April 2, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Families and Staff at the Becky Gates Children's Center

SUBJECT: Reopening of the Becky Gates Children's Center Plan

This is an extremely challenging time for all of us. Working from home, especially with young children, poses another set of challenges. We understand your challenges and want to be there for you. There is a lot to consider in making decisions regarding risks involved with remaining open or extending our closure during a pandemic. It is a challenge for our teachers to work remotely, but we feel our staff have done an amazing job providing opportunities for families to stay connected and by providing educational activities for young learners to do at home. Based on the information gathered in the attendance survey, and in working with DSA Administration, we have decided it is best for the Becky Gates Children's Center to remain closed until April 13, 2020.

From April 13-May 1 the Becky Gates Children's Center will operate differently. We will be open from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, M-F. Only 6 classrooms will be open with no more than 10 children in a group. Teachers and children will remain with their group of children and not mix. Only one classroom/group of children may be on each playground at a given time. We will continue to disinfect the playground after each use. Part of our teachers will report to work and the other teachers will continue to work from home until May 4. On May 4, 2020 the Becky Gates Children's Center will be in full operation with normal hours and all classrooms open.

The following classrooms will be combined during April 13-May 1, 2020:

- Butterflies and Bumblebees
- Ladybugs and Blue Jays
- Robins and Hummingbirds
- Seals and Whales
- Seahorses and Panthers
- Jaguars and Tigers

April tuition will be prorated for returning families. Families who choose to remain at home from April 13-May 1, 2020, to shelter in place, will not be charged tuition. All families under contract will be billed beginning May 4, 2020.

If there is a positive COVID-19 case. The classroom and teachers with direct contact will be put on a 14-day isolation, and the classroom will be thoroughly disinfected. Other classrooms will remain open. The Becky Gates Children's Center now has an on-site SSC member to assist us in maintaining a high level of cleanliness at all times.

The checkpoints prior to entry will remain. When your child's temperature is being taken, please stand back six feet to protect the designated staff member responsible for this task. To protect social
distancing, staff will temp themselves prior to entry. Staff must follow protocol at all times while temping. All parents/guardians and staff must answer the following questions honestly prior to admittance.

Does your child or you have?
- A temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or above;
- Signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, and low-grade fever;
- In the previous 14 days has had contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19; is under investigation for COVID-19, or is ill with a respiratory illness;
- In the previous 14 days has travelled internationally to counties with widespread, sustained community transmission.

If you can answer yes to any of those questions, you will be prohibited from entering the building. We may require a doctor's note prior to reentry. A doctor's note will be required for symptoms of respiratory illness, such as a cough.

It is highly important to report honestly. It is our job to ensure children are safe while at our center. It takes all of us to make that happen.

We are going to do our best to avoid the coronavirus in our center, but we are counting on you to be an honest reporter, to maintain social distancing, and to stay home when you are not at BGCC to limit your exposure to children and staff. Remember to continue to wash your hands, cover your cough or sneeze, and stay at home.

Together we can keep parents working and our children and staff healthy. We are proud to be a part of the Aggie Family. We can count on Aggies during this time.

*Memorandum is subject to change.*

Thank you,

Erica

**Erica Ritter**  |  Director
Becky Gates Children's Center  |  Division of Student Affairs  |  Texas A&M University

**1125 Hensel Drive**  |  1479 TAMU  |  College Station, TX 77843-1479
ph: 979.458.5437  |  eritter@bgcc.tamu.edu  |  bgcc.tamu.edu