

# Checklist for choosing safe child care in a pandemic

## Use this tool to feel confident in your decision.

We're the industry leader in health and safety for a reason: We go above and beyond the recommended guidelines to protect our community. That's what makes our centers some of the safest places your child can be. Make sure the child care providers you're considering check all the boxes!



### HEALTHY BODIES

We follow the science that shows we're more protected from COVID-19 when we wear masks, keep a safe distance, and monitor our symptoms.

- **Masks for big kids and adults are mandatory.**  
In our centers, children ages 3 and older and all adults (including staff and family) wear masks!
- **Daily health and temp checks happen at the door.**  
Bring us your warm smiles and cool foreheads! When you arrive, you'll complete symptom and temperature checks at the door.
- **Kids are assigned to small stable groups.**  
We assign kids and teachers to groups (or "pods") that don't mix with others. If anyone in one pod gets sick, we send the pod home until everyone's well again.

### HAPPY HEARTS

Your child's emotional health is just as important to us as their physical safety. We see—and celebrate—each child for who they are.

- **Children's emotional needs are prioritized.**  
Pandemic life has led to loneliness, frustration, impatience, and other big feelings. We're here to listen and support kids through it all.
- **Anti-bias principles are practiced every day.**  
Emotional security is as important to us as physical safety. We lean on anti-bias principles to support students of all kinds, like using classroom materials that reflect diverse backgrounds and more.
- **Communication throughout the day is seamless.**  
We use the KinderCare App to stay in touch so you're never in the dark about your child's day.

### CLASSROOM SANCTUARIES

Learning and growing is still at the core of what we do, even if the way we do things is a little different for now.

- **Classrooms are reserved for children and staff only.**  
These days, our cheerful, nurturing indoor spaces are reserved for children and staff only.
- **Mealtimes are safe, nutritious, and delicious!**  
At the table, children get plenty of space, no one shares food, and we sanitize all surfaces and non-plastic utensils before and after we eat.
- **Kids have space to stretch out at naptime.**  
Our cribs and cots are placed 6 feet apart whenever possible, and children are positioned head-to-toe or toe-to-toe for extra precaution.

### SAFE SPACES

When your kids can't be home, you can feel confident that our learning centers are clean, safe spaces.

- **Building systems are in tip-top shape.**  
When possible, we use MERV-13 HVAC filters to capture particles in the air so you and your child can breathe easy.
- **Surfaces are squeaky clean.**  
We use EcoLab hospital-grade cleaning supplies to keep everything in our centers and on the playgrounds sanitized throughout the day.
- **Closure policies are strict and conservative.**  
If our center has an exposure, we close for 72 hours. If we have a positive case, we close for up to 14 days.