



March 23, 2020

Dear Parents/guardians,

RE: DAYCARE SPACES FOR EMERGENCY AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES WORKERS

Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, has advised all parents who can, should care for their children at home. She also recognized that while some centres may close, child care services can and must be provided in a safe manner for those families whose parents work in critical roles.

The Ashurst Children's Centre is exploring community need and is considering providing daycare services starting on April 6th to help support families whose parents work in the essential service areas in the Lakes District area. Space availability and times may be limited to ensure staff will better be able to follow preventative health measures and guidelines put out by the Ministry of Health for Childcare providers.

The BC Centre for Disease Control defines Essential Services as:

those considered critical to preserving life, health and basic societal functioning. For example, this includes first responders to life threatening events, health care workers who are essential to delivering patient care and life-saving services, critical infrastructure workers such as drinking water, hydro, internet and natural gas and workers who are essential to supply society with critical goods such as food and medicines.

Families interested in enrolling their children (0-5 years old) should contact The Link by March 30th.

The Link office will also be closed, but we have staff who are working from home and available to answer questions. A message can be left on our office phone at (250) 251-1466 and I can be reached at (250) 694-3822 or (250) 251-0226. The daycare phone (692-1720) will not be monitored between March 23rd and April 5th.

I can also be reached at szayac.ldfes@gmail.com.

Feel free to pass this letter on to others.

Thank you,

Scott Zayac

(Executive Director – The Link)