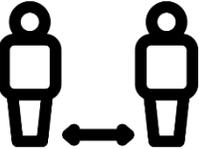
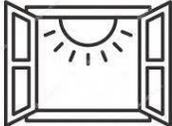


COVID Preparedness Plan for Aldrich School 2021-2022

	<p>Face Coverings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children two and older should wear a face mask while indoors at Aldrich, except when eating or napping. Aldrich staff will encourage and model proper mask use. • Parents should send extra masks with their child. All masks should be labeled with the child's name. • Extra disposable masks will be available at Aldrich, should children need a replacement and none is available from home. • <u>All adults, including teachers and families, will need to wear masks inside the school</u>, with the exception of vaccinated teachers conducting group time. • Masks will be optional when outdoors.
	<p>The document "Decision Tree for People with COVID-19 Symptoms in Youth, Student, and Child Care Programs" will be used in determining exclusionary criteria of children and staff who are exhibiting symptoms or have had close contact with a person who has tested positive.</p> <p>Daily Health Checks <u>Parents play a vital role in keeping our program open and healthy, please be honest and forthcoming with any symptoms your child is experiencing.</u> Parents will be responsible to complete a daily healthy check of their child(ren) prior to arrival to ensure they are healthy. Children should only attend Aldrich if they are healthy and able to participate in all portions of the regularly scheduled day, this includes outdoor play. If children or staff, <u>or any member of the household</u>, exhibit one of the "more common" symptoms, or two of the "less common symptoms" listed below, they should be evaluated by a physician before returning to Aldrich:</p> <p><u>More Common</u>: new or worsening cough, fever of 100° or higher without using fever reducing medications, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing, <u>Less Common</u>: sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, chills, fatigue, nasal congestion or runny nose</p> <p>Symptoms While Attending Aldrich If a child develops symptoms deemed exclusionary while attending their session at Aldrich, the child will be isolated to the front office and the parent/guardian will be called to pick up their child immediately. Spaces and surfaces used by that child will be properly cleaned and disinfected before used by another group of children.</p>
	<p>Close Contacts</p> <p>If a child or unvaccinated staff member has close contact with someone with COVID-19, they must complete a quarantine period before returning to school. The first day of quarantine starts the day after the child's last contact with the person with COVID-19. Tuition is still due during the time period a child is in quarantine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The safest option is to stay home and away from others for 14 days. • The child or staff member may return to Aldrich after seven days only if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They get tested for COVID-19 at least five full days after the close contact, and the test is negative. ○ They have not had any symptoms ○ No one in the household has COVID-19 <p>If a fully vaccinated staff member has close contact with someone with COVID-19, they will not be required to quarantine if they exhibit no symptoms.</p>

	<p>Arrival/Departure</p> <p>To decrease the number of people in the hallway, 2 windows of time will be offered for drop off (8:45-8:55am and 8:55-9:05am for morning classes, 12:45-12:55pm and 12:55-1:05pm for afternoons). Families that would prefer fewer people in the hallway can drop off after 9:05am or 1:05pm. There will also be 2 windows of time offered for pick up to decrease numbers in the hallway (11:15-11:25am and 11:25-11:35am, 3:15-3:25 and 3:25-3:35.)</p>
	<p>Frequent Handwashing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents will help children wash their hands when they arrive at Aldrich every morning. • Frequent handwashing will continue to be encouraged while at Aldrich. • Hand sanitizer stations will be available for adult use at main entrances, in the office, and in the outdoor classrooms. • Visual cues for handwashing will be displayed at hand washing areas. • Hands will also be washed before and after eating snack, playing with sensory items (playdough, sensory tub), toileting/diapering, after blowing nose/coughing/sneezing and when returning to the classroom from another space (outdoor classroom, playroom.)
	<p>Social Distancing Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limiting the number of children working/eating at a table and other learning areas • Adding plexiglass dividers as able/appropriate • Adjusting group time formats depending on the space in classrooms and class group size. • Limiting group size • No mixing groups of students indoors.
	<p>Cleaning and Disinfecting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected daily. High touch surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized more frequently based on use patterns. For example, tables will be cleaned and sanitized before a new group of students eat snack. • Used of shared spaces (Playroom 1 & 2) will be minimized. On inclement weather days, the spaces will be available for use by one group at a time, but high touch surfaces will be sanitized between groups.
	<p>Ventilation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers should open classroom windows as weather allows. • Time in the outdoor classrooms may be maximized by teachers.
	<p>Classroom Materials</p> <p>Sensory experiences including playdough, sand, water and other sensory table contents have high educational and experiential value and will continue to take place in the Aldrich classrooms. Due to their hands-on nature, they can also present a higher risk for virus exposure and transmission. Handwashing will be required before and after sensory play.</p>

	<p>Snacks and Meals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers will serve snack items to children. • Children will need to wash their hands before and after eating snack. • Snack tables will be cleaned and sanitized between groups. • All snack food will be provided by Aldrich. Exceptions may be made for dietary requirements/restrictions.
	<p>Travel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families who travel out of the country will be asked to stay home for 10 days and monitor for symptoms prior to returning to school (this time can be reduced to 7 days if you test negative and are symptom free). • Families traveling out of state should consider COVID guidelines and/or case rate from the area they are visiting and quarantine accordingly.
	<p>Helmholz Library</p> <p>The library will only be open for check out at this time to discourage groups gathering.</p>
	<p>Field Trips and Volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classrooms may utilize walking field trips more often to take advantage of the outdoor spaces around the school property. Parent permission for such trips will be obtained. • In-school visitors/volunteers may be considered, but they will need to submit proof of vaccination.
	<p>Positive COVID Case in Aldrich</p> <p>If a case of COVID-19 is diagnosed within a classroom (child or teacher), we must follow the guidance of Olmsted County Public Health and MN Department of Health for possible closure of the classroom. A quarantine period of up to 10-14 days may be required. Reduced quarantine time may be possible depending on recommendations of Olmsted County Public Health. Tuition is still due during the time period a child is in quarantine.</p>
	<p>COVID Point Person Jessica Richards, School Director jessica@aldrichschool.com; 507-289-3097</p>

Sources and More Info:

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Best Practices for Schools and Child Care:

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

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Guidance for Operating Early Care and Education Programs <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/child-care-guidance.html>

Recommended COVID-19 Decision Tree for People in Schools, Youth, and Child Care Programs

Settings are encouraged to follow the appropriate path if a child, student, or staff person – regardless of vaccination status – is experiencing the following symptoms.

- **More common:** fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher; new cough or a cough that gets worse; difficulty/hard time breathing; new loss of taste or smell.
- **Less common:** sore throat; nausea; vomiting; diarrhea; chills; muscle pain; extreme fatigue/feeling very tired; new severe/very bad headache; new nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose.

