

COVID-19 PANDEMIC POLICY

Parents are to use the drop-off circle as usual, however for the duration of the pandemic we ask that you unbuckle your child, remove them from the car and wait at the passenger door of your vehicle until at teacher comes to get them. Parents are asked to wear masks at drop-off and pick-up.

All staff and students will have their temperature taken each day upon arrival. Students (adult transporting child to school) and staff are asked to take their temperature and self screen before coming to school. They are asked to use the online screening tool at, <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. Once they arrive at school, they will be asked to confirm they have gone over the screening questions prior to leaving for school as well as having a temperature check once inside the school.

Temperatures are recorded and entered in the Covid Temperature Tracking Binder. These will be kept for one year. Students time of arrival are recorded, staff and visiting authorized personal will also have arrival and departure time recorded. Students departure times are recorded in the daily attendance. All information will be recorded and kept if needed for the Public Health Unit.

Any staff or student with 1 or more symptoms will be denied entry to school. A link to the list of symptoms provided on page 3.

Staff are required to wear medical masks and eye protection while in the school. Eye protection could be a visor or glasses that cover the eye and are sealed around the edges. Masks will be provided weekly for the week, if staff requires more, they can have more. Visors are to be cleaned daily and if not working clearly, they can be replaced. Exemptions will be reviewed on case-by-case basis and will be noted in the employee's file.

Staff are required to wash their hands before putting on and after taking off their masks. Only staff, students and ministry/health unit staff, caterer, resource worker and essential personal will be permitted to enter Quiet Waters Montessori, while there is still a Covid19 Pandemic.

Staff will remain with their classroom, there will be no mixing of staff or children between classes. Staff is encouraged to spend as much time outdoors as possible with their classes. As long as it is comfortable for students and staff, air conditioning will remain off and windows will remain open during school hours. Cohorts will be separated outside by areas by cones, spray paint or caution tape, again Cohorts are to remain separate.

Children who attend part-time will not be permitted to attend any other program on off days. On the days they are not with us they must remain at home. This is to keep our Cohorts limited in size and prevent any spread of infection. It also allows for quick, effective contact tracing should an outbreak occur. For this reason, siblings, where possible, will be placed in a class together.

All equipment used in the school will be made of a material that can be cleaned and disinfected. Cleaning and disinfecting will take place throughout the day with a minimum of items being disinfected at least twice

a day. Indoor materials will be disinfected with PCS250, outside items will be disinfected with Bleach mixed to a concentration of 1000ppm.

Any materials that do not fall into this category will be placed in plastic bins and stored until such time the Covid19 pandemic is deemed to be over, and it is safe to have these materials back into the classrooms. All frequently touched surfaces will be sanitized frequently. An extra cleaning log is placed in each bathroom and filled out when cleaning occurs.

When children enter the classroom at anytime of the day, they will be sent directly to the washroom to wash their hands with soap and water. Teachers will ensure that frequent hand washing routines are in place. Washroom will be sanitized after use by each classroom. Children will be discouraged from sharing any materials that they are working with and will also be spaced out, throughout the room to encourage distance between them while working.

Food and dishes – Staff will serve and distribute dishes and cutlery to children, no children to touch anyone else's dishes, food or drinks. When in the kitchen, unless eating staff must remain masked. No more than 2 staff at the table at a time, keeping in mind to stay distanced. If there is a 3rd staff member on lunch they can eat at the table and chair near the window to remain distanced.

We want to return to normal as much as possible for the children. Birthday celebrations will continue to be a part of that. We will only accept food items for birthdays in sealed containers and as always, they will need to have the peanut free symbol on them if they are baked goods (small cupcakes or cookies). A healthy alternative is a fruit tray. Please send this sealed, we will cut the fruit up into smaller pieces at school for serving.

As we move through reopening and putting our new process in place, we will update our policy to reflect current guidance by both the Health Unit and the Ministry of Education.

We are all responsible for each other staying healthy this school year. It is with the utmost importance that we all work together as a team to keep each other healthy. If your child is sick please for everyone's sake keep them at home, also keep the school informed as to why they are off, we need to supply the Health Unit with this information.

Staff meetings will take place via Zoom once a month; attendance is mandatory. Any parents requesting meetings, will be phone meetings. Parent/teacher interviews will be facilitated over the phone this year.

Students traveling outside Ontario will have to quarantine for 14 days after returning to Ontario or produce a negative Covid test result. The Covid test must be taken upon returning to Ontario and before returning to school. These new measures are effective immediately and are being put into place for the health and safety of all students, staff, and their families.

Policy to Exclude Students or Staff Guidance from the Health Unit

A child or staff member that fails the screen are to be denied entry to the centre and testing is recommended. Please follow this screening procedure daily:

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Further information is also available on the SMDHU Site:

https://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/docs/default-source/COVID-/Return-to-school/covid-19supplementalguidance_schools-final_aoda-web.pdf?sfvrsn=18

A child or staff member that develops 1 or more symptoms will be isolated and excluded as soon as possible. Parents will be called and will need to pick their child up as soon as possible. Any student or staff who appears ill during the day (presenting with a fever or developing a new cough) will be removed from the presence of others. Staff will be sent home; students will have parents called to pick them up and the child will wait in the office for the parent to arrive.

Staff supervising in the office will keep 6 ft away when possible from an ill child, wear a visor and mask and protective clothing cover. They will be required to have a covid test returning with a negative result or remain isolated at home for 14 days. Any materials that were being used by the person or were in the area of the person will be sanitized. Any items, books etc. that can not be sanitized will be stored for 7 days in a plastic bag. All areas will be sanitized using disposable sanitizing wipes.

All screening records will be kept and made available to the SMDHU as requested. If you choose not to provide us with a copy of a negative screen, we will ask that you provide a completed copy of the attestation form. Any test that comes back positive will be notified to the program advisor immediately as well as a serious occurrence being filed. Direction from the Health Unit will be followed as how and what information will be given to parents. Full cooperation as to contact tracing as well as any correspondence the Health Unit requests to be sent to parents will be sent.

These rules are strict but please remember they have been put in place by the SMDHU to keep your child and your family healthy and Covid-19 free.

Screening Questions Parents Must Complete at Home Before Leaving for School

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Has anyone in the home had a high-risk exposure to anyone in the past 14 days? An individual currently sick with an unexplained cough, fever or difficulty breathing? Have you given your child any medication that can reduce a fever today? For example, have you administered Tylenol to a child for a sore arm? Your child will need to remain at home as fever reducing medications such as Children's Tylenol or Advil can mask fevers.

If your child becomes symptomatic during the day at school, they will be isolated with a staff member in the isolation room, parents will be called, and the child will need to be picked up as soon as possible. A staff member will remain with the child until they are picked up.

If referred for testing when demonstrating symptoms of Covid-19 those who test negative must remain at home for 24 hours after symptoms are gone. Those testing positive for Covid-19 must remain at home for 14 days after onset of symptoms or until cleared by the Health Unit to return.

The teacher meeting you at the passenger door to take your child into the school will ask if you have screened your child. Please do this at home as you will have to pull over and wait until there is someone available to screen your child if not. If everyone pre-screens at home this should be a fast process, and we should have you on your way in no time.

Once your child has been brought into the school, they will have their temperature taken again, by infrared thermometer. If their temperature is above 37.8 C, we will take the temperature again with an ear thermometer, if it still registers above 37.8 C you will be called to come and take your child home, and this will be reported to the Health Unit for follow up.

We are asking again that parents only turn right out of the driveway in the morning and again at night. Our goal is to have everyone safely on their way as fast as possible with this request.