

SOUTHFIELD CHILDREN'S CENTER INFORMED CONSENT AND SOCIAL CONTRACT (Revised 8.19.2021)

The Southfield Children's Center is committed to providing a healthy and safe environment for all of our children and staff. To support this goal, it is imperative that all members of our community take seriously our individual and collective responsibility to protect one another by adhering to the health and safety protocols that have been developed in support of our re-opening and continued operation. In an effort to ensure that our families understand the risks associated with COVID-19 and their role in supporting our protocols and other preventive measures, we ask that you please read and review the following information and confirm that you will support and abide by these very important safety measures.

INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19

COVID-19 is a new strain of a coronavirus that causes respiratory illness. It is caused by a virus that can spread from person to person. Recent studies have suggested that **COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms**. COVID-19 symptoms can range from mild or no symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and may include, among other symptoms, fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Though COVID-19 is a new disease, currently available information indicates that those at higher risk are people who are 65 years or older or people of any age with underlying medical conditions (such as chronic lung disease, moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, severe obesity, diabetes, chronic kidney or liver disease, or those who are immunocompromised).

Various agencies and public health officials have advised that the best way to prevent against this virus is to engage in preventive measures such as regular handwashing and minimizing close contact with others. The Southfield Children's Center has been closely monitoring current health guidance and has established a variety of protocols and other measures designed to minimize risk of this virus. These protocols have been developed consistent with applicable guidance, including guidance from Connecticut's Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and other public health agencies and include policies addressing group size, face coverings, social distancing, hygiene, restrictions on shared items, screening protocols, access to our facilities and other measures. Given the rapidly evolving guidance in this area, we anticipate that we will be updating and revising our policies throughout the year. Though these measures are designed to minimize the chance of exposure and transmission in our community, however, the risk inherent in any in person activities due to COVID-10 cannot be eliminated. Additional information regarding COVID-19, applicable guidance and Southfield's policies/protocols are available on the following websites:

- **Center for Disease Control:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- **CT Department of Public Health:** <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus>
- **CT Office of Early Childhood:** <https://www.ctoec.org/covid-19/>
- **Southfield Children's Center:** www.southfieldkids.org

SOCIAL CONTRACT

In signing below, I attest that I have read the Information About COVID-19 and understand the potential health implications of this virus. I understand that there is no current vaccine for COVID-19 for children under the age of 12 (twelve) and that due to its contagious nature, contact with others, or contact with surfaces that have been exposed to the virus, could lead to infection. Additionally, individuals who may have been infected with this virus may be asymptomatic for a period of time, or may never become symptomatic at all.

I further understand that the Southfield Children’s Center is closely monitoring this situation and will be putting in place reasonable preventive measures aimed at reducing the spread of COVID-19. These measures will require me and my child to respect and abide by the school’s policies, including rules related to physically distancing, face coverings, hygiene, out of state visits/vacations, and other policies as may be developed, modified, or updated throughout the year. In signing below, I acknowledge that the health and safety risks posed by COVID-19 cannot be completely eliminated, despite the implementation of reasonable and age-appropriate precautions and that neither the Southfield Children’s Center nor public health officials can guarantee that any individual participating in the Center’s programs will not come into contact with COVID-19 and/or contract such illness.

By enrolling my child at the Southfield Children’s Center, I expressly acknowledge that I understand the importance of abiding by the Center’s health and safety policies as they may be modified during my child’s enrollment. More importantly, I understand that it is shared responsibility of every member of our community to do their part to minimize the risks associated with COVID-19. By signing below, I acknowledge the risks associated with COVID-19 and reaffirm my commitment to support the health and safety policies of the Southfield Children’s Center. Should my actions, or my failure to adhere to these policies, compromise the health and safety of others, I understand that my child may be disenrolled from the Center.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE INFORMATION ABOVE, AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE SOUTHFIELD CENTER’S HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Student Name