

# 2022-2023 HPP COVID-19 Policies and Mitigation Procedures

These are subject to change depending on public health guidelines and severity of viral transmission and illness in our community.

**Students may not come to school if they have COVID symptoms. These may include, but are not limited to, fever, sore throat, cough, runny nose, vomiting, and diarrhea. If a child shows an of these symptoms at school and they are new or unexplained, we will call parents to pick them up. If possible, test for COVID-19 at home or at a doctor's office. The preschool can provide you with home tests at no cost.**

- If test is positive: student needs to stay out for at least 5 days. From Day 6-10, if the student has no fever and significantly improved symptoms **and** they show a negative COVID test result, they may return. If you choose not to administer a test after Day 5 or the test is still positive, student must stay out the full 10 days and can return on Day 11 as long as there is no fever and improved symptoms.
- If test is negative but symptoms still manifest, child should continue to stay out until symptoms are gone. Another home test is recommended 48 hours after the first one as false negatives are common early on. If a doctor diagnoses another illness or reason for symptoms (i.e. allergies, ear infection, strep, etc.) and provides a return-to-school note, child may return to school earlier.

In alignment with CDC and VDH guidelines, we will no longer require a quarantine if there is an exposure and the **child is asymptomatic**. Families may choose to take a more cautious route and keep their child home. Either way, we do ask that you are especially vigilant about symptoms if you know that your child has been exposed either at home or at school. This is particularly important if the exposure is to a household member and is on-going (i.e., parent, sibling, etc.) Wearing a mask for 10 days after an exposure is strongly recommended.

If there are positive cases of COVID-19 at school and your child may have been exposed, the preschool will inform you so that you can watch for possible symptoms and make decisions about testing, masking, etc. If there are multiple positive cases in a short time period, the preschool will consult with the VDH to determine whether additional, temporary steps should be taken.

Face masks for students, staff, and visitors are optional. We request that families follow public health guidelines with respect to mask wearing and we support your efforts to keep our community safe. Please be courteous about each other's choices.

## **Ongoing Mitigation Efforts at HPP**

- Hand washing by students and staff will be frequent. Hand sanitizer will be readily available.
- Each classroom has a HEPA room purifier.
- Rooms will be additionally ventilated with open windows as permitted by weather.
- High use surfaces such as door knobs, sinks, toilets, tables, etc. will be sanitized before, during, and after school.