

Pinellas County License Board for Children's Centers & Family Child Care Homes

Our mission is to protect and promote the health, safety, and mental development of children cared for in children's centers and family child care homes in Pinellas County

Faith Bornoff, M.Ed., Executive Director
Michael G. Mikurak, Chairperson



May 4, 2021

Dear Children's Center Director:

We hope that this letter finds you, your staff and the families that are part of your children's center community well.

Due to the Executive Order signed by Governor DeSantis on May 3, 2021, The Pinellas Board of County Commissioners has withdrawn their emergency order and mask ordinance.

Since there is no longer a local state of emergency, the Pinellas County Emergency Regulations, that have been in effect since March of 2020, will cease at the close of business on Friday, May 7, 2021. They must be rescinded within 72 hours following the conclusion of the state of emergency.

This means that Pinellas county adult/child ratios, group size, separation of children over 2 years of age from those under 2 two years of age, and all other requirements that have been waived during the state of emergency will be back in place. Our licensing specialists will once again cite violations in these areas beginning Monday, May 10, 2021.

As for the mask ordinance, that was never a Pinellas County Licensing Regulation, and no one received a violation for not wearing a mask from our organization. As a private entity, you can choose to continue to require masks, or not. That is your business decision.

We encourage you to follow the CDC recommendations for childcare entities. However, you are **required** to continue reporting any communicable disease (including COVID) to our Epidemiology Department and follow their recommendations to mitigate the spread of the virus.

On behalf of all of us at the Child Care Licensing Program we wish you continued success in providing quality childcare for the children of Pinellas County.

Sincerely,

Jorie Massarsky
Children's Center Supervisor

