



Six Rivers Montessori

School Covid-19 Plan

(updated August 17, 2021)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to facilitate Six Rivers Montessori families and staff to return to school for Fall 2021 while minimizing risks of students, staff, and parents transmitting the novel coronavirus.

The evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic means that these guidelines may change as the situation evolves. The State of California may issue an order that would close all schools in which case SRM would be closed as well. SRM plans to offer distance learning within two days if such an order is issued. The California Department of Public Health will continue to assess conditions on an ongoing basis and will determine no later than November 1, 2021 whether to update mask requirements or recommendations.

While SRM staff believe that it is best for children to be in school, we also are fully committed to slowing and stopping the spread of COVID-19. Keeping the school open will take our entire community's effort; everyone must do their part to minimize the risk to the SRM Community.

PROCEDURES

1. All activities and protocols in SRM's plan to minimize risks are consistent with, and will adjust to, changing applicable state and local Public Health orders. SRM will continue to be fully transparent with new information and any changes.
2. SRM staff is fully vaccinated, and school volunteers and substitutes will be required to be fully vaccinated.

3. Staff will review with students the importance of health and safety practices, including how to properly fit and wear a mask, wash hands, and use sanitizer.

4. Physical distancing will be maintained during snack and lunchtime.

5. SRM will cooperate with Public Health to support testing strategies to mitigate transmission of COVID-19, including testing for staff at the beginning of the school year.

6. The Office Administrator will be the single point of contact to direct questions or concerns around practices, protocols, or potential exposure. This person will also serve as a liaison to Public Health and other health professionals.

7. Non-essential visitors and essential workers will be required to adhere to all health and safety guidelines, including being fully vaccinated if they are on school grounds when children are present.

8. Staff, parent volunteers, and students who have a fever or any contagious illness such as a flu will stay home.

9. All families and staff will sign a liability waiver that acknowledges that you are aware of risks, and that the school, while intending to open and remain open, may need to close.

Protocols and Communication for COVID-19 Related Scenarios

Scenario	Protocol	SRM Communication to Community
<p>#1 A student or staff member either exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, answers yes to a health screening question or has a temp of 100.4 or above.</p>	<p>Send staff or student home until they have met CDPH criteria to return to school. For those with symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; AND • Other symptoms have improved; AND • They have a negative test for SARS-CoV-2, OR a healthcare provider has provided documentation that the symptoms are typical of their underlying chronic condition (e.g.; allergies or asthma) OR a healthcare provider has confirmed an alternate diagnosis, OR at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset. 	<p>None</p>
<p>#2 A family member or someone in close unmasked contact with a student or staff member test positive for COVID-19 or takes an Covid Test because they have cause to be concerned.</p>	<p>Student or staff reports information to Office Administrator, and is sent home to quarantine.</p> <p>Contacts who remain asymptomatic may discontinue self-quarantine under the following conditions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarantine can end after day 10 from the date of last exposure without testing; OR • Quarantine can end after day 7 if a diagnostic specimen is collected after day 5 from the last date of exposure and tests negative. <p>To discontinue quarantine before 14 days following known exposure, asymptomatic close contacts must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue daily self-monitoring for symptoms through day 14 from last known exposure; AND • Follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical 	<p>Email or text will be sent to all families and staff at SRM.</p>

	<p>interventions (e.g., wearing a mask around others, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through day 14 from last known exposure.</p> <p>If any symptoms develop during this 14-day period, the exposed person must immediately isolate, get tested and contact their healthcare provider with any questions regarding their care.</p>	
<p>#3 A student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.</p>	<p>Report information to the Office Administrator. Student or staff member is sent home. Families of positive students and staff quarantine.</p> <p>All other staff and students enter a “modified quarantine”. When both parties were wearing a mask in any school setting in which students are supervised by school staff, unvaccinated students who are close contacts (more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period within 0-6 feet indoors) may undergo a modified quarantine as follows. They may continue to attend school for in-person instruction if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are asymptomatic; • Continue to appropriately mask as required. • Undergo at least twice weekly testing during the 10-day quarantine. AND • Continue to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school and activities within the community setting. 	<p>Email or text will be sent to all families and staff at SRM.</p> <p>All will be requested to follow modified quarantine guidelines.</p>
<p>#4 A student or staff member tests negative for COVID-19 after any of the above scenarios</p>	<p>Student or staff may return to cohort 3 days after symptoms resolve, however must continue isolation if in contact with C19+ family member.</p>	<p>Updated Covid email to the community on school status.</p>

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

- There will be a Health and Safety Update every Friday in the newsletter.
- Monthly Board Meetings will include a Covid update.
- Robo-calls or texts will be sent for all-school emergency information.

SCHOOL ENTRY ROUTES

- Routes for entry and exit to campus will be designated for each classroom. We will again be using the back playard as the entry to the school. The Upper El and Lower El each have their own entry doors.
- Students will apply hand sanitizer from a hand sanitizing station at the door to each classroom.

ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

- There will be brief health screening (questions re: symptoms and potential history of exposure) for families upon their arrival in the parking lot, as well as a temperature check of each student.
- Arrival time is between 8:15-8:30am.
- SRM staff will come to each car, ask the parent/guardian the screening questions. If screening is passed, staff will take temperatures of the students while still in their cars with no-touch thermometers. Temperatures will be recorded.
- SRM staff temperatures will be checked and recorded daily at school by another staff member.

SCREENING QUESTIONS

1. Within the last 10 days has your child been diagnosed with COVID-19 or had a test confirming you have the virus?

If “yes” see scenario #3

2. Does your child live in the same household with, or has he/she/they had close contact with someone who in the past 14 days has been in isolation for COVID-19 or had a test confirming they have the virus?

If “yes’ see scenario #2

3. Has your child had one or more of the following symptoms today or within the past 24 hours, which is new or not explained by another reason?

- Fever, Chills, or Repeated Shaking/Shivering
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath, Difficulty Breathing
- Sore Throat
- Feeling Unusually Weak or Fatigued
- Loss of Taste or Smell

If “yes” see scenario #1

CLASSROOMS

- Classrooms will have air purifiers and windows will be open. NOTE: please make sure your child dresses in warm layers, especially in the winter.
- The use of outdoor space for instructional purposes will be maximized. The garden and parking lot area will be used as classroom areas as well.
- SRM staff will regularly disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- The classrooms will be disinfected at the end of each day.
- Bathrooms will get regular checks and wipe downs.
- There is a room set up for if a student gets sick during the day while at school. This provides a place for them to wait for a parent to pick them up that is not around the rest of the students.
- Bathrooms are gender neutral. Upper El will use the bathroom in the front of the school, and Lower El will use the bathroom in the Lower El classroom. One student at a time will be allowed to use the bathroom, except for handwashing during which two children may be present.

BREAK, RECESS and LUNCH

- There will be no shared food amongst students. Everything, including snack, should come self-contained in each student’s lunch box/bag. Students must bring their own water bottles to school.
- Students will be socially distanced during snack and lunch time.
- The play structure in the playground will be used only if no other children are present. The parking lot, field in the park, basketball court, and back play yard will be used for recess.

GATHERINGS

- Small gatherings, e.g., Back To School Night, will be allowed and conducted in a socially distanced manner with all participants masked.

HANDWASHING

Routines and schedules will be developed to enable students and staff to regularly wash their hands at staggered intervals. Hand washing will occur at the following times:

- Before school - hand sanitizer at door
- Bathroom visits
- Before snack
- Before lunch
- After recess
- After sneezing and coughing
- After touching mouth or face

MASKS

- All staff as well as all students will be required to wear face coverings while in the classroom.
- There will be outdoor locations available for students to have “mask free” time throughout the day if needed.
- Masks will not be needed during snack and lunch time.
- SRM will have back up masks available for adults and children who forget a mask.

ITEMS FROM HOME

- Students are not allowed to bring any pencils, decorating material, or personal toys to put in their school cubbies.

CLOTHING CODE

- Students must wear a clean mask to school daily.
- Plain dressing is required - nothing flashy or squeaky that other students will want to touch.

- Students need to wear appropriate shoes for PE and recess.

SICK STAFF

- If a teacher gets sick and is known to have COVID-19 we will follow the protocols for scenario #3 and enter modified quarantine. A substitute teacher will be provided, if available. If a substitute is unavailable the classroom will be closed and parents/guardians will be notified by text as soon as possible.
- If a teacher gets sick (not COVID-19) a substitute teacher will be provided if available. If a substitute is unavailable the classroom will be closed and parents/guardians will be notified by text as soon as possible.
- If a classroom closes due to teacher absence school work will be provided via google classroom or through “emergency work packets” that may be picked up.
- If the Office Administrator gets sick, the office will be closed.

SOCIAL CONTRACT

- SRM has a social contract that all families will be asked to sign and adhere to.
- The goal of the contract is to help community members feel secure about bringing their children to school and that the staff feels safe knowing that SRM families are following recommended Public Health guidelines with regards to minimizing COVID risks. Furthermore, we hope that SRM families will agree to have transparency about traveling, receiving visitors, etc. with the school community so that other community members can make informed decisions about bringing their children to the school.