

The Growing Place Preschool **Food Safety and Nutrition Policy**

The Growing Place Preschool does not provide meals for any of the children in the program. However, children will have a snack time with their class every day. We ask that you send in a healthy snack and water bottle labeled with your child's name. Some examples of healthy snacks include fruit, granola, yogurt, pretzels, etc. Your child's teacher will inform you of any allergies in the classroom.

Fresh fruits and vegetables served to the entire class need to be washed and cut in our kitchen only. A refrigerator is available in our kitchen for all perishable snack items being served. All classrooms have a cooler bag with ice packs as well. All perishable items will be kept in the refrigerator until snack time and returned as soon as snack is over.

Occasionally VPK and 3 year old classrooms do cooking activities to extend their curriculum. Safety precautions will be as follows: Children will not be near the stove/oven or be allowed near knives. All staff, parents and children will wash hands before and after cooking. Food gloves must be used when touching any of the food – including snack distribution. The items cooked must not be higher than 110 degrees F when served to the children.

Foods that are choking hazards to children under the age of 4 will not be served. This will include items such as: hot dogs, popcorn, whole grapes, nuts, chips and other foods that would be able to get stuck in a child's windpipe/trachea.

Every child enrolled will have a Food Experience permission form, signed annually, that is located in the child's file for the school year.

Parent name (signed) _____

Child's name (printed) _____

Date _____