



Parent Handbook

Revised 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Moscow Day School! We are pleased that you have chosen us to care for your child. Our facility is licensed by the city of Moscow.

Our main goal is to assist you in meeting your child's needs by providing a safe, nurturing environment, where children develop positive self-esteem, self confidence, and become excited about exploring their world.

We provide a variety of structured and unstructured activities which foster children's intellectual, social, physical and emotional development. Designed around a developmentally appropriate program, the curriculum emphasizes hands-on activities.

The teacher's role is to create a positive, stimulating learning environment, which also provides security and nurturing. As facilitators of learning, the teachers set up the environment in ways that the children are able to learn, explore, create, play, and work together in groups as well as individually. Our teachers are nurturers, patient listeners, questioners, organizers, facilitators, singers, and storytellers.

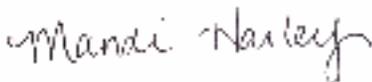
Parents are encouraged to participate in our program or observe at any time. You may call us or send a message through Brightwheel during the day to talk to your child or ask about your child's day.

We acknowledge and appreciate that parents are a child's most important caregivers. Our job is to be your helper and to provide a quality program for you.

We hope our investment in Moscow Day School will enhance your child's positive intellectual, social, physical, and emotional development. We genuinely care about your child and you.

I am available when needed and would be happy to talk about any concerns or questions you may have. Please telephone me at 208-882-8426, e-mail moscowdayschool@frontier.com, or come by for a visit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mandi Harley".

Mandi Harley
Director

Moscow Day School

The school opened in September 1979. A group of parents saw a need for quality child care and worked together to start a non-profit organization; Moscow Day School. Parents make up the board of directors and they volunteer their time and energy. The school could not run properly without parent support.

The staff consists of 1 Director, 5 Lead Teachers, and multiple Assistant Teachers. In the pre kindergarten room (ages 4 to 6 years old) there are 2 Co-Lead Teachers and 2 assistant teachers. The staff-child ratio in this room is 1:10. In the Preschool room (ages 3 to 4 years old) there is 1 Lead Teacher and 2 assistant teachers. This classroom has a staff-child ratio of 1:10. The Toddler class (ages 15 months to 3 years old) has 1 Lead Teacher with 2 assistant teachers. The staff-child ratio in this room is 1:4. The Infant room (ages 6 weeks to 15 months old) consists of 1 Lead Teacher with an assistant teacher. The staff-child ratio in this room is 1:3. We also have a variety of helpers throughout the day. These helpers include University of Idaho students and work-study students, parent or community volunteers.

Moscow Day School Mission Statement:

Moscow Day School is a non-profit organization that exists for the purpose of creating a positive, stimulating learning environment, which also provides security and nurturing. We strive to be a school that promotes healthy development and constructive education for all young children. Our primary focus is to be a high-quality early childhood development program.

Inclusion Policy:

Moscow Day School believes all children are entitled to fundamental rights and freedoms, but because of their unique vulnerability, it is incumbent upon adults to ensure not only that children are safe from exploitation and neglect, but that they have access to a fair share of society's resources. Moscow Day School invites ALL children to participate in our program.

Inviting **All** children to participate

Not denying program entry based on special needs

Celebrating differences

Looking for ways to help every child be successful

Using modifications when necessary

Seeing every child's strengths and challenges

Inviting parents to participate as partners

Offering a variety of activities and opportunities

Noticing the child first, not the disability

General Information

A. Hours of Operation

Moscow Day School is open Monday-Friday from 7:30am to 5:30pm.

B. Change in Your Child's Daily Schedule

Activities are planned and materials prepared before the start of the school day. Therefore, it is helpful for the teachers to know if your child is not coming to school. Please call the school or send a message in Brightwheel if your child is sick or taking the day off. Also, the staff needs to know if your child will be leaving school at a different time than scheduled. It is extremely important that you notify the staff of any change in parent's address, phone, or place of employment.

C. After School Care

After school care is only available to students through the second grade, and only, for students with siblings enrolled in Moscow Day School. After school care is available from 3:00pm to 5:30pm Monday through Thursday, and; Friday from 2:30pm to 5:30pm. After school care is a flat fee of \$15.00 per day. Students must have an enrollment packet and space is subject to availability. Furthermore, students through the summer before second grade may enroll in summer session, paying applicable schedule rates, WITH a current sibling at Moscow Day School (enrollment packet and registration fee would apply).

D. Summer Holding Fee

A summer holding fee is available if you wish to spend the summer with your child while holding their space at MDS. You have the option of paying this fee in full at \$900 for June, July and August or spreading the payment over the course of the school year by adding an additional \$100 to your monthly tuition payment.

E. Parent Messages and Child's Cubby

Weekly Emails are sent out to inform you of the current and upcoming events. You will receive the Event and Snack Calendar by email. We send messages through Brightwheel or will leave a quick note in your child's cubby. Be sure to check and empty your child's cubby every day. The teacher in your child's classroom will have your child's specific classroom daily activities listed on the classroom information board.

F. Separation

It is common for young children to be concerned about leaving their parents. Your child may be anxious about leaving you when coming to school. Sometimes this appears on the first day, sometimes it appears later, and sometimes it does not happen at all. It could be comforting to your child to keep an item belonging to their parents with them for security and assurance. Pictures from home are also helpful to relax the child. Children like to know where you will be and what you will be doing while they are at school. We want to work with you to help your child make a happy and smooth transition.

G. Birthdays

Birthdays are an important day for everyone at Moscow Day School. We want to celebrate everyone's birthday, even if it comes on a no school day. You may bring in a snack or arrange other activities to do for your child's birthday. Please do not pass out birthday invitations at school. We know that all of the children can't be invited and we want to protect everyone's feelings.

H. Medication Taken at School

The staff will give your child medication at school if required. An "Administration of Medication Form" will need to be filled out and signed. Please do not put any medication in your child's backpack, lunchbox or cubby. All prescription medications should be in their original containers, labeled with the child's first and last name, name of the medicine, date filled, expiration date, amount and frequency to be given. Parents will provide a medicine dropper with the child's name on it for sanitation purposes. The dropper will be washed after each use and not shared with any other child.

I. Field Trips

We will try to have at least one field trip each month. We need parent participation to help us make the field trips successful. Sign-up sheets with specific information will be available in the main hallway. Our field trips are by School Bus rental, city bus or walking. Field trips are announced on the monthly calendar. All students are welcome to attend field trips. If it is not your child's scheduled day a parent needs to accompany the child or you will be charged the drop in rate; which will be added to your next month's tuition.

J. Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are planned in November and April. Please feel free at any time to make an appointment if you would like to discuss your child with his or her teachers. If your child begins MDS after the school year has begun, the Director will do an assessment on your child and meet with you within two weeks to discuss goals while your child attends our program. During our summer program we do not hold conferences (June, July and August).

K. Parents and Visitors at Our School

You should always feel welcome to join your child at school. There is a possibility the teacher will not be able to talk to you during the school day, but you can still enjoy spending time with your child. It is also a special treat for your child to have a parent come to school and eat lunch with him or her. Lunch is from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Grandparents, friends, and other authorized special people are also welcome to visit while the child is present at school. Authorization for visitors should be granted in advance with the Director. Visits are limited to 30 minutes at one time (maximum of 12 per month). This time is set to prevent disruption of the teaching experience for all students. Visitors must sign in on the Visitor/Volunteer log, which is available outside the main office.

L. Volunteers

Moscow Day School welcomes volunteers in the classroom. Parent participation plays an integral role in allowing MDS to provide interesting learning opportunities to the children. All volunteers must be pre-arranged with the director. In addition, all volunteers must attend an orientation session provided by the director in order to ensure that all people in contact with the children are adhering to the policies and

procedures at Moscow Day School. Volunteers must sign in on the Visitor/Volunteer log, which is available outside the main office.

M. Snacks and Lunch Time at School

Snacks are provided to the children around 9:45 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.; typically our snacks include the following: Water, juice or milk; fruits and/or vegetables; crackers or breads; cheese, beans or yogurt, etc. Each child brings their own cold lunch to school. Please provide an ice pack in your child’s lunch to keep items cold. We provide 1% milk and water at lunch. **We do not reheat items for health reasons.** Lunches need to be eaten as is, we often do picnics where no microwave is available. The child will decide what, how much, and in which order they eat. You, in making their lunches have decided what and how much is offered. We ask the children to pack up and throw any opened foods in the garbage.

Please be aware of the top ten foods children under the age of 4 are most likely to choke on, see list below. If you do provide your children with these foods, please try to cut them into smaller pieces. For example, cut grapes in half or make thin sticks out of carrots. Thank you for helping us in trying our best to keep everyone safe.

1. Hotdogs	6. Gum
2. Larger chunks of meat/cheese	7. Nuts & seeds
3. Whole grapes	8. Popcorn
4. Hard candies	9. Peanut butter
5. Taffy	10. Raw vegetables

Moscow Day School is a cucumber free zone due to a severe allergy, please DO NOT include cucumbers in school lunches.

N. Breastfeeding Policy

Moscow Day School is committed to providing a breastfeeding friendly environment for our enrolled children and staff. Moscow Day School subscribes to the following policy:

1. Breastfeeding mothers shall be provided a place to breastfeed or express their milk. Breastfeeding mothers, including employees, shall be provided a private and sanitary place (other than a bathroom) to breastfeed their babies or express milk. This area has an electric outlet, comfortable chair, and nearby access to running water. Mothers are also welcome to breastfeed in front of others if they wish.
2. A refrigerator will be made available for storage of expressed breast milk. Breastfeeding mothers and employees may store their expressed breast milk in the center refrigerator. Mothers should provide their own containers, clearly labeled with name and date.
3. Sensitivity will be shown to breastfeeding mothers and their babies. The center is committed to providing ongoing support to breastfeeding mothers, including providing an opportunity to breastfeed their baby in the morning and evenings, and holding off giving a bottle, if possible, when mom is due to arrive. Infant formula and solid foods will not be provided unless requested

by the mother. Babies will be held closely when feeding. Staff shall be trained in handling breast milk.

4. All center staff will be trained in the proper storage and handling of breast milk, as well as ways to support breastfeeding mothers. The center will follow human milk storage guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to avoid waste and prevent food borne illness.

L. Clothing

Your child is here to play and have fun. Please send your child in clothes that are welcome to get dirty. A major part of our program focuses on self-help skills. We ask that you try to dress your child in appropriate clothing so they can dress and undress themselves. Trouble items might include belts, overalls and snaps.

We are involved in outside play everyday, unless it is pouring rain, it feels like it is below 20 degrees Fahrenheit outside, or above 95 degrees Fahrenheit outside. Please send the appropriate clothing for each kind of weather.

Winter weather clothing: During the winter we love to play in the snow. Please supply your child everyday with outside clothing. Include a heavy coat, snow pants, boots, hat and mittens. Label everything. MDS is not responsible to provide these winter clothing items.

Creativity is an important component of our program. The children work with tempera paints, finger paints, water colors, food coloring, markers, crayons, chalk, glue, play dough, sand, water, and many other creative materials. While we have the children wear smocks, it is difficult to prevent all contact between clothing and materials. Please have your child wear clothes that can handle the severe workout our young creators give them.

M. Nap or Quiet Time

Toddlers and Preschoolers have quiet time from 12:45 pm- 2:45 pm. Our Infant room is on demand. The school provides a napping cot/mat. Please provide 2 blankets and a travel size pillow for your child. One blanket will be sent home at the end of the week and returned clean on Monday. Picking up your child during this time is not recommended. However, if it can't be avoided, please notify your child's teacher to minimize disrupting the other children that are sleeping.

N. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)

- I have reviewed a written definition of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID) with my child care provider:
 - SIDS: The unexplained death of seemingly healthy babies 12 months or younger
 - SUIDs: The sudden and unexpected death in infancy. Most SUIDs occur during sleep, from suffocation, strangulation or entrapment. The category also includes undetermined SIDS.
- I know that my child care program place infants on their backs to sleep:

- Infants (through 12 months of developmental age e.g. including babies of any age who cannot turn from stomach to back and back to stomach) are placed for sleep fully FLAT on their backs EVERY time they are put to sleep.
- I have been notified that there is a 20-50% increase in the incidence of SIDS when infants are positioned on their backs in one setting and on their tummies or sides in another setting.
- I have been informed of the risk factors associated with SIDS and SUIDS:
 - Infants exposed to 2nd and 3rd hand smoke
 - Premature infants
 - Low birth weight infants
 - Infants exposed to drugs and/or alcohol prenatally
 - Infants who are not breastfed *exclusively* for the first 4-6 months. This means breastmilk is neither the first food fed nor the primary food for the next 6 to 8 months.
 - Infants during the first month they are new to the childcare facility
 - Infants not current with immunizations or unimmunized
 - Infants who are not always placed fully FLAT on their backs EVERY TIME at the childcare facility *and* at home.

O. Safe Sleep Policy

Only ASTM and CPSC approved cribs and other approved sleep equipment are used. Only approved mattresses designed for the specific bassinet, portable crib or play yard that fit tightly and without gaps are used. Cribs are completely free of all toys, blankets, quilts, soft bedding, pillows, bumper pads, sheep skins and any other additional equipment attached to or placed above the crib.

- Bottles and Sippy cups are never used unless an infant or toddler is held or sitting upright at a table or in a high chair.
- Pacifiers may be used when breastfeeding is well – established with parental permission and with bottle-feeding infants until the infant falls asleep. Once the infant is asleep, remove the pacifier and wash it for future use.
- One-pieced blanket sleepers may be used for warmth. Swaddling is not recommended.
- Room temperature is comfortable for a lightly clothed adult. Infants (through 12 months of developmental age and including babies of any age who cannot turn from stomach to back and back to stomach) are placed for sleep fully FLAT on their backs EVERY time they are put to sleep.
- Or if an infant arrives in or falls asleep in equipment other than an approved crib, the infant is promptly placed flat on her back in an approved crib
- The crib is placed away from windows, blinds, and drapes

Rooms have enough light for staff to easily monitor infant breathing, skin color and signs of overheating (warm, red face and/or perspiration at the hairline or on the face). Our policy for supervision is:

- At least one alert adult is within sight and sound of each sleeping infant. Lighting and sound should allow appropriate supervision (BIRTH THROUGH 12 MONTHS)
- At least one alert adult present in the room where children are sleeping. Lighting and sound should allow appropriate supervision (13 MONTHS AND UP)

P. Healthy Sleeping Policy

For healthy sleeping, every child sleeps on cots, sleeping bags, mats, or pads.

- Individual children's bedding is stored separately - without contact with the floor or bedding of others.
- Sleeping equipment is stored separately (ex. the floor side of one mat does not touch the sleeping surface of another mat).
- Bedding is washed at least weekly and as needed.
- Three feet (36") of spacing is maintained between cots, mats and cribs. If there is no room, place children as far apart as possible and/or alternate children head to feet.

Q. Procedure for arrival/departure of children

For your child's safety, the sign in and out procedures have been established. Parents must sign by entering their 4-digit code on the Brightwheel tablet or scanning the QR code provided at the main entrance when bringing children to school and when picking them up. The school is not responsible for children dropped off and not signed in. Only people (age 18 or older) whose names appear on approved pick-up list are authorized to pick up your child and will be allowed to sign the child in and out. Children are not permitted to sign themselves in and out. Our staff will ask for verification of identification if needed before releasing a child. Upon arrival please wash yours and your child's hands.

R. Closures

Snow Days - Moscow Day School does not close when the Moscow School District closes for snow days. The school will close if the University of Idaho or Courthouse closes, there is a town emergency or any other uncontrolled situation occurs.

Unplanned Closures - Moscow Day School may also have to close for other unplanned reasons related to health and/or safety of students or staff. As much advance notice as possible will be provided to parents.

In the event of snow day or unplanned closures, tuition refunds will be determined on a closure-by-closure basis by the Executive Board.

S. Emergency Situations and Fire Drills

- **Fire Drills:**

The children and teachers are required to conduct fire drills once a month. At any sign of fire, including smoke, intense heat, flames or smoke alarm notice. We evacuate the building and walk the children out to the sidewalk in a calm and orderly fashion. We do a roll call to account for each child and staff member.

- **Emergency Situations:**

Moscow Day School uses Brightwheel which has a communication function that will send messages via text directly to your phone. Additional information will also be sent via email.

- **Evacuation of Building:**

If Moscow High School or the Latah Sheriffs' Department/courthouse evacuate for any reason Moscow Day School does as well. The Moscow Police Department (MPD) will notify the school to evacuate the building. The staff will walk the children to East City Park and return after being

notified that a safety walk has been done. We will call parents to notify them to pick up children if there are any concerns for the safety of our children. We will have evacuation drills yearly.

- **Lock In:**

Moscow Day School will participate in Lock In procedure if MPD calls and notifies us to Lock In. Lock In consists of having all exterior doors locked until the premise is clear. MPD will notify us when it is safe to have exterior doors open. If during Lock In you need within the building you can call Moscow Day School and someone will let you enter the building. If MDS is placed on a Lock In, you will receive an email with the details we have as to why as well as a Brightwheel message notifying you of the Lock In.

- **Lock Down:**

MPD will notify Moscow Day School if we need to lock down for any reason. Lock Down consists of locking all exterior doors, interior doors and hiding in our “safe” spot. Safe spots are in the bathroom for the infant and toddler classroom, the wall by the loft for the preschool and Pre-K classrooms. When everyone is in their safe spot teachers will do a roll call to make sure everyone is present. Teachers will do their best to do quiet activities to keep the children entertained and quiet. The Director/Assistant Director will communicate with all of the teachers through a group text with phones on silent or vibrate. The Director will notify everyone when MPD notifies us the building is safe. Parents will be notified if we are on Lock Down and no one will be allowed to enter the building. Parents will receive an email as well as a message on Brightwheel.

T. Infection Control

Hand-washing procedure posters are hung at each sink throughout the center.

Children will be directed or assisted to wash their hands:

- Upon arrival (parents please help your child.)
- After toileting
- Before meals or cooking activities
- After outdoor play
- After coming in contact with bodily fluids
- After lunch (cross contamination of allergy foods)

Staff will wash their hands:

- Upon arrival
- After toileting self as well as children
- After coming in contact with bodily fluids such as mucus, blood, or saliva
- Before meals, handling food, and participating in cooking activities
- After lunch (cross contamination of allergy foods)

U. Discipline

Discipline is a process by which adults help children learn to control his or her own actions and decisions. Our goal is to help the children develop control from within, rather than depending on outside control from adults.

The development of social skills including emotional control, coping or delay of gratification, appropriate self-expression, problem solving and decision-making are important learning tasks for children.

The staff at MDS will facilitate learning through guidance that is related to the specific behavior and appropriate to each child's needs and development.

We believe in positive reinforcement. We will strive to increase good feelings and good behavior in our children. We will emphasize rules and regulations that children must learn for their own safety, for the safety of others, and to enable them to be productive members of society.

The general policy will be to create an environment that seeks to eliminate potential problem behavior while promoting independence and self-esteem. We will provide clear limits for behavior and firmly and consistently enforce them, as well as providing opportunities to practice positive behavior. Positive behavior will earn positive praise.

Techniques the staff will use include:

- Group and one-on-one discussions about problems, limits, individual accomplishments, goals and feelings.
- "I" messages, active listening, and honest praise.
- Planned alternatives to inappropriate behavior, such as substitution and redirection to another area or activity.

Specific guidelines for situations that are potentially harmful or dangerous will include:

- Stopping the behavior immediately, physically restraining the child if necessary
- Substituting an appropriate activity or material for whatever the child is doing or using.
- Redirecting the child to a proper activity in a positive manner
- Accepting the emotion, but redirecting the response to an acceptable alternative
- Removing the child from the problem situation to a chair or a cubby nearby, but not involved in the group activity
- Explaining to the child what was unacceptable about the behavior and why, and inviting the child to return to the group as soon as he or she feels ready to accept the limits
- Noticing and praising the child's positive behavior after disciplinary action
- Help the child correct the mistake if possible

We will not use any form of corporal punishment, including spanking, shaking or no other means of inflicting physical pain. *"No form of corporal punishment will be permitted on the premises by anyone including parents."*

V. Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

All staff and volunteers are mandated by law to report any suspicion of child abuse or neglect. Abuse may be physical, emotional, or sexual. Neglect is the failure, refusal, or inability, for reasons other than poverty, to provide necessary care, food, clothing, shelter or medical care. Teachers who intentionally fail to report suspicion are subject to fines or imprisonment under the law. To prevent child abuse and neglect, this program:

1. *Trains staff to avoid one-staff-one-child situations if at all possible. If scheduling requires one adult to be alone with one child, the parent is always informed at pick-up or drop off.
2. *Design our classrooms to avoid hidden and secluded areas.

3. *Makes sure interactions between children and staff can be observed and interrupted.
4. *Uses proper names for body parts.
5. *Never forces children to give affection.
6. *Tells children that if they have questions about someone's behavior, the best thing they can do is ask about it
7. *Explains that secrets can be harmful.
8. Trains staff in the Strengthening Families Protective Factor Framework and Stewards of Children Darkness to Light.
9. Requires a background check for all staff.
10. Develops positive, non-judgmental relationships with parents.
11. Is alert to signs of stress in parents and struggles in the parent-child interaction.
12. Communicates regularly with parents concerning a child's progress.
13. Provides education including offering tips for specific challenges.
14. Provides opportunities for parents to become involved in their child's care.
15. Provides information about community resources.
16. Models developmentally appropriate practices by allowing the parent observational opportunities to see their child interact with child care staff.
17. Provides an atmosphere for parents to share their experiences and develop support systems.
18. Reaches out to mothers, fathers, grandparents and other extended family members that are involved in a child's development.

A report of child abuse is not an accusation. It is a request for more information by a reporter who has reasonable suspicion that abuse or neglect may be occurring. A report does not mean that our employees must determine that abuse and/or neglect has occurred. In Idaho, Child Protective Services is responsible for that determination.

* These strategies are part of our sexual abuse prevention plan.

W. Assessing Needs and Concerns for Children

Moscow Day School welcomes all children and is committed to providing developmentally appropriate early learning and development experiences that support the full access and participation of each and every child. We believe that each child is unique and will work in partnership with families and other professionals involved with the child to provide the support every child needs to reach their full potential.

Staff will attempt to make any adaptations or modifications necessary to meet the needs of the children. Schedules, routines and activities are flexible and early childhood educators will work with therapists, special educators as well as other professionals to integrate individual accommodations, modifications and strategies into classroom routines and activities. Any adaptations will be reviewed with families and other professionals supporting the child.

If the Director feels an outside evaluation is necessary to identify potential special needs, he or she will work with the family of the child. The Director will support the family through the process of potential

evaluation, diagnosis, and interventions. If possible, Moscow Day School staff will attempt to implement interventions and behavior plans put in place by the child's educational team. If it is determined Moscow Day School is unable to meet the needs of a particular student (including, but not limited to, extreme behavior challenges) and a different setting is more appropriate the Director will communicate that assessment directly with the family while maintaining full confidentiality and integrity of the child and family involved. If the parent(s) or guardian(s) refuse an outside evaluation or a medical professional's assessment and the Director has determined one is necessary for the safety and/or success of the child and other children at Moscow Day School, the family may be asked to find a different facility better equipped to serve the needs of the child.

X. Diapers- Infants, Toddlers, and Preschool

Children in diapers should have an adequate daily supply of disposable diapers and wipes at the center. We will send a note via Brightwheel when your supply is low. Please send the diapers or wipes in immediately. If your child has diaper rash or any other condition that requires the use of a medication, written permission is needed. We follow the guidelines from our Health Consultant while changing diapers. The center will work with the parents on potty training routines that they wish us to follow. Please inform the teacher when your child is in training. We will need at least three (3) extra sets of clothes, socks and shoes during potty training.

MDS Sick Child Policy

A daily check will be conducted by the staff members to ensure that all children are healthy when brought to school. Children exhibiting the following symptoms will be isolated until parents can pick them up.

1. Fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. (Temperatures are checked twice daily and recorded)
2. Vomiting within the past 24 hours.
3. Diarrhea within a 24-hour period.
4. Draining rash or any rash of concern.
5. Eye discharge or pink eye.
6. Fatigue or too sick to participate in daily activities (including outdoor play).
7. Symptoms of any of the childhood communicable diseases, including chicken pox, scarlet fever, or strep throat.
8. Open or oozing sores, which cannot be covered.
9. Lice or scabies
10. Symptoms of severe illness (lethargy- more than tiredness, uncontrolled coughing, strange irritability or persistent crying, difficulty breathing, wheezing and any other unusual signs for that child)
11. Any audible or visual forms of virus or illness (i.e. excessive coughing or runny nose)

A child must be free of these symptoms for 48 hours before returning to school. If antibiotics are ordered, a full 24 hours of treatment is needed before returning (except ear infections).

If school staff or the Director has concerns about a child’s ability to safely return to school, we reserve the right to request a note from the child’s health care provider.

IMPORTANT - If you bring your child knowing they had symptoms prior to the 48 hours or enter the facility while you or your child are sick, such actions will constitute a breach of contract and your child may be terminated from Moscow Day School immediately and indefinitely.

We understand these guidelines are strict, but the safety of the children, staff and school is our top priority while still trying to provide care for families in our community.

Policy on Celebrations at Moscow Day School

Moscow Day School serves a diverse array of families. Our cultural, ethnic, social and religious backgrounds reflect our diversity. We place differing values and expectations on the many holidays and events we celebrate at MDS. We believe these differences promote strength and provide opportunity to teach understanding, respect, tolerance, and true appreciation of the rich cultural heritage our children share.

Teaching our children about a sampling of cultural and religions enhance their education at Moscow Day School. As we celebrate our holidays and special events we will strive to emphasize both the cultural diversity and the community we share. We will respect and enjoy cultural traditions.

Teachers will choose from a variety of celebrations from year to year and will be given flexibility to design and interpret related events according to their professional judgment. They will provide parents with schedules of the celebrations they plan and will welcome parental input and participation. Whenever possible, celebrations will be integrated into the curriculum to maximize both education and enjoyment.

Sample Daily Classroom Schedule

7:30-8:30am	Arrival & Free Choice Play
8:30-9:00am	Recess
9:00am	School Starts, Circle Time
9:45-10:00am	Morning Snack
10:00-11:00am	Play Time, Center Time
11:30-12:10pm	Lunch
12:30-1:00pm	Recess (PreK only, all other rooms nap)

1:30-3:00pm	Centers (PreK only, all other rooms nap)
3:00-3:15pm	Afternoon Snack
3:30-5:30pm	Recess/Free Choice Play & Departure

The daily schedule is subject to change, based on weather and classroom needs.

**Moscow Day School's Traditional Activities
Throughout the School Year**

Month	Activities
August	Back to School Orientation
September	Latah County Fair Project & Fieldtrip
October	Professional Development Day Halloween Party Parent-Teacher Conferences
November	Thanksgiving Feast/Performance Thanksgiving Break - No School
December	Winter Holiday Party Winter Break - No School
January	Return to School Martin Luther King Day - No School
February	Valentine's Day Party President's Day - No School
March	Spring Break - No School
April	Parent-Teacher Conferences Bunny Party
May	Muffins with Mom

June	PreK Graduation and Dinner
July	Donuts with Dad