

**GRAND TRAVERSE BAND
EARLY HEAD START, HEAD
START & GREAT START
READINESS PROGRAMS
CENTER-BASED
PARENT HANDBOOK**

2020-2021

COVID-19 ADDENDUM

The following document is an addendum to the 2020-2021 Grand Traverse Band Early Head Start, Head Start, and Great Start Readiness Programs Center Based Parent Handbook. Any policy or procedure detailed in this addendum will supersede any contradicting statement from the 2020-2021 Grand Traverse Band Early Head Start, Head Start, and Great Start Readiness Programs Center Based Parent Handbook. Policies that are in this addendum have been mark in the Parent Handbook with an asterisk and superscript number (example: *¹).

Frequently Asked Questions

*¹ If your child has any COVID-19 related symptoms, he/she must be symptom free, without use of medication, for 72 hours before returning to school.

*² We are taking precautionary measures during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are not allowing parents/siblings/visitors into the classrooms at this time.

*³ Parents will not be allowed to ride the bus with their child during this time.

Field Trips

*⁴ We are taking precautionary measures during the COVID-19 pandemic, initially there will be no field trips. As conditions improve, field trips will be considered.

Communication

*⁵ No family dinners will be taking place during the COVID-19 pandemic; however, Parent Meetings will be conducted virtually.

*⁶ The initial P/T Conference will be held virtually. The first required Home Visit must be done by the end of December 2020 and will take place at a place where the parent will be comfortable to do this. Depending on safety protocols at this time. Information about the second required Home Visit will be announced at a later date as COVID-19 requirements may be different from the beginning of the school year.

Aggressive/Severe Behavior Policy

*⁷ If a parent or another adult is required to accompany a child with these behaviors, they must submit documentation of a negative COVID-19 test and go through the Center's pre-screening process.

Bus Rules

*⁸ Children's temperatures will be taken by the Bus Aide prior to the child getting on the bus and pre-screen questions will be asked of the parents. Parents who transport their children to the Center will drop their child off at the designated drop off area where the pre-screening questions and temperatures will be taken.

What Do We Do All Day?

*⁹ Dividers will be used at tables that will allow 4 children to participate in small group activities while promoting social distancing.

*¹⁰ Meals will be plated for the children during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*¹¹ Each child will be provided with their own activity box with their materials to play with during this time. With 10 kids to a classroom in HS/GSRP a center will be created throughout the classroom. INPUT FROM THE TEACHERS

*¹² Adding outside time may be encouraged due to the need for fresh air and distancing. This may include large and small group activities.

*¹³ Toothbrushing will not be done at this time during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Child Illness Policy

*¹⁴ All Child Illness policies will remain in place with the following COVID-19 addition:

If your child displays ANY of the following symptoms, they must remain home until 72 hours symptom free, without the use of medication or fever reducer:

COVID-19 Symptoms:

- Fever
- chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle/body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

*¹⁵ If a parent cannot be contacted immediately, the next person on the child's Emergency Contact Card will be notified. It's important that a sick child be picked up immediately due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mental Health

*¹⁶ The policy regarding the Mental Health consultant is currently being developed and will be released once complete

Head Lice Policy

*¹⁷ If a child was sent home with Head Lice, the child must be checked by a staff person prior to the child returning. This will be done discreetly near the drop off area.

Isolation Room

*¹⁸ The Parent Room will serve as the isolation room for all COVID-19 symptoms.