



Phebe Anna Thorne Operational Plan

2020-21

(updated June 2020)

Guiding Principles:

- The health of Thorne's students, staff and families is first consideration in all decisions
- Thorne will hold true to its mission of play based, developmentally driven learning for both in person and distance learning formats

Decision Points and Communication:

Thorne will follow the directives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Bryn Mawr College regarding the opening and closing of school. Thorne plans to open its buildings following the health and safety recommendations established by the College, local, state and federal health organizations.

Communication will be led and coordinated by Amanda Ulrich, Director of School, in consultation with Bryn Mawr College and will be issued to parents by Amanda Ulrich at the Preschool, Kate Brown at the Kindergarten, Bev McDonell at Language Enrichment Preschool Program (LEPP) and Susan Chaplick at Early Intervention programs

Program Design:

Class format:

Toddler Time: Cancelled for the year

Nearly Threes: Move to a fully online experience, Zoom meetings, play prompts, materials, and forums for adults to talk about parenting concerns.

Preschool: Combine Older Class(OC)/Younger Class (YC) into 3 small groups across 3 classrooms. Groups created based on length of day and age, consistent classroom, cohort and teachers reinforces bubble idea to decrease exposure. Looping (same teachers from prior year) to help with social /emotional concerns.

LEPP: Keep current format- small class size, space and schedule permit limited exposure.

Kindergarten: Keep current format- small class size, space and schedule permit limited exposure.

Early Intervention: Keep current format- small class size, space and schedule permit limited exposure.

Staffing:

Teachers will stay with their designated class. Overlap by staff will be as limited as possible.

No undergraduate or praxis students will be used.

Substitute teachers will be used when necessary and will follow Thorne's health and safety guidelines.

Outside consultants/providers will be limited, but when necessary, will follow Thorne's health and safety guidelines.

Schedule:

-School will begin after Labor Day.

-Visiting days will be scheduled and will serve as orientation for new routines.

-Staggered drop off and pick up times will be scheduled.

- Preschool children will rotate times in outdoor spaces.
- No added afternoon or lunches for preschool.
- Kindergarten and Early Intervention classes will rotate times in outdoor spaces.

Health and Safety Procedures:

In order to provide a healthy environment for staff, students, and visitors, Thorne will follow all applicable guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Departments of Health and Education. Thorne's efforts fall into three categories: Health Screening, Prevention, and Monitoring and Exclusion.

Health Screening:

- Temperature checks may be required upon entry to school. Students with a temperature above 100 degrees will have to go home and will remain in an isolation room until they depart. Staff and visitors with a temperature above 100 degrees will have to leave campus immediately.
- Screening questions may be asked upon arrival. Staff and children will not be admitted if questions indicate exposure or illness.

Prevention:

Guidelines-

Families and staff will follow Guidelines for Reducing Contagion.

Education-

Via orientations, on-going classes and professional development, signage, messaging, and other means, staff and families will be educated on and expected to abide by a new set of norms aimed at protecting community health.

Hand Hygiene-

Handwashing will be expected upon arrival and scheduled throughout the day. Hand sanitizer will be available in classrooms and public spaces.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)-

Face coverings may be required for adults and children. To be determined.

Gloves will be used for potty accidents, illness and injury.

Ventilation/Outside Time-

Windows will be open for ventilation when possible. Scheduled outdoor time will be increased and children will play outside as much as possible.

Snack/Lunch- Disposable cups and utensils will be used, snacks and lunch brought from home, no sharing, "elbow room" at table.

Physical Distancing-

- Outdoor/parking lot drop off. For unexpected pick up, parent must text Amanda/teacher for child to be brought out.
- Children will be grouped consistently with same cohort and staff.
- No parents or undergraduates will be permitted into school unless approved on a case by case basis.
- No shared indoor classrooms, except upstairs classroom which will be cleaned in between uses.
- One group at a time on playground/outdoor space.

Cleaning/Disinfecting

- Daily deep clean by Housekeeping/ intermittent wipe down for LEPP class.
- Rotate toys.
- All mouthed toys immediately removed and washed.
- High touch areas (tables/toys) wiped immediately after use.
- Table top toys wiped after use.
- Extra hand sanitizer stations, individual hand sanitizer provided in multiple classroom locations.
- Everyone washes hands before moving to something new.
- Limited pillows and dress up. Dress up to be washed weekly.

Monitoring and Exclusion-

- Staggered drop off and pick ups for classes will be scheduled.
- Entrance/exit paths will be assigned.
- No parents/visitors in the building unless approved on a case by case basis.
- Staff who become sick during the day will be sent home immediately. Children who become sick during the day will be isolated until picked up. Parents are expected to pick up the child within 30 minutes.
- If a staff member or child has come in contact with a confirmed positive COVID-19 case, the person will be required, per CDC recommendation, to self isolate for 14 days.
- In the event that a confirmed positive COVID-19 case has been at school, Thorne plans to follow the CDC, Pennsylvania Departments of Health and Education, Bryn Mawr College and local health officials' requirements. We will coordinate with public health officials to determine a course of action which will be communicated to affected staff and families as soon as possible. All areas used by the individual with COVID-19 will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
- In the event that a student is diagnosed with COVID-19, a doctor's note will be required for return to school.