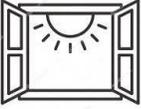


# COVID Preparedness Plan for Aldrich School 2022-2023

	<p><b>Vaccination</b></p> <p>"For COVID-19, staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations is the leading public health strategy to prevent severe disease." - CDC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aldrich staff are up to date on COVID vaccination.</li> <li>• Children ages 2 and older are now eligible for the COVID vaccination and we strongly encourage all students in attendance are vaccinated against COVID.</li> <li>• Classroom volunteers must be up to date on their COVID vaccines and submit documentation to the Front Office.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Staying Home When Sick</b></p> <p><b>Daily Health Checks</b></p> <p><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 health 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, including outdoor play. If children or staff exhibit any of the symptoms below, they should stay home and may return to Aldrich with a negative test(s) (See "COVID Testing" section for more information) or evaluation from a medical professional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever or feeling feverish/having chills</li> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• Vomiting/nausea</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> </ul> <p>It is important to report <u>any</u> symptoms your child is experiencing to the Aldrich office within 24 hours so that we can share next steps with you in a timely manner regarding testing and isolation. If you don't report symptoms to Aldrich within 24 hours and your child later tests positive for COVID, we will use your child's test date to determine the isolation period.</p> <p><b>Symptoms While Attending Aldrich</b></p> <p>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. Your child will be provided with a disposable face mask to wear until picked up. Spaces and surfaces used by that child will be properly cleaned and disinfected before used by another group of children.</p> <p><b>Testing Positive for COVID-19</b></p> <p><u>If you receive a positive COVID test for your child, please notify the Aldrich office immediately (including during the weekend or evening) by emailing <a href="mailto:aldrich@aldrichschool.com">aldrich@aldrichschool.com</a>.</u> This is vital so we can keep families notified if their child was a close contact while at Aldrich.</p> <p>People who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are still within their first 5 days of illness should not enter Aldrich School.</p>
	<p><b>COVID Testing</b></p> <p>Aldrich will accept lab confirmed tests OR serial home tests (2 negative tests over 3 days, with at least 24 hours and no more than 48 hours apart, depending on the test instructions.) Home test results must be submitted with a photo of the test including child's name and date the test was taken.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children or staff who have COVID symptoms cannot attend while awaiting screening test results.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Isolation and Quarantine</b> MDH quarantine and isolation guidance bases timelines on a child’s ability to consistently wear a well-fitting mask. <u>We will be following the guidelines for children that are unable to consistently wear a well-fitting mask.</u> Our first-hand experience shows that most children are still learning and fine tuning their mask wearing skills.</p> <p><b>Isolation Due to Positive Test: Aldrich Student</b> Students that test positive for COVID will need to isolate and remain out of Aldrich for 10 full days. Day 0 is the day symptoms start or they test positive.</p>  <p>(MDH)</p> <p><b>Isolation Due to Positive Test: Aldrich Staff</b> Aldrich staff that test positive for COVID will need to isolate and remain out of Aldrich for a minimum of 5 full days. Day 0 is the day symptoms start or they test positive. They can return to Aldrich on Day 6 if their symptoms are improving, they have been fever-free for 24 hours <u>and</u> they wear a well-fitting mask through Day 10.</p> <p><b>Close Contacts</b> Anyone who has a close contact with someone with COVID-19 is STRONGLY encouraged to wear a mask for 10 days and test 5 days following exposure. If symptoms develop, they will need to test using testing protocol to return to Aldrich.</p> <p>*If the Close Contact is within the household and the Close Contact is unable to isolate from the Positive Case, we STRONGLY encourage the Close Contact from attending Aldrich for 5 days and to test on Day 5 and daily through Day 10.</p>
	<p><b>Face Coverings</b> “Wearing a well-fitting mask consistently and correctly reduces the risk of spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.” -CDC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Masking will be encouraged, but not required for all individuals age 2 and over while inside Aldrich School.</li> <li>• Those that do choose to wear a face mask will be supported in their decision.</li> <li>• If your child chooses to wear a face mask, please send extras in their backpack. Reusable masks must be labeled with their first and last name.</li> <li>• Extra disposable masks will be available at Aldrich, should children need a replacement and none is available from home.</li> <li>• COVID Transmission levels will be monitored at Aldrich.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building Transmission Levels: If 5% or more of Aldrich students and staff test positive for COVID-19, masking will be required indoors for students, staff and visitors for 2 weeks.</li> <li>• Classroom Transmission Levels: If 15% or more students and staff in a single classroom are absent due to COVID symptoms or test positive, masking will be required indoors for students, staff and visitors in that classroom for 2 weeks.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>Frequent Handwashing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents will help children wash their hands when they arrive at Aldrich every morning.</li> <li>• Frequent handwashing will continue to be encouraged while at Aldrich.</li> <li>• Hand sanitizer stations will be available for adult use at main entrances, in the office, and in the outdoor classrooms.</li> <li>• Visual cues for handwashing will be displayed at hand washing areas.</li> <li>• 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.)</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Ventilation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers should open classroom windows as weather allows.</li> <li>• Time in the outdoor classrooms may be maximized by teachers.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Cleaning and Disinfecting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Our shared indoor spaces, Playroom 1 and Playroom 2 will be available for use by one group at a time, but high touch surfaces will be sanitized between groups.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Cohorting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will only be mixed indoors with students from other classrooms during Extensions (Early Bird, Lunch Bunch, Kids Club)</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Travel</b></p> <p>Families traveling out of state should consider COVID guidelines and/or case rate from the area they are visiting and quarantine and test accordingly.</p> <p>Families traveling internationally are encouraged to self-quarantine for 5 days upon return to the US and return to Aldrich after a negative COVID test.</p>

### COVID Point Person

Annie Getchell, School Director  
[annie@aldrichschool.com](mailto:annie@aldrichschool.com); 507-289-3097

### Sources and More Info:

Guidelines in this document are subject to change at anytime as guidance from MDH and CDC is updated. Families will be notified of these changes.

If Aldrich experiences an “outbreak” in our COVID levels, additional mitigation strategies may be implemented.

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>

U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) At-Home COVID-19 Antigen Tests  
<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/safety-communications/home-covid-19-antigen-tests-take-steps-reduce-your-risk-false-negative-fda-safety-communication#:~:text=The%20U.S.%20Food%20and%20Drug,SARS%2DCoV%2D2%20virus%20to>