



New Morning Nursery School Health Policy

In general, if your child isn't feeling well, with any condition that would preclude fully participating and enjoying our program, keep them home. Do not give your child fever reducing medicine or any other cold/cough medicine and then send them to school. **Remember, the best defense against illness is thorough and frequent hand washing, teaching your child to cough into their elbow, and staying home when sick.** Conscientious adherence to these guidelines will help maintain a healthy environment in our classrooms for our children, our teachers, and our families.

If your child becomes ill at school our teachers are required to exclude ill children from the rest of the group. When called, you must come at once to pick your child up. If a parent cannot be reached or if a parent does not arrive in a reasonable amount of time, the people listed as emergency contacts will be called. **You must list local emergency contacts on your enrollment form and the emergency cards.**

Whenever your child will be absent from school please send an email or leave a message on the office voicemail. Please include when your child became ill and what the symptoms are and when they began.

Vaccinations, Masking and Daily Wellness Assessment

Vaccinations

Staying up to date on all recommended childhood vaccinations, including influenza and Covid-19, is an important way to help prevent the spread of diseases and the severity of illness in our school population.

Masking

Wearing a high quality, well fitting mask is a good tool to prevent the spread of illness. Our mask requirements are based on the level of community spread in Dane County.

- Masks indoors will be optional unless the level of community spread is HIGH, or a county order is in place. NM staff members will be supportive of each family's masking preference. Find the current level here: [/https://publichealthmdc.com/coronavirus](https://publichealthmdc.com/coronavirus)
- Notification of community level will be posted at the Gilmore door entrance and toddler playground door.
- There may be times when masks are required, even though the community spread is low or medium. For example: If there is a positive case in a class, students and staff in the class will wear a mask for a specified period of time. If a student or staff member is a close contact, they will be required to wear a mask for a period of time.
- Masking outdoors will be optional unless a county order requires masks outside.

Daily Wellness Assessment

Caregivers are responsible for screening students for symptoms daily, including temperature, prior to arrival. If the answer to any one of these questions is yes your child must stay home:

- Does my child have a temperature of 100 degrees or higher today?
- Has my child taken any fever, cold, or cough reducing medications in the past 24 hours?
- Has my child had any of the below symptoms in the past 24 hours?

Symptoms

- Fever of 100° F or above
- Persistent Cough
- Sore Throat
- Nausea/ diarrhea/ vomiting
- Rash
- Excessive runny nose combined with congestion

Symptoms which are considered consistent with COVID-19 require testing:

Any one of:

- Fever of 100.4 F or above
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Cough
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Or Any combination of two or more of:

- Excessive congestion or runny nose
- Chills
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches

Testing: For all required testing situations, we will allow either a rapid antigen test or a PCR.

If any one of the main Covid-19 symptoms or two or more other symptoms are present:

- Requires a negative test result and no symptoms for 24 hours before returning to school.
- If no test is performed, the child must quarantine for days 0-5 and wear a mask for days 6-10.

If any person within the household or classroom tests positive for Covid-19:

- Students or staff members may come to the classroom if asymptomatic. They will be required to wear a mask for 10 days and have a negative test result on day 5 and remain asymptomatic.

Covid-19 Positive Cases, Exposures and Isolation

Positive Case

- If there is a positive case within a classroom and the case was present while contagious, the families in that room will be notified of the exposure.
- Any positive Covid-19 case must isolate for at least 5 days from the onset of symptoms or positive test. The student or staff member may return on day 6 assuming symptoms have resolved; they must wear a mask through day 10.

Exposures

- If a student or staff member tests positive and is considered contagious while attending school, all other members of the room may attend school if asymptomatic, but will be required to test on day 5 and wear a mask for 10 days from the date of exposure.
- A staff member or student who is identified as a close contact of a case outside of school, may attend school so long as they are asymptomatic and wear a mask for 10 days. They must be tested on day 5 following the date of exposure.

Notification of Illness and Return to School Guidelines

If your child is diagnosed with any of these illnesses or any other contagious condition, you must notify the office. A confidential notice will be posted to inform other families of possible exposure. Your child may return to school, if well enough and the following conditions are met.

- **Covid-19** - refer to positive case above
- **Conjunctivitis “pink-eye”** - 24 hours after first dose of antibiotic, or when there is no longer discharge
- **Hand, foot and mouth** - lesions are dry and other symptoms have been gone for 24 hours
- **Impetigo** - 24 hours after first dose of antibiotic and no other symptoms are present
- **Rash/Fifth’s Disease** - when rash has been diagnosed and no other symptoms are present
- **Lice** - after receiving a medicated lice treatment (not homeopathic) and thorough nit removal
- **Strep** - 24 hours after first dose of medication and symptom free
- **Intestinal parasites/bacteria** - child has had one meal and one stool and no symptoms for 24 hours

Safety Protocols,

We will continue to maintain our health and safety protections. All protocols are part of our standard operating procedures and are licensing requirements for child care.

- **Ventilation** - The classroom heating vents exchange fresh air daily in all seasons, the building has built in roof vents, and all classrooms have huge windows we can open to provide fresh air. As backup, each room also has a commercial grade HEPA air purifier.
- **Health and Hygiene** – It is a licensing requirement that teachers encourage and assist children with hand washing many times during the day. We also teach them how to cover a cough or a sneeze. Teachers are instructed to monitor their students for symptoms and call a parent to pick up their sick child.
- **Cleaning and disinfecting** – We have daily cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting routines in place as required by licensing. We follow the guidelines recommended by the CDC for cleaning and disinfecting our facility, both indoor and outdoor.
- **Cohorting**– We have traditionally kept our classes in cohorts, different class groups remain together for the entire class day.