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., M.P.H., endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendation that children 5 to 11 years old be vaccinated against COVID-19 with the Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric vaccine. CDC now expands vaccine recommendations to about 28 million children in the United States in this age group and allows providers to begin vaccinating them as soon as possible.

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

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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 workspaces 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.
- The 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, admitted into the building will undergo a health screening that and 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.
- Face coverings should cover the nose and mouth. Face coverings 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 covering without assistance. Cloth face coverings will be provided for Staff. The museum will have limited disposable face coverings available for Guests.
 - Staff must wear face coverings in the building unless they are eating or drinking.
 - Guests and campers over the age of 5 are required to wear face coverings.
- Frequent and proper handwashing 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.
- The number of people allowed in the museum allows for more than an 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 face-covering wearing, respiratory etiquette, hand washing, and social distancing is prominently displayed throughout the museum.
- Great Explorations follows the 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 the temporary closure of specific areas, programs, or 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 below.

Nov 1, 2021

Great Explorations will follow the PCLB and The Florida Department of Health Guidelines

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PROGRAM PROTOCOLS

Preschool and School-Age Programs:

On August 12, Preschool began the 2020-2021 school year with 2 teachers per classroom in 5 classrooms for ages 2-VPK.

On August 10, we extended school-age Summer Camps by 2 weeks to accommodate the delay of the start of the school year. We moved campers into 2 classrooms.

On August 24, our School-Age program opened an e-learning support camp. A maximum of 10 students with 2 teachers per classroom in grades K-5th will be onsite at Great Ex receiving academic, social, and organizational support while e-learning.

- **Check-in** will be located inside the “side” door of the building.
- ◆ **Preschool and School-Age check-in** will be conducted at the same table.
- ◆ Adults and children ages 5 and up will be asked to wear a face-covering upon entry to the building.
- ◆ Guardians will park their cars in the lot and walk their children to the check-in line. When it is their turn the child will have their temperature checked and the guardians will answer health screening questions. When approved for admission, the guardians’ temperature will be scanned and they will follow staff directions to escort their children to sign in at the appropriate classrooms. We request that whenever possible, guardians drop children at the door to the classroom and exit quickly. Children will wash their hands immediately upon arriving in the classroom.
- Face coverings are required for:
 - All staff while they are in the building.
 - Children in our School-age programs (ages 5 and up) when in the building and/or when social distancing is not possible.
- Face coverings will be encouraged and supported for children 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.
- Surfaces, toys, and other objects in the classrooms will be cleaned by teachers throughout the day.
- **Classrooms and all general spaces** will be sanitized by our professional janitorial crew each night.
- Napping, mealtime, and other activities will be designed to promote social distance.
- Cots placed at least 6 feet apart and students will lie down head to toe.
- Each class/group will be in the same room with the same teachers each day. Shared spaces will be cleaned and sanitized in between groups. Please note that several class groups may share time, on the museum floor.
- The number of different people allowed in preschool and school-age spaces will be limited to those essential for the operation of the programs. This may include substitutes from a small selection of trained and approved administrative staff in the case of teacher absences. Office staff will remain in the office with face coverings whenever possible during preschool and school-age program hours.
- Frequent and proper handwashing will be required.

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- Personal items will be limited.
- There is a designated room to isolate anyone who begins showing symptoms during the day until they can be picked up.
- **Pick-up and check-out**
 - ◆ **Preschool and School-Age guardians should enter through the lobby doors.**
 - ◆ Guardians will park their cars in the lot and walk to the line to have their temperature screened. Once approved to enter, guardians should follow staff directions to proceed to the appropriate classrooms to sign their children out for the day and exit the building.
 - ◆ Please note that as of August 31, 2020, Great Explorations may be open to the general public at the time of pick-up. Please comply with all staff directions in our efforts to keep everyone separate and safe.

Nov 1, 2021

Great Explorations will follow the PCLB and The Florida Department of Health Guidelines

Private Rentals:

- A maximum of 150 guests and 5 staff members will be permitted in the museum at one time (this includes individuals and groups or a combination thereof).
- Face coverings are required for:
 - Staff
 - Guests over the age of 5. Face coverings are not appropriate for children under the age of 2.
- Staff and guests will be asked health questions and screened for body temperature before 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.

Nov 1, 2021

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

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