

## COVID PRECAUTIONS FOR GROUP

Group is intended to help your child learn to play and/or “hang out” in expected ways with peers. While social distancing will be followed when possible, collaborative games, building and sports will result in group members being less than 6 ft apart.

1. Children will wait in the car with their parents in the roundabout for the clinician to come get them for the session.
2. If parents choose to wait on site during group, then it is asked that parents wait in their cars. Parents may wait outside or on the porch 6 ft apart from any person not living in their household. However, please avoid the waiting room and bathrooms unless absolutely necessary.
3. All children and parents will be required to wear a mask and have it in place before the clinician approaches the car.
4. Parents will be asked the following questions each visit:

Does your child or anyone in your household have a:

- A new rash
- Fever
- Cough
- Cold

5. Before entering the building, the clinician will use a no-contact infrared thermometer to take each child’s temperature. A temperature of less than 100.4 degrees will allow the child to attend group. A temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher means the child will not be able to attend group. If your child has a fever, I will need documentation of a negative COVID test or a physician’s note saying they may return to group before any further in-person sessions.
6. Children will be taken into the building through the back door to reduce unnecessary exposure to other people who may be in the waiting room area.
7. Before each child enters the group room, they will be asked to use hand sanitizer.
8. Each child will be assigned a separate space to keep any belongings.
9. This clinician will have hand sanitizer with her at all times to provide to the children when needed.
10. Children will wash their hands prior to eating snack or lunch. Children may take off their masks when in their assigned space in the room for snack and/or a drink. Otherwise, masks are expected to remain in place while inside the building.
11. Parents will arrive 15min before the end of group. This clinician will walk the kids out to their individual parents who wearing masks sitting in their cars parked in the roundabout in front of the building.
12. Between each group, the clinician will sanitize door handles, shared objects, table tops and chairs in the group room.
13. Groups will be held outside when possible but the weather and temperature will determine this. Children will be allowed to remove masks while playing outside.
14. Hallways, conference rooms, waiting room and bathrooms will be sanitized by The Exchange office building staff (not this clinician).

15. Parent wrap up will no longer be held in-person. This clinician will send a group email update about the session.
16. These procedures will be followed for individual sessions and/or family sessions as well.

In order to assist with keeping all families healthy and safe, I am asking parents to please do the following:

1. Purchase re-usable or disposable masks for your child to use every day in group. If you choose a re-usable mask, the mask must be washed before (or a clean one provided) for the following session. If you choose disposable masks, your child will need to dispose of the used mask and wear a new one the following group. I encourage you to have your child practice wearing masks around the house or when going out so your child learns the proper way to wear a mask (covering nose & mouth), and becomes comfortable wearing one. I found a few resources below that I wanted to share regarding options for purchasing masks.

[Options for Buying Re-usable Kid-Friendly Masks](#)

[Amazon Face Masks for Kids](#)

[DIY Face Masks](#)

2. Please provide your child with their own water bottle & snack/lunch, sunscreen, extra clothing, etc. Please provide enough water to last the entire session. While there is a water fountain in the building, it will be off-limits due to high risk of germ exchange. Kids will not be allowed to share food items or beverages.
3. Please keep your child home and notify this clinician if your child or if a family member in your child's household has COVID symptoms (cough, fever, chills, shortness of breath, muscle pain, change in taste or smell, sore throat, or rash). Please keep your child home if your child or someone your child has been in contact with has tested positive for COVID. Results of a negative COVID test or a physician's note saying your child may return to group needs to be provided before any further in-person sessions. I've included a few links that may be helpful regarding COVID Testing in SC.

[MUSC Virtual COVID Screenings for COVID Tests](#)

[SCDHEC: COVID-19 Screening & Testing Sites](#)

4. Please practice social distancing and stay in your car when waiting to drop off and/or pick up your child.
5. Please continue to follow social distancing guidelines outside of group for the safety of your child and every family attending group. Remember every person you and/or your child has had contact has the potential to have asymptomatic COVID, which would lead to your child possibly exposing each child and their family attending group.
6. Please notify this clinician if your child has done the following: traveled by public transportation (plane, train, bus, etc), stayed at a hotel, stayed overnight with family/friends outside of his/her household, ate at more than 1 restaurant in 1 week, attended events that had a group larger than 6 people who do not live in his/her household, attended an event where there was communal food (i.e. buffet, self-serve from shared bowls/plates). The clinician may ask your child to quarantine from in-person sessions for two weeks following any of the above activities.
7. Please help your child understand the importance of washing his/her hands, not touching their face, and how germs spread. Here are some resources that may be helpful.

[Article: Noted MUSC Virologist Helps Separate COVID-19 Fact from Fiction](#)

[Video: Experiment Illustrating How Soap Helps Get Rid of Germs](#)

[Video: How Germs Spread](#)

[Video: Proper Hand Washing](#)

[Video: Why it's Important to Wear a Mask](#)

[Articles: CDC Proper Handwashing Guidelines](#)

[CDC: Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19](#)

## **BILLING**

Billing procedures are the same as those listed in the billing policy. If there is an illness or group is canceled due to COVID, a credit will be added to your account to be applied to your child's next session or group. Cancellations and/or missed sessions not due to an unexpected illness will not be reimbursed per this practice's billing policies.