



MAY 11, 2020

Re: Relaxing Code Yellow Policy

Dear parents and colleagues,

For the previous two months, Autism ETC has been operating within our Code Yellow policy. Our clinics have operated at roughly half capacity with increased sanitation and social distancing measures to combat the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus). Beginning May 18, we will begin to relax Code Yellow Policies we implemented on March 23rd. Today, we want to explain the reasoning behind this decision and explain the policies we will keep to ensure the safety of all in our care.

We know first hand the significant social and communication challenges faced by a child with autism. For that reason, we have designed our therapy programs to include opportunities for social and play interaction with other children. We have suspended these programs for weeks in response to the pandemic, and our clients are not receiving the benefit of this important time. Our therapy program is most effective when all components work together for the child's improvement.

Because the rate of new infections is decreasing and curve appears to be "flattening" in Tennessee, we will reinstitute our social programs beginning May 18th. We will work to return to full client capacity. We recognize that the hazard posed by the transmission of the virus has not diminished. For that reason, **we will limit all group activities to no more than fifteen people (clients plus staff), and we will maintain maximum possible social distancing while in our clinics.**

In addition, Autism ETC will adopt its "New Normal" Policy. Enhanced cleanliness and sanitary measures will remain part of our routine indefinitely. We will encourage all persons to wash hands and maintain hygiene upon entering the clinic. Social distancing and health best-practices will become an integral part of our daily routine. Our hyper-vigilance and sensitivity to the health of our clients and staff will remain our primary focus.

Thank you for your continued patience and confidence as we face the COVID-19 challenge together. If you have any questions about our policies going forward, please contact us directly. As always, we wish you health and safety.

Sincerely,

Autism ETC Clinical Management Team

