

Dear Nooksack Head Start Families,

As we begin enrollment for the Fall 20-21 school year we understand many parents, families and community members have questions about whether the Nooksack Head Start can safely offer in-person services and what that might look like. While our understanding of the Coronavirus has evolved since early spring, there are still many unknowns, and reopening schools and early learning programs involves detailed planning.

While we work with our healthcare partners, Head Start Policy Council, local School Districts, Office of Head Start and the Nooksack Tribe to determine the safest and best program options, I want to assure you we all share the same goals of providing high-quality early childhood education and family support services in the safest and most accessible way possible.

We are currently evaluating several options, including continuing virtual learning; a hybrid in-class & virtual model, or a phased approach based on the current Coronavirus rates in Whatcom County and Western Washington.

We want to thank all of the families who provided comments and feedback on our recent parent survey, and we plan to send another out soon. These surveys help us plan our program based on your needs and we thank you in advance for taking a few moments to share your thoughts when the next one arrives.

In the meantime, please help us work toward the goal of reopening by following health & safety guidelines for you and your family. Wear a cloth face covering when in public, wash your and your child's hands as recommended, and maintain social distancing when outside your family group. These steps can reduce the spread of Coronavirus and help all schools reach the goal of bringing children back to class.

Take care of yourselves, and each other,

Alicia Allard

Early Childhood Education Director
Nooksack Indian Tribe