

# EDUCARE LEARNING CENTER

Dear Educare Families,

October 23, 2019

Winter will soon be here...which means it is time to revisit our inclement weather\* policy.

## **As stated in the Educare Parent/Guardian Policy Handbook:**

*Educare makes every effort to stay open for scheduled program hours. In the event of inclement weather conditions existing prior to the center's daily opening, parents/guardians may contact the center, check the website ([www.educatewithcare.com](http://www.educatewithcare.com)), ELC facebook page, or Go2s for information regarding delays or closures. When it is necessary to close during the day of operation due to weather, community emergencies or world events, parents/guardians will be contacted to pick up children.*

## **Delayed Opening on Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) Inclement Weather Closure Days**

**When FCPS announce an unplanned closure due to inclement weather, Educare will delay opening until at least 7:30 a.m.**

Information regarding the delayed opening will be stated by 6:00 a.m. on the answering machine at Educare (301-834-9007), on our Facebook page, Go2s and website [www.educatewithcare.com](http://www.educatewithcare.com). Families who generally arrive between 6:30 – 7:30 a.m. are encouraged to call the center or check the website whenever the weather poses possible unsafe travel conditions.

## **Early Closures**

To ensure the safety of families and teachers, the decision may be made to close early due to deteriorating weather conditions during the day. ELC will inform families via Go2s, Facebook and make direct phone calls as necessary to ensure families are able to pick up their children in a timely manner.

## **Other Closures**

There may be times when it is necessary to close the center completely for the entire day due to extreme weather conditions and/or declared state of emergencies by local government officials (i.e. hurricanes, blizzards, multiple road closures, etc.).

## **Modes of Communication Regarding Changes to Center-wide Operation Due to Inclement Weather**

ELC will use the following to communicate unplanned changes to operating hours:

- **Go2s**— Families are encouraged to sign up for Go2s invitation-only Educare Learning Center Group. This group is used to communicate program reminders and any updates to operation during inclement weather. Email [educare@educatewithcare.com](mailto:educare@educatewithcare.com) to request the link to sign up for Go2s and be invited to the Educare Community Group. Note: Inclement weather notifications will be sent to families as "Urgent Posts." Make sure to set up your preferred contact method (text, push notification, email, etc.) to receive urgent messages in the Go2s App.
- **Website**—<http://www.educatewithcare.com> Information will be posted on the home page.
- **Voice Mail Message**—The voice mail message on the main line 301-834-9007 will reflect information regarding any change to normal operation (delays/closures).
- **ELC Facebook Page**—Updates will be posted on ELC's Facebook Page [@EducareLearningCenterJefferson](https://www.facebook.com/EducareLearningCenterJefferson). "Like us" today!

## **Preschool-Hours-Only Program (Blue Jays)**

The preschool-hours-only program in Room 5 (9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.) follows the Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) calendar regarding inclement weather days. If FCPS are closed, the Blue Jays class will also be closed. **In the event of a FCPS school delay, the preschool-hours-only program will also delay.** For example, if FCPS are on a two-hour delay, preschool will be held from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

## **School-Age Program**

The school-age program is open to families whenever FCPS are delayed or closed due to inclement weather. When FCPS are delayed or closed due to inclement weather, extra charges are assessed to families based for the hour's children attend (\$7.00/hour or \$21.50/day). These charges will be reflected on the next tuition statement.

Please feel free to contact Educare at 301-834-9007 or [educare@educatewithcare.com](mailto:educare@educatewithcare.com) with any questions.

Sincerely,

Educare Administration

\*Definition of "inclement weather" to include accumulating snow, ice, sleet, blizzard and/or hazardous road conditions.

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