

Montessori Learning Community of Asheville

WEST
1 School Road
Asheville, NC 28806

EAST
15 Overbrook Place
Asheville, NC 28805



Updated 8/20/2021

Interim Safety Protocols

In response to recent developments of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have updated the following protocols in conjunction with the current NC Health and Human Services guidelines to keep our community safe while still providing our usual care and educational services to families.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of specific and non-specific symptoms of COVID-19.

People with these symptoms may have COVID-19 (but this list does not include all possible symptoms):

- Fever* or chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- New cough
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Diarrhea

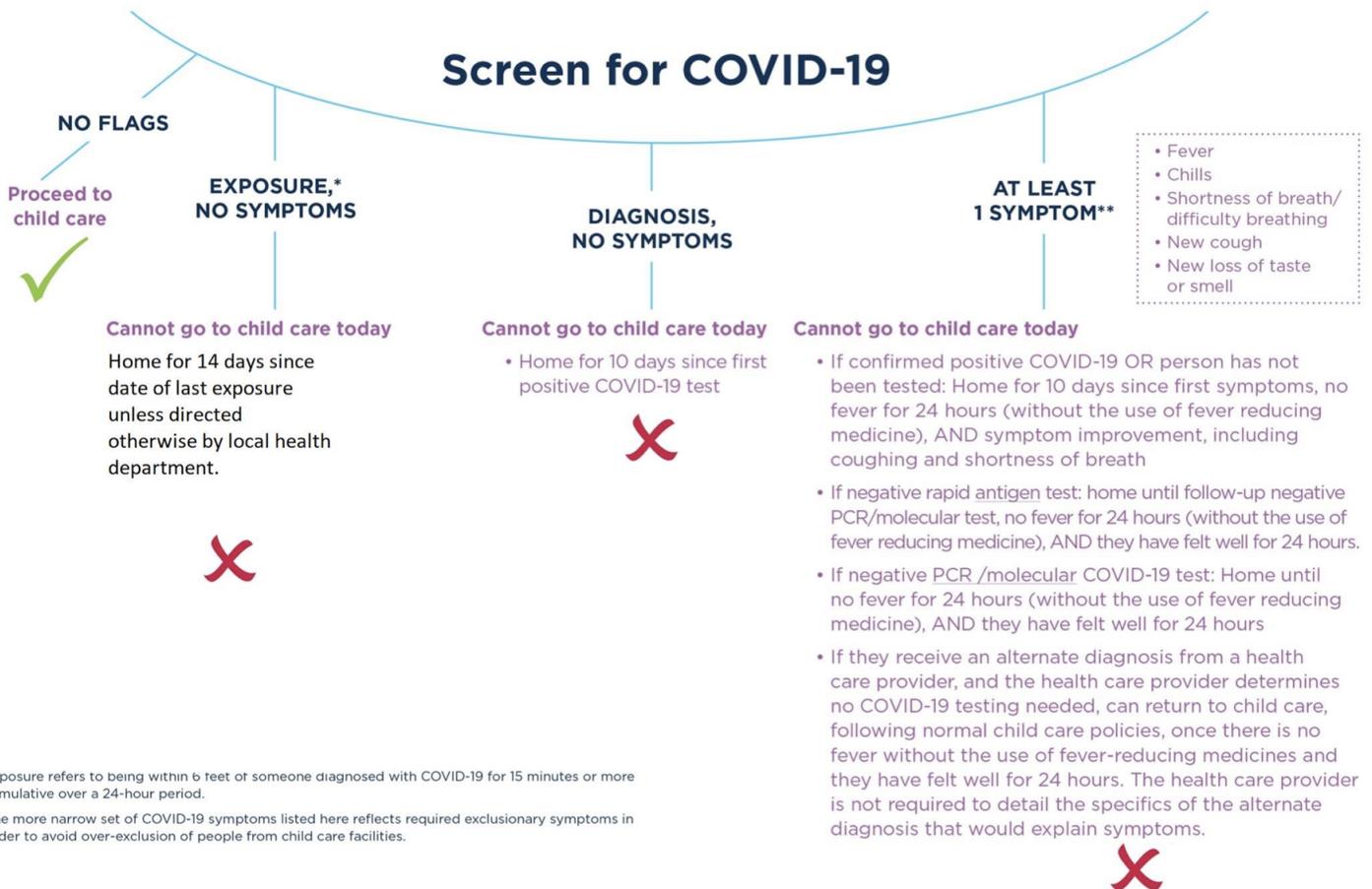
People with COVID-19 report a wide range of symptoms from no symptoms and mild to severe illness. Even people with no or mild symptoms can spread the virus. Children with COVID-19 may not initially present with fever and cough as often as adult patients.

*Fever is determined by a measured temperature of 100.4 °F or greater, or feels warm to the touch, or says they have recently felt feverish.

Before Entering Into The School...

Pre-entry Questions

Exclusion Flow Chart



* Exposure refers to being within 6 feet of someone diagnosed with COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more cumulative over a 24-hour period.

** The more narrow set of COVID-19 symptoms listed here reflects required exclusionary symptoms in order to avoid over-exclusion of people from child care facilities.

- If the answer to any of the following screening questions is yes, please do not attempt to drop off your child at school.

When entering the child care facility, have you or any of the children you are dropping off:

1. Been diagnosed with COVID-19 since they were last at child care?

- Yes
- No

- *If No, move on to Question 2.*
- *If Yes, say and ask: "They cannot go to child care. Does anyone else who lives with them also go to or work at this child care?" Yes No*
- *If Yes, say: "Those individuals cannot go to child care."*

2. Had any of the following symptoms since they were last at child care?

- Fever
- Chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New cough
- New loss of taste or smell

- *If No, move on to Question 3.*
- *If Yes to at least one symptom on this list, say and ask: "They cannot go to child care. Does anyone else who lives with them also go to or work at this child care?" Yes No*
- *If Yes, say: "Those individuals cannot go to child care."*

3. Had close contact (been within 6 feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes over a 24-hour period) with a person with undiagnosed symptoms of COVID-19 or diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days?

- Yes
- No

- *If No, move on to Question 4.*
- *If Yes, say: "They cannot go to child care." If the person is fully vaccinated and has no new symptoms, consult with the local health department for guidance.*

4. Has any health department staff or a health care provider been in contact with the person you are dropping off and advised them to quarantine?

- Yes
- No

- *If No, say: The person may go to child care.*
- *If Yes, say: They cannot go to child care.*

- Remember that honesty and consistency with these questions and following practices are vital to the health and safety of your family, the school, and the wider community.
 - Additionally, MLC is not able to discount tuition for quarantine time.

Wellness and Temperature Screening

- A designated staff member(s) will greet and screen students one at a time and screen per the exclusion flow chart provided. Staff and anyone else entering the school will also undergo daily screening before entering the building.
- Parents will stay outside the building. If possible, please have a designated, non-high-risk adult to attend drop off and pick-ups to limit direct contact.
- Each person entering the building will have his or her temperature taken with a touchless thermometer.

- Fever is determined by a thermometer reading 100.4 or higher or by subjective signs such as flushed cheeks, fatigue, extreme fussiness, chills, shivering, sweating, achiness, headache, not eating, or drinking.
- Once cleared for entry, each child or staff member will immediately wash hands or use hand sanitizer before entering his or her designated classroom.

Safe Arrivals and Departures Routine

Cloth Face Covering (CFCs) - Required for all adults and children indoors

- CFCs will be required during drop off screenings and pick up for all parents, staff, and children.
- CFCs will be required for all adults and students 2 years and older (i.e. masks are required regardless of vaccination status) at all times indoors unless exception applies, or actively eating, drinking, sleeping.
- MLC will have some disposable masks on-site but ask that each child is sent to school with at least 3 masks per school day as we will likely need to refresh them frequently. MLC will provide two pouches per child, one for clean masks and one for dirty masks, to be transported to and from school and home.

Exceptions to face coverings are people who:

- Should not wear a face covering due to any medical or behavioral condition or disability (including, but not limited to, any person who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious or incapacitated, or is otherwise unable to put on or remove the face covering without assistance);
 - Is under two (2) years of age;
 - Is actively eating or drinking;
- Masks are not recommended for children during outdoor time/play and therefore, will not be required while on the playground. Strategies will be in place to encourage children to keep moving and distanced as possible. If you would like your child to be masked during outside time, let us know and we will do our best to safely accommodate.
 - We will be implementing time for all children and staff to take safe, “mask-breaks” as well as windows open as long as the weather/season allows.
 - We also ask that you actively practice effective masking and etiquette with your child before his or her first day at school. This proaction will not only increase the level of effective mask wearing but also reduce the stress of being required to do so at school.
 - Guidance on mask wearing, selection, and maintenance can be found at the links below
 - [CDC: Cloth Face Covering Guidance](#)
 - [CDC: About Face Coverings](#)

Drop Off and Pick Up Times **School-wide Drop Off Window: 8:30am - 8:45am**

- As you arrive, please park and remain in one of the designated waiting locations, indicated by cones, until signaled to move up the screening area:
 - *West Campus:* under the awning of the Main Entrance (Mimosa Dr)
 - *East Campus:* under the covered walkway by the playground (Lower lot)
- Once screened and cleared for entry, each child will be escorted to their classroom
- **We currently have very limited staff on-site at both campuses, therefore, we need all parents to be punctual and arrive during the appropriate window for proper screening and entry daily**

- If your screening answers are the same as reported the previous day, this step can be omitted.
 - We will continue to use the Pick Up Line method in the afternoons and extend this practice until school closes. We do ask that parents load up children into the vehicle rather than the staff member.
 - **Pick Up Line Directions:**
 - *West Campus:* Enter parking lot via the Mimosa Drive / Main Entrance and line up along the playground side of the lot to exit onto School Road (keep cones on your right)
 - *East Campus:* Enter directly into the lower parking lot and line up alongside the playground to exit up and around the church building. (keep cones on your right)

Half Day Pick Up Window 12:15pm - 12:30pm - Full Day Pick Up Window: 2:45pm - 3:30pm

Personal Belongings and Food Items

- **MLC East is a nut-free campus! Please do not attempt to send any products containing tree or ground nuts to school.**
- Please send your child with a standard, full-size backpack that all items for the day/week can fit into. This bag will be used for the daily transfer of your child's belongings. The goal here is a single bag (aside from rest-bag), to make drop off and pick up as streamlined as possible and to reduce the amount of direct contact with outside items.
- **What should fit in this school bag: All food & drink items, including subsequent containers need to be labeled with name & date, everyday:**
 - Lunchbox, AM and PM Snacks (PM for Full Day students only)
 - Water Bottle
 - Full Set of Spare Clothes (seasonally appropriate)
 - 3 clean masks per day, in school provided zipping bags
 - Nap items (if needed) and in a separate tote as nap items stay at the school and are sent home to be laundered on student's last day of the week

Daily Routines and Schedule

Classroom Cohorts

In effort to keep contact low, each program (Toddler and Primary) will be self-contained throughout the school day, including drop off/pick up, transitions, restroom breaks, and outdoor learning time. This is in effort to both reduce the contact 'bubble' and so that in the event of a positive exposure, only the exposed program will be forced to temporarily close.

Enhanced Disinfectant Schedules

In addition to our normal stringent cleaning schedule, heightened periodic and use-based cleaning will also occur. The playground equipment, restrooms, and other high traffic areas and items will be sanitized between each

classroom use. We will also have reduced the use of sensory bins, water and sand tables, or any shared use materials.

Screening, Testing, and Exposure Protocol

All staff, like children, will be screened before entering the building. We will also be establishing routine testing for teaching staff as soon as possible. We will continue to work closely with our Healthcare Consultant and Contact Tracing should any staff member experience an exposure and need to isolate. Should an exposure impact the school populations, we again will rely on our Healthcare consultants and Contact Tracers to provide situationally specific guidance on any subsequent closures and quarantine periods. We expect enrolled families to make safe choices outside of school in effort to keep our school community 'bubble' safe.

RESOURCES: Stay Informed

- North Carolina DHHS: [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)
- North Carolina Governor's Office: [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)
- Centers for Disease Control: [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)
- Vaccination Information:
 - [CDC: COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
 - [NC DHHS: Vaccine Info and Site Locator](#)

Input

- Please reach out to us at office.mlcasheville@gmail.com with any ideas, suggestions, and resources so that we can better serve you, your family, and our community.