



Every Child is Gifted. Every Child Has Needs.

COVID Response: Health and Safety Plan for 2021-2022

The Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Pennsylvania Department of Education released a statement that they would not be providing specific guidance to schools in the state, but schools should implement the CDC guidelines to the best of their abilities.

Brookeside Montessori's goals for 2021-2022

It is well known that students benefit from in-person learning, and remaining in-person is a priority.

Our school serves children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, our Board of Directors and Administration believe it is most important to implement layered prevention strategies to protect people who are not fully vaccinated, including students, teachers, staff, and other members of their households.

1. Universal Masking

CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.

Brookeside Montessori will require all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to wear masks indoors regardless of vaccination status. Wearing a mask for outdoor activities is optional.

2. Physical Distance

CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with other strategies to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.

Brookeside Montessori will require individuals to maintain 3 feet of space, especially at times when they are unmasked (ex. eating, drinking, taking a mask break). Plexiglass partitions will be used on tables to provide another layer of prevention at these times.

3. Other Strategies

CDC recommends screening testing, ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.

Ventilation: Brookeside Montessori has operational air purifiers in every classroom. Filters in the air purifiers will be replaced before the start of the 2021-2022 school year.



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Handwashing etiquette: Students will be instructed on frequent and proper handwashing.

Sick Policy: People with these symptoms may have COVID-19: Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea. These symptoms may be mild or severe. Please stay home.

Cleaning and Disinfecting: Once per week, the school will be professionally cleaned. Teachers and Assistants will clean and sanitize all furniture and touch points in the classroom throughout the day. Each teacher/assistant will be responsible for cleaning and sanitizing assigned classroom, as well as traffic areas such as hallway, bathroom, and playground areas daily.

4. Other Considerations

Limiting the number of individuals in building: Classrooms will have no more than sixteen students with two teachers or a teacher and an assistant. Visitors and parent volunteers are permitted in the building when scheduled with the Head of School or classroom teacher.

School events / field trips: Large school events and field trips in the community pose a greater risk of being exposed to the virus. Only outdoor events and field trips will be scheduled at this time.

Drinking fountain: The drinking fountain will not be used. Each student should provide a water bottle for drinking.