

# LI'L SPROUTS MONTESSORI SCHOOL

## COVID-19 Reopening Plans

### **Plans for remaining open during the COVID-19 epidemic.**

This is important information for all parents about our standard practices and policies that have been implemented, beginning 5th August, 2020. These are the current guidelines and procedures that will be reassessed as needed.

Li'l Sprouts Montessori School is following all safety mandates put in place via the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Arizona Health Department (AZDH). Recommendations from the CDC and AZDH have been taken into consideration to make it as feasible and practical to our school community.

### **Priority**

The health and safety of our staff and their families, and students and families remain our top priority. All rules, restrictions, guidelines and the health/wellness and illness policy will be strictly enforced in keeping with this priority.

### **General Preparedness and Planning**

#### **Preventing the spread of a virus**

- ❑ **Wash hands with soap and water.** The children wash their hands when they enter the classrooms and throughout the day. They continue to wash their hands after using the restroom, before and after meals/playtimes and when coughing, sneezing, or putting their hands in their mouth or touching their face.
- ❑ **Sanitizer use.** A hand sanitizer is available and will be used only when hand washing is not available. Hand sanitizer bottles are located at every entry point in use at Li'l Sprouts Montessori School. The children have plenty of access to soap and water.
- ❑ **Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces.** The school cleans and disinfects frequently touched surfaces. Surfaces must first be cleaned with soap and water and then sanitized with an approved cleaning solution by the EPA. Li'l Sprouts Montessori School uses a child-safe cleaner, soap, and water to clean and disinfect materials throughout the day. Afternoon cleanings of all materials, frequently touched surfaces are done daily after the children leave the classroom with a bleach solution.
- ❑ **Cover coughs and sneezes.** Hygiene and Courtesy lessons are reinforced and will be taught and practiced daily in keeping with the Montessori curriculum.
- ❑ **Face shields/Masks.** Face shields/masks are mandatory for anyone over the age of six when entering the school premises.
- ❑ **Protocols.** The school has a clear and concise health and wellness policy (see LSM protocol and procedure to be shared). This will be signed by families and staff and retained for inspection. All families and staff have signed and agreed to the health/ wellness and illness policy via the disclaimer and protocol. Families and staff are committed to being as healthy as possible and are limiting their time and exposure outside of work/school.

## **If someone becomes ill while on campus**

- ❑ **Isolation & Pick Up.** Isolate the child and contact the parents. Parents have agreed to pick up within 45 minutes of initial communication.
- ❑ **Symptom-Free Requirement.** Any child sent home with illness or who becomes ill outside of school will remain home for 72 hours. The child must be free of symptoms without the assistance of medicine for 24 hours before returning to school. (See CDC guidelines.)
- ❑ **Doctor's Note / Negative Covid-19 Test.** A child diagnosed with an illness including, but not limited to, (flu, strep, COVID, etc), may not return without a doctor's note, stating a clear 'Bill of Health'. **For COVID-19 symptoms, a negative test result will be required.** The child's overall health is the responsibility of the parents. Li'l Sprouts Montessori will not be held responsible if a child or family member becomes ill while enrolled.
- ❑ **Assess Risk At All Times.** It is recommended by the CDC that individuals at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 (older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions) consult with their medical provider to assess their risk of entering school.

## **Face-Protection Considerations:**

- ❑ For all children, face shields are recommended when in school.
- ❑ ALL Parents must wear a mask during pick up and drop off times.
- ❑ Staff will wear face shields/masks.

If you or your child have a diagnosis that prevents wearing a face shield/mask, for instance, for safety reasons and/or sensory restrictions, special considerations will be made. Proper medical documentation will be needed.

## **When is it feasible to wear a face covering?**

- ❑ Group lessons with more than one child or in an individual lesson.
- ❑ Teach children proper face covering etiquette. How to put on and how to take off. If the face covering becomes touched by anyone's hands it must be disinfected. Inappropriate use of a face covering will spread more germs and potential illness.
- ❑ Face covering should have a clean bag to store them in while taken off to eat/ drink.
- ❑ Names to be labeled somewhere on the child's face covering.
- ❑ Practical life lessons and hygiene lessons will be presented to the children to properly care for the face covering.
- ❑ The child's face covering will remain in school, and will be disinfected at the end of the day.

## **Implementation of social distancing strategies:**

These points are covered in the accompanying Protocol document.

- Parents sign a waiver understanding that in a school setting social distancing is always not possible but is strongly encouraged.
- Parents sign a waiver stating they are following CDC guidelines outside of the school setting and on the weekends. The Li'l Sprouts community will continue to work together and be mindful of each other by limiting their outside exposure.
- The Li'l Sprouts community is encouraged to avoid large mass gatherings and remain out of large congregate settings such as music events, large parties etc.
- Parents agree to not hold Li'l Sprouts Montessori and its staff responsible for a child or family member becoming ill.

## **Additional Information**

- During nap time, space out mats as much as possible. Sheets to be laundered at school every week. If sheets become dirty from mucus or drool, change the sheets, and replace with fresh sheets. If parents wish to provide a new sheet and blanket for daily use, they may do so. The child's bedding will be sent home at the end of the day.
- Beginning August 5th, 2020, the doors will be kept locked. All children will be admitted into the class at the entrance. Adults will not be permitted to enter the classroom during drop-off and pick-up. A sign-in/sign-out sheet will be available at the entrance.
- Footwear will be left outside the class. If you wish your child to have footwear indoors, please provide a second pair that will remain in school. No-slip socks are recommended for indoor wear.
- If parents arrive at the same time, they will maintain social distancing during drop-off and pick-up. Pick up times are 11:45 am, 1:00 pm and 3:15 pm.

## **Screen children upon arrival**

- Parents must take their child's temperature before they arrive on campus. Children must have a normal temperature before coming to school.
  - Currently our temperature cap is 99 degrees Fahrenheit.
  - Children must be in a normal temperature range to come to school.
- Children who have a fever of 100 or above will not be admitted into class; children who develop a temperature of 100 and higher will be sent home. Children who are exhibiting any signs of illness, especially those of respiratory cough or shortness of breath will not be admitted. Children with a family member with a contagious illness living in the home, will not be admitted into the campus.
- Li'l Sprouts will take the child's temperature upon arrival. Li'l Sprouts will use a no-touch infrared thermometer. Parents will need to wait for the temperature check before children will be permitted in the school. Temperature checks will continue throughout the day if needed.

## **Cleaning and Sanitation**

- Li'l Sprouts will continue to clean, sanitize and disinfect throughout the day.
- Use all cleaning products according to the label.
- Cleaning agents are EPA-registered.
- Nightly cleaning and sanitation is conducted.
- Toys that have been placed in a child's mouth, need to be removed from the environment until thoroughly cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected.

## **Hand washing**

- Upon arrival to the facility and after breaks.
- Before and after preparing food and drinks.
- Before eating or handling food.
- Before and after diapering.
- After using the bathroom and toileting with the children.
- After coming in contact with bodily fluid.
- After handling animals or waste.
- After playing outdoors in the sand.
- After handling garbage.

## **If COVID-19 is confirmed in a child or staff member currently on Li'l Sprouts premises.**

These are direct recommendations and protocol from the CDC:

- ❑ If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 on the premises, the risk will be assessed with coordination from the local health officials. A potential 2-5-day building dismissal to clean/ disinfect/ and contact trace may occur.
- ❑ Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
- ❑ Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation.
- ❑ Wait 24 hours if possible before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle.
- ❑ Clean all areas used by the sick individual.
- ❑ If more than 7 days have passed since the sick person was in the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection are not necessary. Continue normal cleaning. Per usual.
- ❑ A person must obtain a doctor's clearance before being readmitted into work or school.
- ❑ Contact tracing will take place. Li'l Sprouts Montessori School will contact the families who have been in contact with the confirmed ill person. HIPPA laws prevent the school from sharing any identity, age, and gender. The school will communicate quickly and effectively with families who have children that have been in direct contact with an ill person.
- ❑ Families who have come into direct contact with a person who has been positively diagnosed with COVID-19, will need to remain home for an isolation period. Families will report if any symptoms arise. Families will continue isolation for at least 14 days.
- ❑ A person who has been tested, and any family members, will continue isolation for at least 14 days or until a negative test result is given.