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Dear Children's Center families:

The University of Maine Children's Center programs will take a 72-hour pause in its operations from Nov. 10 and Nov. 12; Nov. 11 is a holiday.

As indicated in our regular communications with the Children's Center community during this pandemic, the programs would close if staff become symptomatic. As per DHHS licensing, we follow the guidelines regarding illness in group child care settings, which includes guidance from the <u>federal</u> and <u>state</u> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

To be clear, at this time, none of the Children's Center staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. The pause in operations follows health and safety guidelines indicated above and are taken out of an abundance of caution. The time will be used to deep clean the facilities and have them ready with the children return to their programs.

We apologize for the inconvenience, but know that the health and safety of the children in our care, the staff who care for them and our community of Children's Center families are our utmost priority.

With the uptick in COVID cases nationwide and in Maine, we ask all to remain vigilant and adhere to health and safety guidance, including wearing face coverings, social distancing and maintaining good hand hygiene.

We will provide any updates as they become available.