

Fort Hunt Preschool

Covid-19 Mitigation Policies and Procedures

September 2022

Fort Hunt Preschool's "Covid-19 Mitigation Policies and Procedures" sets forth mitigation strategies to help limit the spread of Covid-19 that have been developed following guidance from local, state, and federal officials, including the Fairfax County Health Department, Virginia Department of Health, Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry, and the Centers for Disease Control. The risks of engaging in activities during the pandemic, including attending in-person class, cannot be completely eliminated, although risks can be significantly mitigated by strict adherence to public health guidelines, including policies, procedures, and orders related to Covid-19 implemented by the federal, state, county, and local governments. Changes in public health guidance may require changes in the terms of FHP Covid-19 Mitigation Policies and Procedures to reflect such changes.

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Disinfection

Cleaning and disinfecting will use EPA-approved disinfectants against Covid-19. Frequently touched surfaces (e.g., tables, doorknobs) will be disinfected daily or more frequently, as needed. Dirty surfaces will be cleaned prior to disinfection.

Bathroom fixtures, toilets, and door handles will be disinfected at the end of the day.

Outdoor Class Time

Classes will be held a minimum of 50% of the day outdoors, weather permitting, with intentional indoor use, as decided by staff and teachers. Snacks and unmasked time will be done outdoors with rare exception. Classes will spend outdoor time in our Outdoor Classroom, FHP Natural Playground and on the grounds of the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church.

If a student is not dressed appropriately for the weather or is not comfortable enough to meaningfully participate in class, parents may be contacted to pick up the child or bring additional clothing at the teacher's discretion.

Outdoor classes may be held in the rain or cold. It is up to the discretion of the staff to hold class inside for all or part of the day because of unsafe or inclement weather conditions or in order to provide a safe and comfortable learning environment.

If snack and other unmasked time cannot be provided outside, families will be notified as soon as practicable, and before a child is dropped off. Families have the option to keep their child at home on these days.

Snacks

Multi-serving and individual serving packages are allowed at snack time. An adult will portion out any multi-serving items.

If snack and other unmasked time cannot be provided outside, families will be notified as soon as practicable, and before a child is dropped off. Families have the option to keep their child at home on these days.

Use of Masks

All adults and children 2 years of age or older are required to wear masks indoors. Masks are encouraged to be worn outdoors for vaccinated individuals. Unvaccinated individuals 2 years of age and older are required to wear masks outdoors.

Snacks and any unmasked time will be done outdoors with rare exception. If snack and other unmasked time cannot be provided outside, families will be notified as soon as practicable, and before a child is dropped off. Families have the option to keep their child at home on these days.

All staff, parent helpers, and students are encouraged to wear universal high-quality non-cloth masks (eg. N95, KN95, or KF94). Masks must be non-valved, multi-layered, and well-fitted to the contours of the face (see ["Improve How Your Mask Protects You"](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html>).

Parents are required to supply masks for their children. Each student is required to have a minimum of three (3) clean masks marked with the student's name at school each day in case mask changes are needed during school hours. Children will be responsible for putting on and taking off their masks and should bring to school masks for which they are able to do so. Staff will remind children of proper mask usage, will assist children with putting on or taking off the mask when practicable, and encourage students to change masks when wet or as otherwise may be prudent.

In addition to masks, staff may choose to wear additional Personal Protective Equipment ("PPE") as appropriate for the care of young children, including disposable gloves, protective covering such as smocks, goggles, glasses, and/or face shields.

Vaccination

All Staff and Parent Helpers are required to be fully vaccinated against Covid-19. Students are recommended to be fully vaccinated. When the children's vaccine is fully approved, vaccination will be required of all students as well. For FHP's purposes, you are considered fully vaccinated when you have received all doses in the primary series and all boosters recommended for you, when eligible.

Ventilation

Air purifiers and ceiling fans will be used in the classrooms. Windows will be open and exhaust fans will be in place in bathrooms. All doors and windows will be open as practicable.

Daily Health Check

The health of FHP staff, students, and their families will be monitored for possible symptoms of Covid-19. All FHP staff and families should be alert for symptoms of Covid-19.

The FHP Student Daily Health Check is a part of the Jovial Check-in system (QR code) to be completed at drop off by the caregiver for each student. Before dropping off, caregivers should assess their child's general temperature, health, and exposure to Covid-19 within the household.

All staff and parent helpers should also assess their own general temperature, health, and exposure to Covid-19 before each school day.

If a child becomes ill at school, has a temperature in excess of 100 F, or shows symptoms of Covid-19 or another infectious disease at any time during the school day, parents will be notified and required to promptly pick up the child from school. The child will be isolated immediately, in an area where sight and sound supervision can be maintained, while waiting to be picked up by a caregiver.

Staff, parent helpers, or students with any symptom of Covid-19 should stay home or will be sent home immediately. All cases of positive test results and/or close contact within an FHP member's household should be reported to the Director.

Covid-19 symptoms (not attributable to another condition) to assess within the last 48 hours:

- fever or chills (without fever reducing medicine)
- cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- fatigue
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- new loss of taste or smell
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea

Isolation and Quarantine Requirements

Please see the FHP Covid-19 Isolation and Quarantine Protocol for information about isolation and quarantine requirements.