



## The Montessori School *of* Raleigh

### Re-Entry Plan Updates | April 7, 2021

The school continues to consult the The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) for COVID-19 related policies and will continue to make decisions based on scientific data related to mitigating the risk of transmitting COVID-19.

Any changes to the former policy have been highlighted in blue.

#### **On-Campus Mitigation Efforts**

The school continues to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 through the following:

- All students and adults on campus (sans students in Toddler classrooms) are required to wear a mask at all times, unless eating or napping
- Though not required, double masking is an additional way for **adults** to mitigate risk
- Classroom cohort model
- Daily temperature checks (see below for details)
- Deep cleaning classrooms with Clorox Total 360 machines
- Handwashing and hygiene
- Ionization filtration system in all rooms on campus
- Limiting visitors on campus
- **Physical distancing and campus maps supporting one-way walkways**
- **Increased use of outdoor spaces**

#### **Daily Temperature Checks**

All student temperatures are taken daily upon arrival to campus. Lead Mine students will have their temperature taken at the classroom door each morning. Brier Creek students will have their temperature taken in the parking lot.

Any student who has a thermometer reading of 100.4 or greater will be asked to visit the nurse's station on Lead Mine Campus or the Brier Creek Campus main office to have their temperature taken with a second device. If the reading remains 100.4 or higher, the family (including siblings) will be asked to go home. If a reading is elevated, but under 100.4 and the student looks unwell, the child will be sent home.

The school encourages families to take their children's temperatures at home before arriving to campus to limit high temperature readings at school.

#### **Late Arrivals & Early Pick-Ups**

If a student is dropped off after the time noted below, the parent should first check in with the

main office. The school nurse or front desk coordinator will check the student's temperature and provide a late slip clearing the student to go to class.

Drop off windows for each level are:

Toddler 8:45 - 9:00 a.m.

Children's House 8:30 - 8:45 a.m.

Lower Elementary 8:15 - 8:30 a.m.

Upper Elementary 8:00 - 8:15 a.m.

Brier Creek Campus 7:45 - 8:00 a.m.

If a student is being picked up outside the regular pick-up schedule, the parent should call the main office upon arrival on campus and the front desk coordinator will arrange for the child to meet the parent in the parking lot.

### **Contacting the School Regarding Illness**

Parents should always report any illness-related absences and questions to [nurse@msr.org](mailto:nurse@msr.org) or to the school nurse cell phone at 919-909-1664.

### **Definition of a Fever**

A fever is defined as anything 100.4 degrees or greater.

### **Illness Policy**

Any student or employee who is out due to a clearly-defined general illness unrelated to COVID-19 must be symptom free for 24 hours, and have a physician's clearance (in the form of a doctor's note) or a negative, standard PCR COVID-19 test before returning to campus.

Example: Strep throat.

If symptoms present that could be COVID-19 related and a standard PCR COVID-19 test was NOT completed, a mandatory 10-day isolation and 24 hours symptom free is required.

If a household member or care provider is sick with a general illness, all members of the household should remain home until a COVID-19 test result of negative is confirmed.

If a student or household member has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 and the individual is waiting on their test results, all members of the household should remain home.

### **Chronic Illness Policy**

Chronic illness will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Students with allergies or other chronic conditions need a doctor's note on file before they are eligible to be exempt from the 24-hour symptom-free policy. Any time a student exhibits symptoms related to a chronic illness or condition, the parent should contact the school nurse to ensure the student is cleared to be on campus.

### **Sibling & School Employee Policy**

The school requires all siblings and MSR employees of a sick student to be off campus. Siblings may be provided clearance to return early on a case-by-case basis by the school nurse.

Siblings and MSR employees of students in a quarantined cohort group will be quarantined for 14 days and will shift to Blended Learning. These siblings and MSR employees may return as early as day 8 of quarantine, provided the sibling and MSR employee exposed to COVID-19 tests negative on day 7 or later after the last known exposure. Fully vaccinated individuals in the sibling or MSR employee category will not be required to quarantine, assuming they are not exhibiting any symptoms.

### **Testing Guidelines**

The school will only accept results from PCR COVID-19 tests. Rapid COVID-19 tests will not be accepted. For more information regarding testing sites in our area, please reach out to the school nurse at nurse@msr.org. The best time to test for COVID-19 is 5 - 7 days after last known exposure.

### **Exposure Policy**

Exposure is defined as:

- Close contact of 15 or more minutes within 6 feet over a 24-hour period to a person who has tested positive or presumed positive for COVID-19.
- You provided care for someone who tested positive or is presumed positive for COVID-19.
- You had direct physical contact with someone who tests positive or is presumed positive for COVID-19.

### **Quarantine Policy**

- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate for a minimum of 10 days from the time symptoms started, and must be fever free for a minimum of 24 hours and symptoms must be waning before returning to campus.
- If a person has symptoms of COVID-19 but has not tested for COVID-19 nor has visited a health care provider that person will be presumed positive and must isolate for a minimum of 10 days from the time the symptoms appear.
- Unvaccinated individuals with exposure to someone who tests positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for 14 days, regardless of a negative test result. Fully vaccinated\* individuals are not required to quarantine following an exposure to someone who tests positive for COVID-19, unless they are experiencing symptoms.
- Individuals in the same household as a person who tests positive or is presumed positive for COVID-19 that are unable to self isolate are required to quarantine for 24 days from the date the family member's positive COVID-19 test or when symptoms began (if symptomatic) before returning to campus.
- Siblings and MSR employees in a quarantined cohort group will be quarantined for 14 days and will shift to Blended Learning. These siblings and MSR employees may return earlier than 14 days, provided the sibling and MSR employee exposed to COVID-19

tests negative 7 or more days after the last known exposure, or they are fully vaccinated\*.

- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and have recovered do not need to quarantine or get tested again as long as they do not develop new symptoms. The school requires the positive test result on file before providing clearance for this situation.

### **Non-Campus Related Sports**

If a student participates in sports that are not school-related, the school strongly recommends regular, weekly COVID-19 testing.

### **North Carolina Mandates**

Students, faculty, and staff are required to abide by all North Carolina state mandates related to COVID-19.

### **Gathering Policy**

If one or more unvaccinated family members have been present at a gathering with unvaccinated individuals from other households, the school strongly recommends the unvaccinated family member(s) test 5 - 7 days after the last day of a gathering. In addition, the school strongly recommends the unvaccinated family members quarantine for a minimum of 7 days, and extend their quarantine to 10 days if testing is not completed.

Interactions with others, whether through travel or social activities, increases the risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19. If you are gathering with people outside your immediate household, or are traveling, the school strongly recommends that families:

- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Follow local, state, federal, international guidelines related to COVID-19 and travel.
- Have less than 15 minutes of close contact with non-household individuals.
- Limit the size of gatherings and be outdoors.
- Physically distance 6 feet or more.
- Wash your hands and avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Wear a mask when around anyone who does not live in your household.

Vaccinated individuals can visit with other fully-vaccinated individuals indoors without wearing masks or social distancing. Vaccinated individuals can visit with an unvaccinated family cohort from a single household indoors without masks or distancing as long as there are no high-risk individuals present. If there are unvaccinated children present from both households, the children need to mask and distance. Children that are unable to be vaccinated will need to continue to mask and distance until a vaccine is available to them.

### **Vaccination Policy\***

Once an individual has received two shots (Moderna or Pfizer) or one shot (Johnson & Johnson) and a two-week period has passed, they are considered **fully vaccinated**. Fully vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine if exposed to someone with COVID-19 as long

as the vaccinated individual does not have any symptoms. While on campus, vaccinated individuals should continue to distance and mask, as children and some adults have not been vaccinated.