

Covid - 19 Addendum to the Parent Handbook

COVID-19 Procedures and Policies

Staff and children may not attend school if they have one or more of the following symptoms:

- Fever of over 100 degrees F in the last 24 hours (or fever reducing medication)
- Diarrhea or vomiting in the last 36 hours
- Nausea or imminent vomiting
- Persistent cough**
- Stiff neck or headache with one or more of the above symptoms
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Complaints of severe pain
- Strange rashes, chickenpox like or spider bite like marks, or swollen and red toes.
- The child has not been given a fever reducing medicine in the last 24 hours.

**** Cough is an exclusion symptom. Children who have a persistent cough (coughing every few minutes, stopping what they're doing to have a coughing fit, coughing so much they wake themselves and/or others during rest time) must rest at home until their cough is improving.**

When to test for Covid:

Recommended when two primary Covid symptoms are present

Primary Covid Symptoms: Fever above 100.4, cough, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste

Isolation

Anyone who tests positive for Covid should isolate until symptoms have resolved for at least 48 hours. This includes cough. Children may return with an improving cough after a 5 day isolation with day 0 being the day that symptoms began or tested positive.

Parents must report Covid to the school administration by emailing

mercedes@pdxmc.org

Covid is still problematic as it may cause widespread staff illness, compromising our ability to provide care. Please take precautions to ensure we are not exposing our community needlessly.

The main preventative measures to be modeled and used at home and at school are:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with your elbow or a tissue, and follow any coughing and sneezing with hand washing.
- Encouraging mask wearing (preschool and adults) when ill with mild symptoms

- Stay home when sick

Cleaning and Sanitation:

We use a cleaner and sanitizer and disinfectant from Ecolab. We use a commercial cleaning service to clean and disinfect the bathrooms nightly.

The children are using a touchless soap dispenser and either Method, Dr. Bronners, Ever Spring brand foaming soap or Blue Mountain foaming hand soap.

Reporting

pdxMC will report the 11th confirmed or presumptive cases of COVID-19 or respiratory illness related to one outbreak to the local public health authority and seek guidance from those authorities regarding cleaning and possible closure. pdxMC retains the right to close the building to ensure adequate cleaning is done.

It is recommended by OSPHL that all persons who have a family member at home with symptoms of COVID-19 who have not been tested need to be monitored for symptoms carefully. The ill family or household member should be strongly encouraged to seek testing. In the case of an outbreak of COVID-19 in a child care facility, OSPHL may consider testing asymptomatic children and staff after consultation with an OHA epidemiologist.

pdxMC will communicate:

- With families, if their child has been in close contact (i.e. the same classroom) with someone at school who then tested positive for COVID-19
- With staff, if they have been in close contact with someone at school who has tested positive for COVID-19
- To the Oregon Health Authority and County Infectious Disease as required by law

Hand Hygiene

Washing hands can keep you healthy and prevent the spread of infections from one person to the next. All children and staff will engage in hand hygiene at the following times:

- Arrival to the classroom and after breaks
- Before and after each work choice
- Before and after eating or handling food
- After using the toilet or helping a child use the bathroom
- After coming in contact with bodily fluid, including after sneezing and coughing, putting fingers/hands in mouth
- After playing outdoors
- After handling garbage
- Before and after touching your eyes, nose, or mouth

Please see the CDC's recommendations for How and When to Wash Your Hands.

For any times when hand washing is not feasible, pdxMC will provide alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol to children over 2 years of age. Hand sanitizer can quickly reduce the number of germs on hands in many situations.