

It Takes a Village to Conquer Covid

Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, It Takes a Village Academy has been here for the families of First Responders and critical business employees in our community, constantly adjusting our procedures to meet and exceed government mandates. Now, as more of our parents are called back to work, we are uniquely prepared to receive their children back into the classroom while maintaining a minimum of physical exposure.

The safety of our children, parents and staff is our number one priority, and this begins at the door. Upon arrival at It Takes a Village Academy, staff members meet the children at the entrance foyer and escort them directly to their preschool classroom, where their temperature is taken before proceeding to hand washing and sanitizing. Parents are required to wear a face mask at dropoff and never enter the main building.

To further our “no exposure” safety procedures, we have contracted with software provider [Brightwheel](#) to keep our parents connected and informed. Via this downloaded app, we eliminate the need for physical contact with paper and pen in several ways:

- Parents digitally check their children in and out of the school by scanning a barcode at the entrance
- Daily activity logs are reported through the app rather than via paper
- Invoices are generated through the app and, for an additional fee, parents can even pay their tuition via ACH or credit card
- In addition, teachers can send notices directly to parents and, time permitting, may have the opportunity to share a photo of their child achieving a personal milestone or engaging in a special activity

Within the building, we have implemented extra cleaning and disinfecting activities above and beyond those already in place. Other measures include but are not limited to:

- Daily temperature checks of all staff
- Weekly polling of all parents and staff regarding activities identified as being linked to possible exposure to Covid-19
- Individual plated service of meals and snacks, rather than “family-style”
- All new parent tours are by appointment only and limited to a time period after hours, but prior to cleaning
- Summer Camp field trips, when they become available, will be outdoors where the group can remain in class-only setting

We recognize that this is a difficult time for everyone. As educators, we have a responsibility to maintain the highest levels of safety of our students, their families, and our staff. Thank you to our Village Family for their cooperation and understanding as we continue to adapt to the challenge of raising and educating our children in unprecedented circumstances.