



## North Shore Montessori School Reopening Plan

1. Protect and support staff, children and their family members' health and safety to the best of our ability.
2. Establish and maintain communication with local and State authorities to determine current guidelines in our community.
3. Follow CDC's Guidance for Schools and Childcare Programs.
4. Train all staff in outlined safety actions and protocols.

### **Safety Precautions:**

- Promote healthy hygiene practices
  - Teach and reinforce washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes among children and staff.
  - Teach and require the proper use of face coverings among all staff.
  - Have adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels and tissues.
  - Post signs on how to stop the spread of COVID-19, properly wash hands, promote everyday protective measures, and properly wear a face covering.
- Intensify cleaning, disinfection and ventilation
  - Clean, sanitize and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
  - Avoid use of items that are not easily cleaned, sanitized or disinfected.
  - Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep products away from children.
  - Increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible such as by opening windows and doors (as long as it does not pose a safety risk).
  - Increase amount of time outdoors for each class to get fresh air, whenever possible. Outdoor equipment will be disinfected between groups.
- Promote social distancing
  - Ensure that classes include the same group of children each day and that the same child care providers remain with the same group each day, if possible.
  - Restrict non-essential visitors and activities involving other groups at the same time.
  - Space out seating and bedding (head-to-toe positioning)
  - Close communal spaces or limit and/or stagger use and disinfect in between uses.

- Children's foods should be individualized to limit the use of shared serving utensils and ensure the safety of children with food allergies.
- Stagger arrival and drop-off times or put in place other protocols to limit direct contact with parents as much as possible.
- All students (with the exception of infants) will be required to utilize the car line for drop-off and pick-up.
- Face coverings
  - All staff will wear masks indoors regardless of vaccination status.
  - All children in the Children's House classrooms (3-6 years old) will wear masks indoors.
- Covid testing
  - All staff will test weekly for Covid unless they provide proof of vaccination.
- Monitoring and Preparing
  1. Check for signs and symptoms
    - Parents will sign a one-time attestation stating that they will not send their child to school for the outlined reasons.
    - Screen children upon arrival. Establish routine of daily health checks on arrival including temperature screening of both staff and children. Parents and staff will need to answer screening questions every day at arrival.
    - Encourage staff to stay home if they are sick and encourage parents to keep sick children home.
    - Monitor health conditions in the local area.
  2. Plan for when a staff member, child or visitor becomes sick
    - Identify an area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms during hours of operation.
    - Send children home at any signs of potential illness.
    - Notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of any possible case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws.
    - School will follow the recommendation of the NYS Department of Health if a COVID case occurs within the school.
    - Advise sick staff members or children not to return until they have met Department of Health and CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation.

\*We expect full cooperation from our families with our new policies and procedures. These policies and procedures may change based on new guidance from OCFS or CDC. Any changes to the policy will be communicated with parents.

## We are still the same North Shore Montessori School!

- Our amazing staff will be teaching the same Montessori curriculum.
- We will still be caring for your children as if they were our own.
- Your child will still make friends and socialize with their peers.
- All of our students will play outside every day (weather permitting).
- The classrooms will be set up in the same manner as before - encouraging exploration, independence and cooperative learning.
- Your child will still learn and grow exponentially at NSMS this year!!