

Summary:

Aldrich will hold in-person classes at a decreased capacity for the 2020-2021 school year when Rochester Public Elementary Schools are in a full open model. When RPS elementary schools are in a hybrid or distance learning model, in-person classes will not be held at Aldrich.



Aldrich School

2020 - 2021 School Year Plan
Updated 8.5.2020

Decreased Capacity:

When Aldrich reopens, we will be doing so at a reduced capacity. Only one class will be held in each room per day to allow for proper sanitization. The maximum class size for 3- and 4-year-old classes will be 11 children with 2-3 adults. The maximum class size for a 2-year-old class will be 8 children with 2 adults.

Due to these smaller group sizes, we may not be able to accommodate all currently enrolled families. We will determine enrollment in each class based on the following steps:

- To serve as many families as possible, we will ask families who are enrolled in multiple sessions to choose one. First, families who are enrolled in more than one session will be called to pick between Monday Wednesday Friday and Tuesday Thursday.
- Next, spots will be assigned based on date of enrollment, with priority being given to families who enrolled first.
- If space is available, families who were not able to stay in their originally enrolled class will be given the first opportunity to take any open spots in other classes.
- If space is still available, families who desire more than one session will be called and given the opportunity to reenroll in an additional session.

Children enrolled through early childhood special education may receive special consideration based on spots already reserved by Rochester Public schools.

Your family will receive notification of your enrollment status by August 14.

Distance Learning:

Aldrich will only offer distance learning opportunities once we have been in a face-to-face classroom for at least eight weeks. After this time period, the relationships and routines established will make distance learning more likely to be successful.

During distance learning, tuition will still be due. For the duration of the school year, the standard 30-day written notice requirement for disenrollment will be in place.

Due to the changing nature of infection density, Aldrich may be required to open and close multiple times throughout the school year. We anticipate giving teachers and families at least one week's notice if we need to change learning models. More information and guidance on this topic will be coming from Rochester Public schools in the coming weeks and we will update our model accordingly.

If distance learning goes into place, this model will last until face-to-face classes resume, but no more than eight consecutive weeks. After eight consecutive weeks, distance-learning will cease and tuition will not be expected until face-to-face classes resume.

Tuition & Disenrollment

If your family's needs have changed based on our plan [please notify us by Wednesday, August 12 in writing of your need to disenroll.](#) September tuition will be due on August 14. October tuition will remain due on September 1.

Tuition will be due if Aldrich is in a distance learning model. This tuition will also secure your child's place in their class once face-to-face classes resume. For the duration of the school year, the standard 30-day written notice requirement for disenrollment will be in place.

If Aldrich does not open in September as scheduled, your previously paid tuition will be applied toward the first month of attendance.

Exclusionary Criteria

When a child or staff member exhibits symptoms or has confirmed contact with COVID-19, Aldrich will follow the Minnesota Department of Health guidelines for exclusion of people in Youth, Student, and Child Care Programs. This will require children and staff members to be out for more reasons and for longer periods of time than our standard model. Their model can be accessed as a decision tree via the link below. We will work with Olmsted County Public Health to determine the scope of class/school closure in the event of exposure. During this time, tuition will still be due.

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/exguide.pdf>

Safety Precautions

Per the State of Minnesota's mask mandate, additional masking requirements have been added at Aldrich since our last update. Children 5 and under are not required to mask at Aldrich, but are welcome to. Teachers will be wearing masks and/or face shields in all indoor areas.

A large sampling of Aldrich safety precautions was released in June and can be accessed via the link below.

<http://aldrichschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/COVID-June-Safety-Possibilities.pdf>

Other Considerations

Aldrich staff is continuing to refine and adjust our policies and procedures for the 2020-2021 school year. Additional updates will be coming as the first day of school approaches.