



ABC of NC

March 16, 2020

Amidst the latest COVID-19 (coronavirus) developments, we hope everyone is taking precautions to stay healthy and safe. The ABC of NC team has devoted the scheduled workday to cleaning, sanitizing, and planning to best serve our clients and families.

During the next 2-4 weeks while we learn more about the coronavirus/COVID19 virus and work our way through this pandemic, we will do our best to keep our clients and staff as safe and healthy as possible.

The below changes will take place immediately:

Travel and Sick Policies:

1. If a client, member of a client household, or any employee has had any known exposure to a confirmed or presumed case, this needs to be reported to Stephanie Holladay immediately Stephanie.Holladay@abcofnc.org or 678-524-2937, and they cannot be on campus for 14 days (minimum).
2. If any client, member of a client household, employee, or member of an employee household has been to a level 3 country, as defined by the CDC, in the last 14 days, they will not be permitted to receive or deliver services until they have completed a 14-day self-quarantine. Please report your travel dates and any symptoms to Stephanie Holladay immediately. Stephanie.Holladay@abcofnc.org or 678-524-2937.
3. Families and employees are required to report to us if they have traveled by air and cannot be on campus for 14 days (minimum).
4. If your child or a member of your household has traveled out-of-state by car, contact Stephanie Holladay to share the location. Stephanie.Holladay@abcofnc.org or 678-524-2937. Stephanie will review current statistics from CDC to decide about service provision.
5. ABC of NC is heightening the sick policy for clients. If a client is displaying **ANY** of the following symptoms: cough, fever, sore throat, or shortness of breath, they will not be able to receive services until they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours.
6. We are implementing more stringent sick policies for staff.
7. The SECU Clinic will be open and operating with modifications to ABA services that respect social distancing recommendations. Beginning Tuesday, March 17, we are asking all parents/caregivers to remain in their cars during drop-off procedures. RBTs will approach each vehicle and ask parents/caregivers a series of questions about their child's health, the health of members that reside in the household of the client, and recent travel. Beginning Thursday, March 19, we will also add a temporal thermometer to check each child for fever before they are allowed in the building.

8. Clinic (non-ABA clients) should check-in at the reception desk after following proper handwashing/sanitizing procedures upon entry. Parents/caregivers can wait in the main clinic lobby or the clinic waiting room while their child receives services. They should maintain the recommended 6-foot social distance while waiting.
9. All other visitors are not allowed in the building; this includes ABA parents and caregivers not actively involved in a team meeting.

While your child is receiving ABA clinical services at ABC of NC, we are taking the following measures to help keep your child healthy:

1. We have increased cleaning and sanitation measures, to include round-the-clock sanitation of common areas and a deep clean at the end of each day.
2. Social distancing measures have been implemented to ensure that no more than ten people are in a space at one time and that clients are at least 6 feet apart. Restrictions are also being placed on shared equipment and service delivery materials.
3. We are adjusting client goals to remove field trips, cooking, Dewey's Café, dentist, or nonessential hygiene goals.
4. All client sessions will include hygiene guidelines/checklists.
5. There will be an addition of hand sanitizer stations in high traffic areas across campus.

This is an unprecedented situation, and your child's health and progress is the top priority for ABC of NC. The executive team is exploring other potential service delivery options, like Telehealth, temporary in-home ABA sessions (with added restrictions that will limit the possible spread of the virus), and modified school services if there are prolonged school closures.

Your input and feedback is important to us! A member of the ABC of NC team will be reaching out to all families to discuss potential options and to learn what would make your child and family feel the most comfortable during this time.

We thank you for your patience and understanding during this critical time. Although COVID-19 represents a challenge, ABC of NC is approaching the threat proactively and diligently. Your child and our staff's health is important to us. We will continue to keep you updated via email, on our website, and through social media.

Thank you, and be well.