

## Miniapple International Montessori COVID-19 Safety

Miniapple cares about the health and safety of the staff, families and the children in our care. Miniapple refers to the guidance from MDH and CDC to continue to keep everyone safe and healthy. Miniapple has implemented the following protocols and will monitor and update as instructed by MDH or CDC.

### 1. Source control and cloth face covering

Minnesota Department of Health and CDC face covering guidance:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facecover.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

- All staff, regardless of COVID vaccine status, are required to wear a mask that covers the mouth and nose in all indoor areas of the school, including their own classroom.
- All parents/guardians, regardless of COVID vaccine status, must wear a mask that covers the mouth and nose in all indoor areas of the school.
- We recommend that students in our preschool, kindergarten and school-age programs wear a clean face covering except during nap & mealtime or when playing outside..
- Staff and children bring inside shoes to wear inside the building.

### 2. Arrival and Departure

CDC screening tool for parents to complete before arriving at school:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

- One parent for each child may drop off and pick up at the classroom door.
- All parents/guardians, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a mask that covers mouth and nose at pickup and drop off. This is a short duration time to protect children who are not vaccinated.
- Parents do not enter the classroom. Infant/toddler staff will meet parents at the classroom door to assist with child and belongings. Preschool and school age students will put away/retrieve belongings independently.
- Parents leave the building as quickly as possible to avoid congestion in the hallways. Messages to staff should be communicated via the clipboard or email
- Parents use hand sanitizer before and after signing their child in or out on the tablet.
- In Minneapolis, parents enter the front door and exit from the 2nd floor exit to the parking lot/garden.
- Upon arrival, staff and children will wash hands.
- Persons with a fever of 100.4° or above or other signs of illness are not permitted in school. Parents should be on the alert for signs of illness in their children and keep them home when they are sick.

### 3. Physical/Social distancing throughout the day

- We will utilize our outdoor classrooms and plan for more outdoor activities as weather permits.
- Adults maintain physical distance while talking with each other and with children when possible.

### 4. Ventilation

- Encourage outside play time when weather permits.
- Air purifier with a Medical Grade H13 True HEPA filter that removes 99.99% bacteria, aerosolized viruses, and airborne particles in each classroom.

## 5. Frequent Handwashing

CDC guidance on handwashing:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

- Staff and children wash hands upon entering the school and when switching classrooms/discovery rooms/gym/playground and re-entering the classroom
- Before and after eating or handling food, or feeding children.
- Before and after administering medication or medical ointment.
- Before and after diapering.
- After children and staff return from the playground.
- After taking out the trash and recycling.
- Staff wash hands after lunch break.
- After using the toilet or helping a child use the bathroom.
- After coming into contact with bodily fluid.
- Follow proper handwashing procedures after sneezing, coughing, blowing nose, etc.
- Staff wash hands before assisting children with sunscreen and between each child.

## 6. Cleaning and disinfecting

CDC guidance for frequent cleaning and disinfecting of the program:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>

- New bleach solutions are measured and made daily.
- We have implemented increased cleaning with soap and water, then disinfecting with bleach solution, of high touch areas in classrooms, common areas and indoor/outdoor playgrounds.
- Each classroom has a bucket for toys and materials that need to be cleaned and sanitized.
- Staff wear gloves for cleaning and disinfecting.
- Soft surfaces are cleaned with soap and water or laundered when possible.
- We will follow CDC procedures for cleaning and disinfection after persons suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 have been in the program.
- School hours may be adjusted to allow for extra cleaning and disinfecting.

## 7. Plans for sick children and staff

- We follow the MDH exclusion guidance and ensure children and staff stay home when sick:  
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/exguide.pdf>
- If a child at school gets sick, parents must pick up their child immediately. The child will be brought to the director's office or a designated supervised isolation room until the parent picks up.
- The Director will email the COVID-19 decision tree to the parent.
- We follow CDC guidance for what to do if someone becomes sick with COVID-like symptoms:  
[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html#anchor\\_1613687173417](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html#anchor_1613687173417)
- If a child or staff member is diagnosed with, or is exposed to, COVID-19 or is exhibiting symptoms, Miniapple must be notified. We will contact MDH at [health.schoolcc.followup@state.mn.us](mailto:health.schoolcc.followup@state.mn.us) and follow their direction.
- The Director, Asst. Director, Human Resources Manager or Program Administrator maintain communication with staff who may be ill to ensure the privacy of staff is maintained.
- Staff and management will be trained during work time regarding COVID-19 exposure, as well as applicable policies, procedures, practices, and protocols.