



Y-KIDS INFORMATION 2022

We are so excited to be able to continue to offer drop-in childcare for our members at select locations. At some locations, we will start infant care on January 3rd. While we have made some modifications to our program, we remain focused on providing safe and fun experiences so our members can exercise knowing their children are in good hands. Some branches will offer care for a maximum of 2 hours a day. Parents must remain on the YMCA property.

Please note that as we continue to rebuild our membership base and more families are ready to use childcare we have added additional locations and hours. If your home branch isn't offering drop-in care quite yet, we invite you to visit one of our other locations. We know you'll have a great fitness experience wherever you go! Please visit our website or app for a list of branches and hours of operation.

Reservations

Some branches are currently not requiring reservations for drop-in care. Please visit our website or app to more information. If your branch is still requiring reservations, you can reserve a spot on our website or on the YMCA of Greater Charlotte app. Reservations can be made 48 hours in advance. Please note that children must already be on a membership in order to register for childcare, and families may only sign up for one reservation block per day. If your plans change, you can always cancel your reservation on the website or app.

Ages

At this time, drop-in childcare will be provided for children ages 8 weeks -10 years (ages might change by location). Please note that hours for school age children will only be available on evenings and weekends except on limited days when students are out of school for scheduled breaks.

What to Bring

At this time, we are not providing time for meals or snacks so please do not send any food with your child. You may bring a water bottle. We will provide outdoor play time as the weather and our schedules permit so please send your child with a jacket if appropriate for the weather. Children should arrive with a clean diaper. Please bring two diapers and wipes with your child. If your child is not completely potty-trained, they must wear a pull-up. Please note that we do not have space to store strollers in our Y-Kids centers. Label everything with your child's first and last name!

Required Information

We will only release children to the individuals listed as authorized to pick up so please ensure your emergency contacts and authorized pick ups are up-to-date before your first day of childcare. You can update this information, as well as medical information, by logging into your online account.

Health and Safety

Please review the following COVID-19 precautions for information about the steps we are taking to prioritize health and safety.

Y-KIDS COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

The Y has adjusted some of our previous operating procedures for drop-in childcare to help keep our participants and staff as safe as possible while COVID-19 continues to impact our community. We believe it is important to communicate accurate and timely information about the virus and steps we are taking to prioritize the health and safety of all. This document outlines the guidelines families can expect our team to follow.

While we know we cannot completely eliminate the possibility of COVID-19 in our programs, we believe there are several steps we can take to mitigate this risk as we work in partnership with families. Our operating procedures have been updated to reflect health and safety recommendations from the following agencies: North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and YMCA of the USA (Y-USA). We will continue to review our policies throughout the year and ensure they reflect the most current recommendations of health and government officials.

Daily Health Check

- General wellness checks, will be conducted on all participants before the family member or guardian leaves the building.
- Staff will talk with the family member or guardian if the child is ill or any questions about any changes in the child's appearance or behavior.
- If we think that the child is not feeling well (for any reason) and should not be in child care, we will make every effort to communicate with the family member or guardian immediately. This will allow the family to make alternate plans.

Illness

- We will continue to follow our wellness policy (see the policy on the website). It is critical that parents review this information and keep children home when they are sick.
- Children who develop any symptoms of illness will need to be picked up immediately.

Sanitation

- All classrooms and other program spaces are cleaned and disinfected daily. Frequently touched surfaces are cleaned more frequently throughout the day (toys, doorknobs, handrails, and furniture).
- There will be a cleaning period between each reservation block to ensure that our staff have adequate time to clean materials and furnishings between each group of children.

Restricting Facility Access

- No parents or other nonessential visitors will be allowed in the childcare rooms. We realize this may be difficult for our younger children at first, but we are committed to doing all we can to create a positive transition when dropping off your child.

Limiting Mixing of Groups

Children will be placed into assigned groups based on their ages and reserved time.

- We will limit mixing of children as much as possible by keeping groups separate in designated rooms and staggering playground times.

Social Distancing

- We will continue to support social distancing between children to the maximum extent possible.
- Staff will teach children about social distancing in child-friendly terms and remind them to maintain space as much as possible.
- However, due to factors such as classroom size, furniture, the nature of activities, and simply the desire of young children to be near one another for play and learning, it will not be possible to keep children 6 feet apart at all times during drop-in childcare.

Face Coverings

- Based on the recommendations provided by NCDHHS and the CDC we are no longer requiring face coverings for families, children and staff.
- There will be face masks available for families that would like to wear them.
- If a family/guardian requests that their child wear a face covering, our staff will try to accommodate this request. However, if the child has difficulty properly wearing the face covering (touches or pulls off frequently), we will need to work with the family/guardian to set realistic expectations and determine if there are certain times of day when a face covering is most important and times when the child can wear it successfully.
- Children will not wear a mask while napping or outdoors.

Materials

We do expect that some materials, including books and blocks, will be shared. Staff will clean materials between uses when possible.

Personal Belongings

Only personal items that are necessary should be brought to the program (water bottle, jacket). Please do not send blankets or stuffed animals to the program as these objects are likely to be touched by others.

- Unclaimed items left in the facility will be donated or discarded on a bi-weekly basis. Please label everything!

Handwashing

- All staff and children are required to wash their hands upon arrival, before handling food, after restroom use/diaper changing, after blowing noses/coughing/sneezing, and after outdoor play.
- Hand sanitizing products with 60% alcohol will also be used when soap and water are not readily available.

Response to Coronavirus Exposure

- The Y works closely with the public health department to quickly report and communicate in the event of a coronavirus exposure. Please note that we will not automatically notify all families in the event that there is an exposure or potential exposure in our childcare program. Parents can expect to be notified if their child is impacted, but all communication in this event is based on the recommendations of local health officials in order to prevent the spread of misinformation and avoid creating unnecessary fear.