



St. Anthony Preschool & Child Care is committed to maintaining the health and safety of all of the children and staff at the school. We have thoroughly reviewed CDC, County, and DHS guidelines for safety in developing our policies and procedures. These guidelines may change depending on the current status of Covid-19 cases in our school or local Montgomery County.

### **COVID-19 Policy & Procedure for a Sick Child and/or Staff Member**

1. If there is a possibility of fever or illness, temperature checks for children, staff, and direct service providers/therapists will be taken upon arrival and as needed throughout the day.
2. For children older than the age of 2 years, wearing a mask is optional.
3. For Child Care staff and direct service providers/therapists, wearing a mask is optional.

### **Isolation Guidelines**

1. Staff and children, who have **tested positive for or showing symptoms** of COVID-19 will not be allowed to enter the school building.
  - a. On Days 1-5: Stay home and isolate away from other people to the extent possible.
  - b. On Day 6: Staff, children older than the age of 2 years, or other providers may return to school if fever and symptom-free for 24 hours without medication.
  - c. On Days 6-10: Wear a mask
  - d. For children who have symptoms, continue isolation until the child is fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved.
    - i. After day 10, return to school.
  - e. For children who were severely ill, or whose fever persists past day 10, consult a healthcare professional before returning to school.

### **Quarantine Guidelines**

1. Staff, \*Children older than the age of 2 years, vaccinated or unvaccinated, who have recently had exposure to a person with COVID-19 should take precautions. Precautions include wearing a mask for 10 days. It is also important to monitor symptoms from the day of exposure and test if symptoms develop.
2. If a child/staff had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days and has no symptoms, you may return to school.
  - a. \*If a child **is under the age of 2 years**, vaccinated or unvaccinated, and is exposed to a person with COVID-19, the child will not be able to attend child care and will be asked to quarantine from the day of exposure and test on day 5 or 6. If negative, the child may return to school at the earliest on day 6. If positive, the child will isolate for another 5 days and return to school after Day 10 if symptom-free.
  - b. If **over the age of 2 years and vaccinated**; child/staff may return to school.
  - c. If **over the age of 2 years and not vaccinated**; child/staff will need to quarantine for Days 1-5 and monitor for symptoms. If no symptoms, the child/staff may return to school and wear a mask for Days 6-10.
  - d. For children who have symptoms, continue quarantine until the child is fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved.
  - e. For children who were severely ill, or whose fever persists past day 10, consult a healthcare professional before returning to school.
  - f. After day 10, return to school.

## Additional Information

Children will be monitored throughout the day for signs of runny nose, cough, **fever of 100.4 or higher**, rash, flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing, fatigue, redness in the eyes and/or lips, extreme fussiness, coughing, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, or gastrointestinal issues that may develop during the day.

1. **“Sick-Space”**- St. Anthony Preschool & Child Care School will have a dedicated Nurse’s Office until a family member can come to pick up their child **within 1 hour** or sooner.
2. During the time of a child’s needed isolation an appointed teacher will wear gloves and a face mask will be placed on the child who is sick. If necessary, the child’s belongings will be placed in a disposable plastic bag and the teacher, the child, and the child’s belongings will go to the Nurse’s Office or an isolated area of the classroom with their mat and a toy or book.
3. The sick child will use a separate bathroom from others in the Nurse’s Office. The bathroom will be sanitized after use, using a 3 step cleaning process (Clean, Disinfect, & Sanitize) provided by the CDC guidelines.
4. A family member will pick up the child at the door at the bottom of the ramp behind the school building. The family member will call the office (215-646-6150) to let staff know of their arrival and the teacher will bring the child to the designated family member.
5. After the sick child exits the school building, the “Sick-Space” isolation room will be cleaned, disinfected, and sanitized.
6. If there are 3 or more positive cases of COVID-19 present in one area of the school, we will inform the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) by contacting the appropriate Regional Office of Certification **OCDEL** Southeast Region at **215.560.2541** as per 55 Pa. Code §3270.136(d) and the **Hotline** for Montgomery County Department of Public Health at **1-610-278-6211** or email [MCschoolsCOVID19@montcopa.org](mailto:MCschoolsCOVID19@montcopa.org) for further guidance.
7. If a staff member or direct service provider/therapists becomes ill and/or has a fever during their shift, they must leave the school.

The director will inform parents of enrolled children when there is a suspected outbreak of a communicable disease or an outbreak of an unusual illness that represents a public health emergency in the opinion of the Department of Health as per 55 Pa. Code §3270.136(b).

St. Anthony Preschool & Child Care will use the CDC guidelines for the Isolation and Quarantine in Early Care and Education (ECE) Programs. If necessary, these guidelines may be modified by St. Anthony’s depending on COVID-19 cases and related illnesses in our school. These guidelines can be found at this link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/sick-at-child-care-flowchart.html>