

**2021/2022 High Quality Addendum**  
**KC Ready 4s Pandemic Response for Partnering Programs**

During this uncertain year, KC Ready 4s will continue our work to advance fully accessible, high-quality pre-kindergarten education for every 3- and 4-year-old in Kalamazoo County. Due to the uncertain nature of preschool programming caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, KC Ready4s has developed the following expectations for high quality programming during the 2021/2022 school year. Expectations subject to revision based upon guidance from the health department, LARA, etc.

KC Ready 4s staff members will work in partnership with programs to support their success in meeting the identified expectations. Should a program be unable or unwilling to meet the distance learning expectations, the program may no longer be eligible to receive KC Ready 4s tuition support payments during the 2021/2022 school year.

The MI Safe Start and the MI Safe Schools plans provide helpful guidance regarding educational requirements in the various re-engagement phases. KC Ready 4s has outlined alignment for partnering programs in the following manner:

- Phase 6 -- in seat attendance, and all other programming requirements, will be expected as outlined in the KC Ready 4s Provider Agreement.
- Phase 4-5 – a combination of in-seat and distance learning defined by each program (expectations outlined below).
- Phase 1-3 -- instruction will occur entirely through distance learning (expectations outlined below).

**At all phases of MI's Stay Safe Plan, at the beginning of the school year, each partnering program will:**

- Provide KC Ready 4s with the COVID-19 Response and Preparedness Plan unique to the preschool program
- Complete the Family Support Checklist for distance learning with each family. This tool contains communication information, resources, etc. for families.
- Provide KC Ready4s with the distance learning plan that will be implemented if/when necessary
- Notify KC Ready 4s of complete or partial closure(s) due to positive COVID-19 exposure (throughout the school year)

**During phases 1-5, when a version of distance learning may be appropriate or required, programs will be expected to:**

- Continue to participate in monthly (minimum) Teacher Mentor visits on a virtual platform or by telephone. Masks must be worn by both KC Ready 4s team member and preschool staff members during high quality support visits (i.e.) mentoring, behavior support, etc.
- Offer a minimum of 3 days of in-seat programming, or minimally match Kindergarten programming model for district of residence (phases 4-5) **and** implement three of the distance learning opportunities listed below (phases 1-5).
  - **Required.** Weekly outreach/contact with families during distance learning and connect family to community resources as appropriate
  - Provide weekly at-home learning activity for families using common household items... include associated learning objective/KDI (how does this activity support their child's development)
  - Host a weekly virtual class meeting with children (Zoom, google meet, etc.), perhaps doing a small group activity
  - Teacher led virtual read-aloud with children
  - Host a virtual Munch & Learn for children and families
  - Support families by providing resources such as sample daily routine, conflict resolutions steps
  - Provide learning packets for parents to pick up (i.e) weekly, bi-weekly
  - Meet with individual child/family for a period of time either on-site or virtually (providing individualized support similar to a home visit) monthly
  - Share weekly activity ideas for families to engage their children in developmentally appropriate activities at home (excludes worksheets, etc.)
  - "Chair chats" or other safe methods of engaging at the child's home using social distance practices
  - Connecting with families using supports provided by the approved curriculum, such as HighScope COR 360 and Creative Curriculum Distance Learning (CLOUD)
  - Provide each family with a "tool kit" of items teachers may reference during virtual activities
  - Virtual classrooms (Google, Facebook, etc.) for communication with families. Encourage parent participation.
  - Participate in bi-weekly online meetings with other KC Ready 4s preschool teachers for support
- Report to KC Ready 4s when a funded family has not been engaged for a period of three weeks for outreach by the KC Ready 4s Coordinator of Family & Community Relations.