



August 7, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

In March of this year, Educare DC was faced with a decision to close our onsite program due to the global pandemic. Since closing, we have been working diligently to develop a plan to reopen and engage our students and families. Our focus was and is the health and safety of our Educare community. Educare DC is committed to serving your child and your family as we start school year 2020-2021! We are excited to partner with you to make a great start. We are reaching out to share information about what you can expect for the new school year.

School Year 2020-2021 Kicks Off

The official first day of school will be Monday, August 31, 2020. Educare will begin the school year with both remote/virtual services and minimal onsite services. On August 4, 2020, Educare DC reopened onsite services to a small group of families that we have identified as Wave 1. Educare DC re-opened following guidance developed by OSSE (Office of the State Superintendent of Education) in partnership with DC Health and based on CDC guidance for childcare facilities. This includes a limit of 10 people per room, including adults and children, daily symptom screenings and strict dismissal criteria in the event of positive cases. While our hope is to eventually open 100% for all students, we are still not sure if or when that will be possible. If you would like to be on a priority list for onsite services, please email Shaunda Clark-White, Director of Family Engagement at swhite@educaredc.org, detailing your needs, your employment circumstances, or other rationale for requesting a priority for onsite services. We will consider your request as a part of our planning for a Wave 2, when and if public health and staffing circumstances allow. Until then, we will offer remote/virtual services to all students and families not participating in Wave 1 effective Monday, August 31, 2020.

Strong Virtual Programming

For the majority of our community, we will be excited to launch a new school year virtually on **Monday, August 31, 2020**. With our new and improved virtual programming, our Educare DC teaching teams are eager to interact with you and your children in meaningful, consistent ways. We will continue a mix of live and pre-recorded content to engage children, including:

- Daily live experiences on zoom to include language and literacy, math, etc
- Pre-recorded lessons accessible via the internet
- Food Services, distributed weekly
- Comprehensive Health Services, including child wellness assessments, support tracking well baby visits and vaccinations, and nutrition guidance, behavioral intervention support, and IEP/IFSP support
- Family Engagement Support, including regular calls with a specialist, needs assessments, goal setting and referrals to resources



- Diaper/Pull ups, distributed weekly

We are excited to begin our new school year, although virtually, and begin sharing experiences, growing your children and the community. The task of reopening is complicated, and we are working to do it in the best way possible. We appreciate your patience during these times of uncertainty and remain committed to your child and family's health and safety.

Thank you,
Educare DC