



## **Geist Orchard Cooperative Preschool Health Plan for the 2021-2022 School Year**

This plan will be reviewed frequently and updated as needed by the board to reflect the most current procedures and recommendations available regarding health and safety during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

### **Safety screening steps**

- It is expected that families will only send healthy students to school each day.
- Temperature checks will be done for each student and adult entering the school by the teacher.
- Families will be required to self-report any of the following symptoms for their student:
  - Temperature of 100.4 or greater
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Repeated shaking with chills
  - Sore throat
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Cough
  - Rash
  - Nausea
  - Diarrhea
  - Muscle pain
  - Congestion or runny nose that is not clear
  - Gastrointestinal symptoms
  - Symptoms may be added to this list as more information comes out.
- At the start of the school year, families will complete a waiver indicating they will NOT send their child(ren) to school if they exhibit any of the symptoms listed.
- If a student or staff member presents with symptoms consistent with COVID-19, the individual will be sent home and presumed to have COVID until such time as a negative test result can be provided. Without proof of a negative test result, the individual would need to stay home for 10 school days and be fever-free for 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

### **Arrival and Departure procedures:**

- Parents/caregivers will park in the parking lot across from the school and will walk students to and from the building at arrival and departure. Face coverings will be required for adults coming in and out of the building, unless proof of full vaccination is provided to the school.
- To limit the amount of time that larger groups are indoors, caregivers/students will be asked to wait outside until welcomed by the teacher/participating parent at drop off and pickup times.

### **Cleaning protocol:**

- CDC-approved cleaners will be used.
- An Early Return Parent will complete a cleaning checklist at the end of the class day.
  - Early Return Parents will sign up for shifts like Participating Parents.
  - Early Return Parents will come in during the last 15 minutes of class.
  - No siblings will be permitted to attend.
- Daily areas for focused cleaning include:
  - Chairs
  - Tables
  - Door handles and push plates
  - Stair rails
  - Kitchen counters
  - Any cups belonging to the school that students borrow.
  - Restrooms
  - Light switches
- Teacher and participating parent will clean any surfaces necessary prior to lunch and snack times, or any areas that are frequently touched during an activity.
- Bins will be placed in the classroom for items that may be placed in mouths or coughed/sneezed on and need to be removed for play area. These will be taken home and cleaned by the Participating Parent if not able to be thoroughly cleaned during class time.
- Dress-up clothes will be rotated and washed after each use.
- Toys will be rotated and sanitized after each day they are used in the classroom.
- Supplies, such as paintbrushes, stamps, etc. will be cleaned at the end of each class day they are used.
- Additional deep cleaning days for all members may be scheduled during the year if needed.

### **Classroom hygiene procedures:**

- Handwashing will occur upon arrival, before and after eating, after playing outside, following coughs/sneezes, and at any other time deemed necessary. Adults wash hands upon arrival, before and after snack or eating, after being outside, and as needed.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in the classroom.
- Masks will be required for teachers and/or students to comply with any government mandates that are in place. If no mandates are in effect, masks and face coverings will

be optional for students and teachers. Participating parents/caregivers, volunteers, and guests will be required to wear face coverings. Participating adults may choose to show proof of full vaccination to be exempt from wearing a mask/covering.

- Activity table materials change out/cleaning at least weekly
- Bins will be placed in the classroom for items that may be placed in mouths or coughed/sneezed on and need to be removed for play area immediately. These will be taken home and cleaned by the Participating Parent if not able to be thoroughly cleaned during class time.
- Dress-up clothes will be rotated and washed after each use.
- Toys will be rotated and sanitized after each day they are used in the classroom.
- Supplies, such as paintbrushes, stamps, etc. will be cleaned at the end of each class day they are used.

**If a GOCP student receives a positive COVID test or diagnosis:**

- Fishers health department will be notified.
- The affected class will be closed for 14 calendar days for class to quarantine.
- All families in school will be notified.
- Will follow any additional direction from Fishers Health Department regarding contact tracing and case investigation.
- A student may return with proof of a negative test result and with a note from the provider stating they believe the patient to have an alternate diagnosis and it is appropriate for the patient to return to school. Without proof of a negative test result, the individual would need to stay home in isolation for a minimum of 10 days and be fever-free for 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and an improvement in symptoms.
- Quarantine procedures may be updated once students are able to receive the vaccination if they choose to do so.

**If a class is shut down due to a positive COVID test:**

- Affected class will be closed for 14 calendar day quarantine.
- Teachers will provide a virtual experience (may include live Zoom classes, interactive activities, links to online media or activities, or additional experiences as determined appropriate by teachers).
- Affected classroom and areas will be thoroughly cleaned by cooperative members following CDC and health department recommendations prior to class reopening.
- Paid tuition will not be refunded in the event of a class quarantine or closure and will continue to be due on the first of the month. Payment via PayPal will be required during this time. In the event of an extended shutdown, tuition adjustments may be determined by the board.

**If a student lives with a person who tests positive or is determined to have been exposed through a close contact or via contact tracing:**

- Families are required to report a positive case within the household.

- Families are required to report a notice of exposure via a close contact or via contact tracing.
- A close contact is defined as being within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes of someone with confirmed COVID-19, direct contact with an infected person for any length of time (e.g., hugging), sharing eating utensils, or coming into contact with respiratory droplets of an infected person.
- Student will be required to quarantine for 14 days following the contact and may return to school if they have remained symptom-free throughout the quarantine.
- If there is a positive case within a student's household, the start date of the 14-day quarantine will begin after the completion of the infected person's 10-day isolation period and the requirements of the infected person remaining fever-free for 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and an improvement in symptoms.

**If school is closed due to government mandate or requirements that are unable to be met:**

- Teachers will provide a virtual experience (may include live Zoom classes, interactive activities, links to online media or activities, or additional experiences as determined appropriate by teachers).
- Paid tuition will not be refunded in the event of a class quarantine or closure and will continue to be due on the first of the month. Payment via PayPal will be required during this time. In the event of an extended shutdown, tuition adjustments may be determined by the board.

**If a teacher is affected:**

- If a teacher receives a positive COVID test or diagnosis, her class will close for 14 calendar days to quarantine and all school families will be notified.
- If a teacher is exposed and must quarantine due to positive case in household or exposure through a close contact or identified via contact tracing, substitutes will be used to continue in-person class.

**COVID isolation area:**

- If a student begins showing any symptoms of COVID during the school day, they will be isolated to the library.
- Parents will be called and expected to pick up the student immediately.
- An adult will monitor the student until adult arrives for pickup.
- Both the student and adult monitoring will wear masks that will be available in the library.
- Classroom and library will be thoroughly cleaned by cooperative members prior to next class meeting.
- Families of students in that class will be notified that an individual was displaying symptoms and was sent home so they can determine how they would like to proceed.
- Student will need to quarantine for 14 calendar days or may return with proof of a negative COVID test result and with a note from the provider stating they believe the patient to have an alternate diagnosis and it is appropriate for the patient to return to

school. Family of student will be asked up update teacher with any relevant information to share anonymously with the families in the school (i.e. additional symptoms, positive COVID test result, diagnosis by physician, etc.), so that they may be able to monitor their students.

### **Participating parents**

- Participating parents will take place in the temperature check will need to self-report any symptoms prior to entering the school.
- If a parent is displaying any symptom of COVID or has been exposed, they will need to reach out to the other families in the class to find a replacement to cover the shift for the day. If no replacement is available, class will be canceled for the day.
- As current data indicates that adults appear to be more likely to spread the disease and suffer more intense illness, we ask parents to be extra-vigilant at monitoring their own health and seeking out a different parent to cover the case of any suspected symptom or illness.
- Participating parents will be required to wear a face covering while indoors. If a parent/volunteer is fully vaccinated and chooses to provide proof of vaccination, then they will not be required to wear a face covering.

### **Field trips**

- Teachers will evaluate any field trip opportunities throughout the year, taking into consideration the ability to social distance and meet additional safety recommendations.

### **Snacks and lunch:**

- Handwashing will occur before and after snack/lunch
- Surfaces will be sanitized prior to preparing or passing out any food.
- Adults will wear gloves to prepare and pass out snacks.
- Twigs will continue to bring their own lunches on enrichment days (Wednesdays).

### **Meet the teacher (takes place on the Tuesday (Twigs) or Thursday (Sprouts) before classes begin):**

- Masks will be required for adults and any older siblings that attend.
- If larger numbers of people plan to be in attendance, classes may be divided into multiple sessions to reduce the number of people in the school at one time.

### **Parent meetings/parent education opportunities/extracurricular gatherings:**

- Parent interaction will be arranged with safety in mind.
- Monthly parent meetings and parent education opportunities will occur virtually, or in settings where recommended safety precautions can be implemented (this is subject to change throughout the year based upon current circumstances).
- Events that the board deems necessary to hold in-person for school operation will be adjusted to include safety precautions.

**It is recommended that any student, teacher, or participating parent that shares a household with a high-risk individual bring clothes to change into at the end of the day.**

**If the Hamilton Southeastern School District closes:**

- GOCP will continue to operate as long as there is no COVID exposure requiring class quarantine, even if the local school district closes. State and local information will be monitored, and cooperative member and teacher concerns will be discussed and considered by the board and membership as needed.
- GOCP will close if mandated by local or state government or health departments.
- If mandated closure occurs, GOCP will reopen as soon as mandate is lifted.