



COVID-19 – FAMILIES & HEAD START

WORKING TOGETHER

We want to work with you to keep everyone safe and healthy while having fun and learning!

Head Start will:

- **Safety Precautions:** Head Start is following the Department of Health/Department of Education and CDC recommendations in order to keep children and staff as safe as possible.
 - Staff will do daily symptom check of self by using screening checklist
 - Masks must be worn on the bus by both children and staff
 - *Staff are recommended to wear masks* when in close contact with others
 - *Children* may wear masks brought from home, but will not be required to
 - *Increase cleaning/disinfecting* in high traffic areas and highly used areas/daily cleaning of others
 - Attempt to keep *same-groups of children/staff* together to decrease spread
 - Have *smaller class sizes* to improve social distancing efforts in classroom and on buses
 - Eliminate some classroom activities that may be high risk (i.e. water table, sensory bins, shared playdoh, etc. – staff will incorporate learning experiences in other ways)
 - Adding in increased scheduled hand washing times
 - Other safety precautions as recommended by OHS, CDC, DOE and local health officials.

Parents/Families will:

- Daily Symptom check of child using “Student Symptom Screening Checklist”
- Give Head Start my most up-to-date contact information/emergency contact
- Other communication:
 - Opt into School Messenger (attached sheet)
 - Sign up for TeachingStrategies – share my email with teacher for invite: _____
 - Ready Rosie
 - Like Facebook Page: NESD Head Start Program
- Interact with my child to complete any virtual or take home activities

** Website Resources: SD Department of Health - <https://doh.sd.gov/news/coronavirus.aspx>
Center for Disease Control - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

PHASES of SERVICE:

Area staff and administration will work together to determine which Phase they will be implementing at any given time – with flexibility to change to a different plan during the year based on number of cases in a community and/or site. They will communicate with parents to let them know plans ASAP.

CENTERS:

Plan A) Full Services – Fully enrolled, in-person services, full busing, all with CDC recommended precautions

Plan B) Modified Services: (families split between Option B1 and Option B2:

-Each site's capacity of in-person slots will be determined by square footage – i.e. ability to socially distance.

-Each family/child's need for in-person services will be determined through; parent questionnaire – other services received, day care options, date of application, etc.) Centers will let parents know ASAP

B1: Combination of In-Person and Virtual – to be determined by each sites needs

Class A – Week 1 In-Person, Week 2 Virtual, etc.

Class B – Week 1 Virtual, Week 2 In-Person

- In-Person services will be offered for 4.5 hours M-R (i.e. 9:00-1:30) to allow for cleaning and planning for virtual needs

- For virtual weeks at home, families will receive individualized take home manipulatives and resources

- For virtual weeks at home, families will receive access to videos learning via TeachingStrategies,

ClassDojo and Head Start YouTube Channel assigned to each site for uploaded teacher videos

B2: Combination of In-Person and Virtual

Class A – Monday and Tuesday

Class B – Wednesday and Thursday

B3: Fully Virtual – with a possibility of being added to the in-person rotation if a slot becomes available

- Families will receive individualized take-home manipulatives, activities and resources weekly

- Families will receive access to video-learning via TeachingStrategies, ClassDojo and Head Start YouTube Channel assigned to each site for uploaded teacher videos

Plan C) Full Virtual Services

- Families will receive individualized take-home manipulatives, activities and resources weekly

- Families will receive access to video-learning via TeachingStrategies, ClassDojo and Head Start YouTube Channel assigned to each site for uploaded teacher videos

HOME BASE:

Plan A) Full Services – Fully enrolled, in-person services, groups socializations, all with CDC recommended precautions

Plan B) Modified Services: (home visitors and families decide option based on safety in community/area:

B1: Combination of In-Person and Virtual

Class A – Week 1 In-Person, Week 2 Virtual, etc.

Class B – Week 1 Virtual, Week 2 In-Person

- In-Person home visits will be offered for 1.5 (with approx. 1 in person home visit/day to allow for cleaning of materials, planning, etc.)

- Virtual weeks at home, families will receive a “virtual home visit” – via ClassDojo, ZOOM, phone call, etc. depending upon family resources and preference. (Time will range from 30-90 minutes depending upon child and family needs)

- Virtual weeks at home, families will receive individualized take home manipulatives and resources

B2: Alternative site home visits

- An alternative site may be used to reduce exposure / increase cleaning of home visits (i.e. outdoors, school classroom at colony sites, community room, etc.). This allows for home visitor to control cleaning/environmental issues.

B3: Fully Virtual

- Families will receive individualized take-home manipulatives, activities and resources weekly

- Families will receive access to video-learning via TeachingStrategies, ClassDojo and/or Head Start YouTube Channel assigned to each site for uploaded teacher videos

Plan C) Full Virtual Services

- Families will receive individualized take-home manipulatives, activities and resources weekly

- Virtual weeks at home, families will receive a “virtual home visit” – via ClassDojo, ZOOM, phone call, etc. depending upon family resources and preference. (Time will range from 30-90 minutes depending upon child and family needs)

Phases of Group Socialization will be decided separate from phases of home visits

Group Socialization:

Plan A) Full Services – full time allotted, full enrollment, full set up

Plan B) Modified Services – if cooperative sites allow and local health concerns are minimal, group socialization may be held using same health and safety precautions laid out for centers

Plan C) Virtual Group Socialization – shortened version of group via TeachingStrategies, YouTube Channel, ZOOM or Facebook Live