

COVID-19 Policies & Procedures for the 21-22 Academic Year

To address the increase of COVID-19 cases in the summer of 2021, Seeds of Life Montessori Academy (SOL), has implemented the following policies and procedures for the 21-22 academic year. These policies and procedure may change, hopefully for the better, as the school year progresses.

Until further notice, policies and procedures outlined in this document will supersede any corresponding policies from the Parent Handbook.

SOL Care (Clean & Safe)

SOL takes extraordinary measures to not only clean and sanitize the environment that our kiddos experience, but also to monitor and control many other factors that contribute to a safe and healthy environment.

COVID 19 & Decontamination

UVC Sterilization:

SOL utilizes UVC sterilization lights in the classrooms and other areas throughout our facility daily. These lights utilize UVC which has been proven effective at killing coronavirus as well as other undesirables in both the air and on surfaces. Not only do these lights actively kill Coronavirus and other viruses and bacteria, but they do so without exposing our kiddos to the repeated use of harsh chemicals or irritants.

UVC sterilization is used in the following ways:

- 1) Mobile UVC sterilizers are utilized after each school day in each classroom. These mobile devices sterilize both the air and surfaces in the classroom
- 2) Room based UVC air cleaners are utilized in each classroom throughout the day. These devices constantly scrub the classroom air with both HEPA and UVC technology.
- 3) UVC technology has been installed into the Air Conditioning system and is sterilizing the air throughout the days as the Air Conditioning systems run.
- 4) Hand Sanitizing Stations: SOL has hand sanitizing stations throughout the school and at the entrance to each classroom.

Surface Cleaners:

SOL has adopted a policy to use only surface cleaners listed on the EPA's List N that have been rated to kill COVID-19 on Hard/Nonporous surfaces in 30 seconds or less of contact time.

Mask Policy

SOL recognizes the sensitive and extremely emotionally charged nature of masking and the risks and benefits of any policy that requires the wearing of masks. SOL knows and understands that families in

our community have strong feeling on both sides of the issue. One of the greatest aspects of SOL is the diversity of our student and family population. Given that there are both benefits and risks associated with masking in an academic environment, and to best meet the needs of our diverse population, it is the policy of SOL that each family should have the choice to weigh the benefits vs risks and ability to determine the needs of their own children and family with regards to the daily wearing of a mask at school.

SOL will make available child size KN95 masks for those families that wish to use them.

Masking Policy / Recommendations:

Nido (Toddler) Room: Masking is optional except when in “Sick Policy” protocol.

Casa (3-5yrs) Room: Masking is optional except when in “Sick Policy” protocol.

Elementary (6yrs -12yrs): Masking is HIGHLY recommended but not required, except when in “Sick Policy” protocol.

Sick Policy

Symptoms at Home:

- If your child shows sign of illness, including but not limited to cough, fever, headache, diarrhea or vomiting, please DO NOT bring your child to school.
- SOL requires that a child be symptom free without the use of fever reducing medication for a minimum of 24 hours prior to returning to school.
- If someone in your house does test positive for COVID-19, please notify the school for contact tracing purposes.

*Refer to CDC Parent “Poster” in your orientation packet.

Symptoms at School:

- Students will be constantly observed for signs of illness throughout the day.
- If illness is suspected, and the student’s temperature exceeds 99.4 degrees, Parents will be contacted to pick up their child within 30 minutes.
- SOL staff will accompany the child to an isolation room and will remain with the child to monitor.
- SOL requires that the child be symptom free for a minimum of 48 hours before they can return to school.

- If your child tests positive for COVID-19, please notify the school for contact tracing purposes.

*Refer to CDC Parent “Poster” in your orientation packet.

Student or Teacher with Direct or Indirect Exposure but Remains Asymptomatic:

- Student or Teacher with exposure will be asked to wear a mask until:
 - A minimum of 10 calendar days without symptoms or
 - A negative COVID-19 test result is presented.

Student or Teacher Tests Positive COVID-19:

- Families from all classes are notified
- Student or Teacher with positive test is quarantined until negative test or note from physician
- Administration contact traces to determine if:
 - additional individuals will require quarantine
 - the class needs to be fully masked for 2-5 days or the class needs to be closed and shift to distance learning for 2-5 days.
 - Class activities require further modification.
- Classroom is deep cleaned and disinfected

Modified School Day Policies

Arrival & Departure:

Parent MailBox: There is a white parent mail box located at the beginning of the drop off / pick up loop. In order to speed the drop off and pick up process, please utilize this mailbox to pass or deliver any documents, forms or items that you might need to share with your student’s teacher or administration. The mailbox will be checked daily.

Parents are asked NOT to leave your vehicle during drop off and pick up. During drop off, SOL staff will meet your student(s) in the car line and assist them from the car and inside the building. During pickup, SOL staff will accompany your student(s) to your vehicle and assist them into their seats if needed.

Student temperatures will be checked each morning prior to the start of class

Sharing Basket / Snacks:

SOL strives to continue this valuable component of the Montessori environment, therefore SOL asks that families, for the weeks they have chosen to provide snacks, provide individual prepacked portions of food.

Lunch:

When possible and reasonable, lunch will be taken outdoors in one of SOL's shaded areas.

Birthdays & Celebrations:

SOL believes that birthday and celebrations are important and strives to continue these activities with the following precautions:

- 1) Parents may attend the event
 - a. The event will be held outdoors weather permitting
 - b. If the event is indoors, parents will be required to wear a mask.
- 2) If any food or snacks are provided, individual prepacked portions are required.

Classroom Observation/Visits:

Parents may observe the class with the following conditions:

- 1) ONLY when the visit has been previously scheduled and approved by administration.
- 2) Visitor is fully masked
- 3) Visitor will not be permitted to enter the room, only observe from a designated observation point in the hall and through the glass windows.

Extended Day Programs:

- Formal extended day "Clubs" have been temporarily suspended.
- Extended Day services will remain available for families who have preselected the option during enrollment.
- Daily "Drop-Ins" are temporarily suspended.

Other Afterschool Activities & Events:

SOL seeks to continue to enrich our children at every opportunity. Afterschool activities and events will be scheduled outdoors when possible and addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Behavior Policy

The following guidelines are expected from our students while the COVID-19 Policies and Procedures are in place:

- For families who have chosen to utilize masks while inside, students must always keep their masks on when inside the building, except to eat or drink.
- When one or more protocols identified in the “Sick Policy” are enacted, all students in such class must always keep their masks on when inside the building, except to eat or drink.
- Wash and/or use hand sanitization stations at every opportunity, specifically when entering or exiting the classrooms.
- Inform staff if they are not feeling well.

SOL maintains the discretion to send any child home that does not comply with any of the above guidelines.

My Child is Showing Signs of COVID-19 at Child Care: What Do I Do?

Quick Guide for Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers

If your child is sick or shows signs of illness, do NOT send them to child care.
If your child begins to have symptoms while in child care, follow these instructions:

1. PICK UP YOUR CHILD



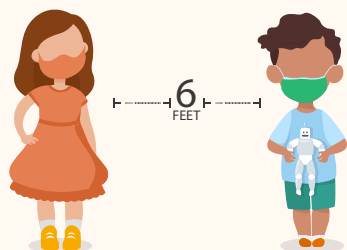
- If possible, pick up your child alone.
- If possible, wait in the car for your child to be brought to you.
- Everyone in the car should wear a mask except for children under 2 years old.
- Open the car windows for ventilation.
- If possible, wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting your car. This will allow more time for the amount of virus in the air of your car to die off.
- If you are unable to pick up your child, work with your child care program to identify the best way to safely transport your child.
- Arrange to pick up any of your child's medical supplies (if applicable).

2. KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME AND MONITOR THEIR SYMPTOMS



- Call your child's healthcare provider to discuss your child's symptoms and find out if a COVID-19 test is needed.
- If possible, have the sick child (and anyone else who has symptoms) keep away from others and use a separate bathroom.
- Make sure everyone that you and the sick child live with who is 2 years and older wears a mask covering their mouths and noses whenever they are with others. It is especially important that anyone with symptoms or caring for anyone with symptoms wears a mask.
- After being in contact with someone with COVID-19, it can take up to 14 days to know if you are sick. People who live with you and the sick child should stay home and avoid contact with others (unless advised by a healthcare provider to leave home to seek medical care).
- Encourage everyone who lives with you and the sick child to wash their hands often and avoid sharing personal household items with others (e.g., dishes, cups, towels, bedding).
- Use an effective household disinfectant to clean "high-touch" surfaces and everyday items such as door handles, countertops, and faucets.

3. IF YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR OR IS SUSPECTED OF HAVING COVID-19:



- **Notify the child care program.**
- **Your child can return to child care only when all the following conditions are met:**
 - It has been at least 10 days since symptoms started **and**
 - Overall symptoms have improved **and**
 - Your child has had no fever for at least 24 hours without using fever reducing medication.