COVID-19 / Little Wreckers
Information & FAQ’s

When will Little Wreckers Preschool Reopen?
Little Wreckers Preschool will reopen on Thursday, August 27th. Should public health guidelines change our plan, we will alert families as soon as possible.

The most important thing to remember is we are all in this together. A successful reopening is contingent upon the behavior of our community members including preschool families, teachers, and Earthplace employees to suppress the spread of COVID-19. That includes reporting any coronavirus symptoms listed by the CDC, reporting possible exposure, reporting travel to states that meet the criteria for the regional travel advisory, and abiding by the policies set forth by Little Wreckers Preschool and the Westport/Weston Health District.

Should I be confident in sending my child to school at this point in time?
This summer we have proven that we are able to operate the preschool and summer camp in a manner that meets or exceeds the guidelines set forth by the Office of the Governor and the Office of Early Childhood.

We recognize that children need to be outdoors, to interact socially, and to have enriching hands-on experiences. Little Wreckers has ample space indoors and outdoors to follow social distancing recommendations, and we have highly trained and professional staff members who will implement our plan as outlined below. Our job is to mitigate risk of infection to the greatest extent possible by meeting or exceeding all state health guidelines for each program.

What are the hours of operation?
Our hours of operation will be:

- 7:30 am to 4:30 pm  If we adhere to the new time change voted on last year
- 7:00 am to 4:00 pm  If we revert to original times and do not adhere to the new times
- 5:00 pm or 5:30 pm  Pick up time on staff development days (depending on start time)

Daily Health Screenings will be performed at drop-off including temperature checks, and health related questions.

What will happen if there is a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 in the preschool program?
We will follow the practices below as directed by state and local health officials:

- Contact the Westport/Weston Health District and follow their instructions.
- Determine the date of symptom onset for the child/staff member.
• Determine if the child/staff member attended/worked at the program while symptomatic or during the two days before symptoms began.

• Identify what days the child/staff member attended/worked during that time.

• Determine who had close contact with the child/staff member at the program during those days.

• Notify anyone who had close contact with the child/staff member at the program during those days.

• Exclude the children and staff members who are determined to have had close contact with the affected child/staff member for 14 days after the last day they had contact with the affected child/staff member.

• Conduct appropriate cleaning and disinfection:

  • Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
  
  • Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the areas.

  • Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning and disinfecting.

  • Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as bathrooms and classroom areas.

  • If more than 7 days have passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.

  • Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.

**Will tuition be refunded if the closure of the Little Wreckers program is deemed to be necessary by the Earthplace Board or a local, state, or federal government agency?**

• In the event of a temporary closure of one or more classrooms lasting 14 days or less due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no tuition refunds.

• If Little Wreckers preschool is ordered to close by the Earthplace Board, a federal, state, or local government agency for a duration longer than 14 days due to the COVID-19 pandemic or other hazardous conditions beyond the reasonable control of Earthplace, a prorated refund of 50% of the unused portion of tuition payments will be offered, or you may choose to convert that amount into a donation to Earthplace.

**Will there be distance learning in the event of a shut down?**

• In the event that there is a short-term closure of the Little Wreckers program or the lasting two weeks or less, curriculum materials will be provided.

• In the unlikely event that Little Wreckers is ordered to close by the Earthplace Board, a federal, state, or local government agency for a duration longer than 14 days, teachers will provide videos and curriculum materials.

**Will Little Wreckers close the program if public schools are closed?**

Unsure. We have designed our operating plan to meet or exceed all state requirements and our staff are following all indoor and outdoor guidelines. As an organization we have prioritized the safety of the preschool families and the continued operation of the preschool.

**Will there be any new forms to complete?**
Yes. We have a new Informed Consent form. Per the Office of Early Childhood, Preschools and Childcare Programs shall inform and obtain signed consent on the form posted on the OEC website from all staff and the parent(s) of all children enrolled that they have received notice of the following:

- People who are 65 years and older and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions or are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are recommended to stay at home. A list of medical conditions associated with a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 can be found in the CDC’s guidance. Individuals and families should consult their healthcare providers to determine whether they have medical conditions that place them at risk.
- Staff and children living in households with individuals who are 65 years and older OR have a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are recommended to stay home.