



Dearborn Heights Montessori Center & Plymouth-Canton Montessori School

## **SICK CHILD POLICY/HEALTH CARE POLICY (COVID-19) 2021**

We love to see your children every day, but if they are sick, please keep them home. Our staff must stay home when they are ill as well. The Michigan Department of Health and the CDC have set guidelines which we must follow:

1. **Reporting:** Each week, we report all cases of contagious diseases to the Wayne County Health Department.
2. **Temperature Checks:** Children's temperatures are taken with a touchless thermometer upon arrival or when symptoms indicate necessity.
3. **Illness:** We will not accept a child for care if he or she has recently vomited or has a fever, diarrhea, or profuse nasal discharge. All are signs of infection and are contagious symptoms.
  - If a child has a fever, he or she must be fever free for 24 hours *without the use of medication* before returning.
  - If any child develops symptoms that could be consistent with COVID-19 or other illness, it is the policy of the school to:
    - Require the child to wear a protective mask.
    - Immediately isolate the child and contact the parents for pick-up.
    - Maintain the confidentiality of the child and parents where possible.
    - Utilize deep cleaning of areas where the child is known to have been and set aside toys or other materials that may have been contaminated.
    - Follow-up with the parent by administration as to the wellness of the child.
    - If a child exhibits symptoms of COVID-19, you suspect possible exposure, or a child tests positive for COVID-19, the child must stay at home and follow the guidelines set forth by the CDC:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>
4. **Medications:** School medication administration guidelines are followed. We will NOT administer Tylenol or aspirin to treat a fever. This only hides the symptoms of illness and contagion.
5. **Hand Washing:**
  - The children wash their hands before eating, preparing or serving food; after toileting, coming in from outdoors, handling animals, and handling body fluids. Children also wash or sanitize hands after playing in water that is shared by two or more people. We teach them how to avoid spreading germs. The children are taught correct hand-washing procedures.
  - Staff wash or sanitize hands upon arrival; after greeting each child; after handling animals; before preparing, serving, and/or eating food; after use of the bathroom; and after each instance of handling soiled clothing, toilets, or body fluids. Adults also wash their hands before and after administering medication, after handling garbage or cleaning, and at any other time the need arises.
  - Staff and children wash with liquid or foam soap and running water for at least 20 seconds, turn off the faucet with a disposable towel, and dry their hands with a disposable towel. In locations where water is not available, hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol may be used.

**6. Cleaning, Sanitizing, Personal Protection Equipment:**

- Extensive cleaning and sanitizing protocols are followed. Checklists for each area of the building ensure that nothing is missed. Several times each day we disinfect tables, play surfaces, and frequently touched items (door knobs, light switches, toilet handles, etc.). Surfaces or articles are wiped down with a solution of one tablespoon chlorine bleach in one quart of water, or a comparable EPA-approved product. Stuffed toys and other hard-to-sanitize items are not used. Toys or materials that are placed in a child's mouth or otherwise contaminated are washed, sanitized, and air-dried. Carpets are vacuumed and floors are mopped daily. Where sinks are used for both food preparation and other purposes, staff clean and sanitize the sinks before using them to prepare food.
- Disposable items are discarded in plastic-lined trash containers with lids. Bags are closed and discarded daily. A separate sink is specifically designated for toileting accidents, and the area is disinfected with Lysol, bleach solution, or a comparable EPA-approved product.
- Staff wear masks according to current government directives, and gloves before making contact with body fluids. Gloves are discarded after each use and hands are washed.
- Children wear masks following government recommendations or school policy in effect at the time.