

Monarch Christian Montessori

COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocol

Proposed March 1, 2022

In an effort to maintain a safe school environment for the children, Monarch Christian Montessori is taking several safety precautions to prevent the spread of infectious disease, and to address the concerns of the novel virus COVID-19. We are in alignment with the guidelines set forth by the Virginia Department of Health.

The following protocols have been made effective starting March 1, 2022.

1. **Face Covering Mandate:** Outside visitors are restricted from the program at this time.
 - a. All persons will be required to wear a face covering to enter the building.
 - b. **All students (except the pre-primary students under 2 years old) are recommended to wear a face covering.**
2. **Temperature Check:** Upon entry of the building, every person will undergo a temperature check. Any person with a fever (100 or higher) will not be permitted to enter.
3. **Daily Health Check:**
 - a. We will administer a daily questionnaire for parents at drop-off, to disclose if a child is experiencing any COVID-related symptoms. Any signs of illness such as rapid breathing, difficulty breathing, new cough or sore throat, chills, unusual tiredness or who has a household member or other close contact with those signs of illness should not enter the facility.
 - b. If a child is sent home because of an illness, he/she must be free of symptoms for at least 24 hours before returning to school.
4. **Quarantine Mandate:**
 - a. Travel: Any extended vacation travels of 3 or more days will require for a full 5 days of self-quarantine. PCR test is required within 3-5 days after returning from travel. A doctor's clearance or test result is required to return to school.
 - b. Symptoms: Any persons, who have developed COVID symptoms, will require a doctor's clearance or be free of all symptoms for 24 hours.
 - c. Positive Case: Persons, who have been tested positive or have discovered a positive result within immediate household, should contact the school immediately. They must remain home for 10 days from the notification date and will require doctor's clearance or proof of a negative test result to return to school.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What if there is a known or suspected case of COVID-19 infection within the school?

- The Fairfax County Health Department will be notified immediately.
- If the case is within one group or classroom, anyone within "close contact" (being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes) or having exposure to the person's respiratory secretions, should be quarantined at home for 10 days after their last exposure to the ill individual. A person with COVID-19 is considered to be contagious starting from 2 days before they became sick (or 2 days before they tested positive if they never had symptoms) until they meet the criteria to discontinue isolation.

- All children who are up to date with COVID-19 vaccines or recently recovered are NOT recommended to quarantine after an exposure if they are able to wear masks and remain symptom-free.
- Individuals who have not recovered from COVID19 in the past 3 months should be encouraged to get tested at least 5 days after the close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- If known or suspected cases occur in multiple groups or classrooms, the Fairfax County Health Department will gather more information to assess the situation, and make a recommendation on whether the operations within the facility need to be suspended (the recommended time frame is 10 days).

What is the isolation protocol for a positive COVID-19 case?

- Isolation and quarantine periods can be reduced to five days for children who can consistently wear well-fitting masks and until the following criteria are met:
 - No fever for at least 1 day (that is 24 hours of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers), AND
 - Other symptoms have improved
- For children who are unable to consistently wear a mask when around others (including all children under 2 years of age) must remain at home for 10 days,

Monarch Christian Safety Protocol contains important information regarding the school and updates to its policies for health and safety. Please consult the Director with any questions regarding any of the policies before signing this form.

I/We acknowledge that revisions to this handbook may occur, and that the information and policies may be subject to change as new information or changing public health situations arise.

All changes will be communicated through official notices, and I/we understand that revised information may supersede, modify, or eliminate existing policies.

I/we understand that it is my/our responsibility to comply with the provisions contained there, as well as any revisions made to them. I/We agree to perform the obligations of parents (or guardians), as set forth by this Safety Protocol, and in alliance with policies listed in the MCM handbook.

My/Our signatures indicate that we have received a copy of, read, and understand Monarch Christian Safety Protocols; furthermore, all of our questions have been satisfactorily answered.

Child's Name

Parent / Guardian Name (Print) Parent / Guardian Signature Date

Parent / Guardian Name (Print) Parent / Guardian Signature Date

Please sign and return to the school office. This form will be added to your child's file.