

Healthy and Safety Precautions for Our School's Limited Reopening

Due to state regulations and the CDC, currently we are only able to accept 9 primary and elementary children per classroom and 8 toddlers per classroom.

The health and safety of the children, staff and families in our school is of the utmost importance to us. In slowly opening our classrooms we understand that there must be specific precautions in place. Outlined below are the safety measures that will be implemented as we begin to accept students back in the building.

Prior to Opening - All classrooms have been cleaned and sanitized during the closure period. A cleaning crew will be brought in to wipe down and disinfect with special attention to high traffic/touch areas.

Protective Equipment and Coverings

- All staff will be required to wear disposable masks and disposable masks will be available for all students above age two. We have ordered an abundance of disposable masks, so a new mask will be used every day by staff. There will be no reusing of masks from one day to the next.
- Everyone entering the school, staff & children, will be given disposable shoe covers for the day.
- Staff in the toddler room and those checking in and out students will also wear gloves and gowns while working.
- An abundance of cleaning/disinfecting supplies will be on hand for on-going cleaning.
- An abundance of gloves will be on hand for on-going use.

Social Distancing Strategies

- Classes will include the same group each day, and the same staff member(s) will remain with the group each day. A separate classroom will be created for the children of healthcare workers and other first responders.
- Each group of children will be kept in separate rooms.
- Children will not mix and playground times will be staggered.
- Children's nap-time mats will be placed 6 feet apart and placed head to toe.
- Outside visitors will not be permitted into the school.

Parent Drop-Off and Pick-Up

- Drop off and pick up will take place outside the facility to receive children as they arrive and to deliver children to parents at departure. A carpool system with curbside drop off and pick up will be used so parents can stay in their cars.
- Hand hygiene stations will be set up at the entrance of the school, so that children can clean their hands before they enter the classrooms.

- A staff member will sign in/out each child at drop off and pick up to limit contact with the tablets.
- If outside designated pick up times, parents may call ahead to let us know when they will be picking up so we can meet them at their car.
- We ask parents that the same parent or designated person drop off and pick up the child every day. Older people such as grandparents or those with serious underlying medical conditions should not pick up children.

Screening Children Upon Arrival

- Upon arrival staff will make a visual inspection of the child for signs of illness, which could include flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue, or extreme fussiness.
- Following a visual inspection they will conduct temperature screening following these steps -
 - Use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol to sanitize their hands.
 - Put on disposable gloves.
 - Wear a mask
 - Check the child's temperature, reaching through the window.
 - Non-contact (temporal) thermometers will be used and cleaned with an alcohol wipe between each child.
 - Persons who have a fever or other signs of illness will not be admitted to the facility.
- Once a child is checked they will be directed to the hand sanitizing station and then taken to class

Clean and Sanitize Classroom Materials

- Classroom Materials that cannot be cleaned and sanitized will not be used.
- Classroom Materials that children have placed in their mouths or that are otherwise contaminated by body secretions or excretions will be set aside until they are cleaned by hand by a person wearing gloves. They will be cleaned with water and detergent, rinse, sanitize with an EPA-registered disinfectant, rinse again, and air-dry.
- Classes will not share Classroom Materials with other groups unless they are washed and sanitized before being moved from one group to the other.
- Use bedding will be washed daily and mats are labeled for each child.

Caring for Toddlers

Diapering

- Staff will wash their hands and the child's hands
- Put on gloves
- Clean the child
- Remove trash (soiled diaper and wipes)
- Replace diaper

- Wash child's hands
- Clean up diapering station – disinfecting and sanitizing
- Wash hands

Caring for Toddler Needs

It is important to comfort crying, sad, and/or anxious toddlers. Staff will protect themselves by wearing a gown and by wearing long hair up off the collar in a ponytail or other updo.

- Staff will wash their hands and anywhere touched by a child's secretions.
- Staff will change the child's clothes if secretions are on the child's clothes. They will change gowns if there are secretions on it, and wash their hands again.
- Contaminated clothes will be placed in a plastic bag or washed in a washing machine.
- Toddler parents should send multiple changes of clothes.

Healthy Hand Hygiene Behavior

- All children and staff will engage in hand hygiene at the following times:
 - Arrival to the facility and after breaks
 - Before and after preparing food or drinks and eating or handling food
 - Before and after administering medication or medical ointment
 - Before and after diapering
 - After using the toilet or helping a child use the bathroom
 - After coming in contact with bodily fluid
 - After playing outdoors
 - After handling garbage
- Staff will wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If hands are not visibly dirty, alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol will be used if soap and water are not readily available.
- Children will be supervised when they use hand sanitizer to prevent ingestion.

Food Preparation and Meal Service

- Montessori School at Emory will not be providing meals during this initial opening of the school due current regulations
- Parents are asked to send lunch with their child each day.

Vulnerable/High Risk Groups

- Staff members or teachers age 65 or older, or with serious underlying health conditions or caring for a family member that is 65 or over will not be working on site.
- Information about [COVID-19 in](#) children is somewhat limited, but the information that is available suggests that many children have mild symptoms. However, a small percentage of children have been reported to have more severe illness. If you have children with underlying health conditions, talk to their parents about their risk. Follow children's care plans for underlying health conditions such as an [asthma action plan](#).