



Return to Learn Plan

Fall 2022

Updated August 4, 2022



LETTER FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

August 3, 2022

Dear Kiva Families,

School registration is underway and I am very excited to welcome your student to school for the 2022-23 school year. We are honored to be trusted with your child's health and welfare and are looking forward to the new school year.

Our policy this year, as last year, is prioritizing in-person learning for all students: we know that students' social, emotional and educational needs are best met when they are together with their peers and their teachers. Children's Kiva Montessori Charter School has pursued a cautious and diligent approach to health and safety during the pandemic. The investment in time and research has paid off: Kiva has had very low interruption to learning due to sickness from Covid-19.

We couldn't have done it without you, the student, parent and/or guardian. Thank you. And as we head into the school year, I'm asking for your help again. When community transmission rates of Covid-19 are high (above 35 cases per 100,000 people), we could see outbreaks that impact not just health and safety, but the continuity of student learning.

In our updated Fall 2022 Return to Learn plan, you'll learn more about how we will approach our return to school. Kiva Montessori's administration and Return to Learn committee will continue to monitor local conditions and make adjustments as necessary. You can assist by doing the following:

- Take student(s) temperature at home prior to coming to school
- Stay home when you or your child is sick or have COVID-19 symptoms
- Stay hydrated and use a refillable water bottle for you and your child
- Wash hands regularly or use hand sanitizer and insist your children do the same
- Use face coverings appropriately and avoid touching your face
- Physically distance appropriately in public places

What's at risk if we don't work together? First and foremost, the health and safety of children and adults that work with them. Secondly, we risk the disruption to learning that has negative long-term impacts on students.

Let us all do our part for our children and our community. Thanks in advance for your support of our learning Community.

Warm regards,

Lurleen McCormick
Head of School



WHAT WILL LEARNING LOOK LIKE AT KIVA THIS YEAR?

In person learning will be the standard operating mode of the school. If there is an individual who must quarantine, then the teacher will work with the family to provide materials and support during their time out of the classroom. If there is an outbreak, the class will move to temporary remote learning.

Regardless of the learning environment, Kiva Montessori will always prioritize student safety, well-being, and learning in the following ways:

- We will be taking attendance, contacting and connecting with students and their families, and providing and connecting you to resources to ensure safety and well-being.
- We will strictly adhere to recommended protocols, and cleaning regimens asked of us by our health partners.
- Academic, social-emotional, and health development are all part of these curricular goals. We will be using evidence of student learning to guide our support, and engaging students in learning experiences in and out of the building that move them forward in their development.
- All students will receive a Chromebook provided by the school to facilitate communication and learning in any setting.
- By implementing Montessori, Project-Based and Expeditionary Learning platforms, we believe we will keep a consistency and flexibility for our students throughout the school year, and help them advance their academic goals whether they are learning in-person or remotely at home.

HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

KM will be monitoring local COVID-19 transmission through a variety of resources, including communication with local health officials, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) [dashboard](#), and data recorded by the CDC on their [“COVID-19 by County”](#) website. Montezuma County is currently at a “medium” level of risk. Our Return to Learn Plan includes additional health and safety precautions when the risk increases. When we minimize the number of cases of COVID-19 in school we minimize interruptions to education.

KM utilizes the [Colorado Department of Education/Colorado Department of Public Health Guidance](#) for Covid-19 plans in schools. This year, we will be aiming for a “routine disease control model”. This model is designed around response to clusters of cases, outbreaks, and evidence of ongoing transmission in schools, such as an increase in illness and/or absenteeism. There is less focus on individual cases. However, this model should be used when local transmission has stabilized below the high or medium risk level. At any level, we will be continuing the following basic health and safety measures:

- UV Air treatment system in place

[At any time upon the recommendation of Montezuma County Public Health, Colorado Department of Education, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and state mandates, this Plan could change to better meet the health and safety of those we serve.](#)



- **Masking, recommended**
 - Temporary mask requirements may be necessary as school outbreaks or community cases increase
 - Free masks available for students and staff
 - Encourage masks for anyone showing respiratory illness symptoms at school
- **Screening**
 - Parents are requested to screen their children for COVID-19 symptoms **before** arriving at school
 - All children will be screened upon their arrival to school
- **Testing**
 - Voluntary, free serial COVID-19 testing in school
 - This is a State-run program using home test kits with easy nasal swab. This method detected cases at Kiva last year and helped keep more students in school. More information will be forthcoming when the state initiates the program this year.
 - Voluntary, free kits for COVID-19 testing at home, available at the front desk
- **Cohorting**
 - by Lower Elementary, Upper Elementary, Middle School, as much as reasonable
 - Cohorting may tighten as school outbreaks or community cases increase
- **Targeted isolation and quarantine**
 - Using CDE/CDPHE guidelines.
 - You isolate when you are sick or when you have been infected with the virus, even if you don't have symptoms
 - You quarantine when you have been exposed to the virus and may or may not have been infected. Testing, vaccination, and wearing a mask can reduce or eliminate quarantine.
- **Outside/Expeditionary Education**
 - KM will leverage its access to parks and outdoor learning spaces as a means to provide high-quality education and decrease likelihood of COVID-19 transmission.
- **Janitorial Services**
 - KM contracts its janitorial services. Staff will provide supplemental cleaning of high-traffic areas (doorknobs, keyboards, and bathrooms) on a regular basis.
- **Educating students on health and hygiene**
 - KM will educate students on how to stay healthy and prevent the spread of germs.
 - KM teachers will create consistent, scheduled times and procedures for younger students throughout the day for hand hygiene and promoting hand washing. Older students will be reminded to practice hand washing and good hygiene through education efforts and signage. Hand sanitizer will be available in classrooms as well.
 - KM will not be allowing students to share classroom supplies to the extent possible without properly sanitizing them between use (based on state guidelines). Montessori works will be cleaned between usage.

**Kiva Fall 2022 Covid-19 Response Chart**

The following chart provides some data-based guidance for Kiva's response to Covid-19 levels in the Community. Incidences and outbreaks at the school will be evaluated by context. For example, five simultaneous cases of Covid-19 in one classroom may require a different response than five cases throughout the entire school.

Color	Data Source for Montezuma County	Data	Health Measures	Learning Mode
Green	CDPHE 1 Week Incidence/100,000	<35	Routine Disease Control Model	In Person
	CDPHE 1 Week Positivity Rate	<5%	Basic Health and Safety Measures	
	CDPHE Days of Decreasing or Stable Hospitalizations	12 to 14	Families and visitors allowed on campus	
	CDC Community Level	LOW	Masks optional	
	Kiva incidence/outbreak	0 outbreak		
Yellow	CDPHE 1 Week Incidence/100,000	35-500	Increased Health and Safety Measures *	In Person Temporary distance learning may be necessary for some individuals or classrooms. The HOS and Return to Learn Committee will use their discretion and consultation with health advisors for temporary changes to learning mode and health measures.
	CDPHE 1 Week Positivity Rate	5%-10%	Families and visitors allowed on campus**	
	CDPHE Days of Decreasing or Stable Hospitalizations	8 to 11	Masks recommended** Manage cases and outbreaks with, masks, isolation and quarantine	
	CDC Community Level	MEDIUM		
	Kiva incidence/outbreak	Variable		
Red	CDPHE 1 Week Incidence/100,000	>500	Increased Health and Safety Measures *	In Person Temporary distance learning may be necessary for some individuals or classrooms. The HOS and Return to Learn Committee will use their discretion and consultation with health advisors for temporary changes to learning mode.
	CDPHE 1 Week Positivity Rate	>10%	No Visitors allowed on campus	
	CDPHE Days of Decreasing or Stable Hospitalizations	0-7	Masks required Manage cases and outbreaks with masks, isolation and quarantine	
	CDC Community Level	HIGH		
	Kiva incidence/outbreak	Variable		
* Increased Health and Safety Measures include targeted screening, voluntary testing, cohorting, targeted quarantine, and increased cleaning and sanitizing.				
** These measures are subject to temporary change as a result of classroom outbreaks, or other situations of higher risk not measured at County level				

The following links provide Covid-19 data in a variety of formats:

[CDPHE Dashboard](#)

Click on Montezuma County for more data

[CDC Community Level](#)

Choose Colorado, Montezuma County

[CovidActNow](#)

Charts also show positivity rate, hospitalizations, and other trends for Montezuma County

[NYTimes Covid Tracker](#)

Summary of current conditions and trends for Montezuma County

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