

Governor Mike DeWine on Thursday, March 12, directed all schools in Ohio to close at the end of the scheduled school day beginning Monday, March 16, as a precautionary measure. It's also important to note what The Children's Home has been doing prior to, and immediately after, the governor's decision.

We've been in constant communication with leaders and officials at both the local and state level. Hand sanitizer is located at every entrance on campus; per the state's and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's guidance we've cancelled or rescheduled large meetings as well as many extracurricular or after school activities and, just last night, we had a second deep cleaning of all of our facilities on our campus, as a precautionary measure.

Our main campus will be open Friday, March 13, and Monday, March 16, in accordance with the state's directive. Preschool and our Family Visitation programs, for the time being, will remain open. Many of our other programs will be conducted in a modified fashion and our staff members who facilitate these services will be in touch with their respective clients.

The situation absolutely calls for caution; however, we will get through this. Our agency is aware these actions and developments cause disruptions to our routines, daily life, and the children and families we serve; but, these developments are necessary to mitigate risk. We'll continue to work with local and state officials and will allow for as much latitude and flexibility as possible as we move forward. We'll consistently publish updates through our channels.

The Children's Home and Heidt Center of Excellence campuses:

Our campuses will be open Friday, March 13, and Monday, March 16, for business as usual.

Lower School/Upper School/Autism Services:

Will close after class dismissal Monday for the specified time by the governor's office.

Intakes Early Childhood Day Treatment/Day Treatment Programs:

Currently, staff who are conducting intake interviews will continue to do so with a questionaire that has been made available to assist in screening clients.

Intakes Autism Services:

These have already been rescheduled and will remain rescheduled for the time being.

Medical Management/Open Access/Mental Health Intake:

Will operate as normal at our Duck Creek offices. School based appointments will be rescheduled or moved to the Duck Creek office, or another designated space on campus should we need to do so in the near future.

Day Treatment, Early Childhood Day Treatment, School Based Day Treatment:

Will be open Friday, March 13 and Monday, March 16, as of this writing. During the specified time period issued by the governor's office, these programs on campus or in partner schools will be closed. Staff who facilitate these programs who are reporting for work will contact families individually to offer home based appointments, or provide service over the phone.

Counseling and Care Coordination:

School based services are suspended for 3-weeks and our staff will operate as if we were in the Summer break timeframe. Home-, office-, or community-based care as agreeable by the family will be offered.

Preschool:

Will remain open unless otherwise directed.

Family Visitation Center:

Will remain open unless directed otherwise.

Early Childhood Services/Home Visitation/School Readiness Programs:

The Ohio Department of Health has temporarily suspended face-to-face home visits; however, services can still be conducted with families via telephone conferencing and in yet to be determined community locations.

After School Staff and Programs:

Will close after dismissal Friday for the specified time by the governor's office.