

# St. Thomas More School Educare Pesticide Policy

## Policy Statement

This school program is committed to providing children in its care with a safe environment. It seeks to prevent children from being exposed to pests and pesticides. While pesticides protect children and property from pests such as insects, weeds, and rodents that may be found in the facility and its surrounding grounds, under some circumstances they may pose a hazard to children and staff. To minimize potential pesticide exposure to children and staff, pest control practices in this facility will include a variety of non-chemical and chemical methods.

## Commitments

This policy covers the areas used by the school Educare program. This facility will:

1. Designate a contact person to answer questions from parents and staff about this policy and to coordinate implementation of this policy.
2. Provide written notification annually and upon enrollment to families of children and to employees describing the program's pest control. A copy of the policy is available upon request and is in a folder at the sign-in table at the PAL Center.
3. Ensure that certified pesticide applicators or registered technicians will apply pesticides used at this facility.
4. Ensure that pesticides will not be applied when children are present at the facility.
5. In the event of an emergency, where pests pose an immediate health threat to children and staff and pesticides are applied, ensure that children will not return to the treated area within two hours of a pesticide application or as specified on the pesticide label, whichever time is greater.
6. Provide at least 48 hours notice of pesticide application to parents and staff, except in emergencies where pests pose an immediate health threat to children or staff. This pre-notification **does not** apply if an indoor application is made when children or staff do not occupy the center for at least two consecutive days after the application (i.e. Friday evenings).
7. Notify parents and staff as soon as possible when advance notice is not provided and include an explanation of the emergency, the reason for the late notice and the name of the pesticide applied.
8. Notify parents of a landscape pesticide application at least 48 hours before the application by posting a notice near the sign-in area. The notification will include the product name, the intended date and time of application, the location, the name of the pest to be controlled, and a contact person with a phone number.
9. Notification signs for applications will be placed in a prominent place where the area is to be treated and in the sign-in area. The signs shall be a minimum of four inches by five inches and shall include the words: "This landscape has been recently sprayed or treated with pesticides near the Educare area". For more information please call \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_. The sign will be printed in colors contrasting to the background. The sign will be left for at least 24 hours following the application or longer if a longer restricted period is stated on the label.
10. We shall keep records of all pesticide application to the facilities and landscapes, including a list of active ingredients, copies of postings, and letters. These records will be accessible to interested persons when they contact the director.

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