Pandemic Emergency Operation Plan Updates – 1.24.2022

1. Travel: ADM will no longer be requiring a 10 day quarantine based on the Chicago Advisory Color map of states based on the number of cases within the state. ADM will require a negative PCR test administered in Illinois for any student traveling outside of our state before a return to school.
2. Sanitation and cleanliness: staff will continue the sanitation regiment and the handwashing regiments which have always been a part of ADM’s procedures. Air-filtering systems have now been purchased and are operating in all classrooms, both in the Annex and the Main building. Air ducts have been cleaned in the Annex.
3. Testing: Weekly testing on Fridays at 10:00 a.m. will continue. Gemini Labs sends a representative to test all staff present and any children whose parents have opted in. Results are reported back in 48 hours.
4. Masking: Students must wear a well-fitting mask that complies with CDC guidelines. The mask should pinch around the nose and be well-fitted at the cheeks. Fabrics should be at least two layers or a KN95 mask. Masks must be kept on the entire day except for eating and sleeping.

Children

Find a mask that is made for children to help ensure proper fit. Learn more about the different [types of masks](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/types-of-masks.html) available to children.

Check to be sure the mask fits snugly over the nose and mouth and under the chin and that there are no gaps around the sides.



Do NOT put a mask on children younger than 2 years old.

1. Pods: Where possible, teachers are placing students into small pods where interactions without masks only take place in the pod (eating and sleeping). If a quarantine is required the pod will be quarantined instead of the entire class pending information received from the classroom teachers. Students who are not well-masked will be included in the quarantine even if outside their pod. We encourage parents to work with their children who have difficulty keeping on the masks. Possibly another mask with a better fit for the child may help.
2. Symptoms: We will continue check-ins each morning to monitor symptoms. If the child exhibits two or more symptoms, they will not be permitted in school unless they have a doctor’s note or a negative PCR or be symptom free for 24 hours. Individual cases will be evaluated by the Lead Teacher, Head of School or the Director. ADM is committed to provide a safe environment for all our children and staff. Please do not send your children to school if they are sick, regardless of the sickness. Your little one does not want to be in school when feeling ill. You don’t want your child’s illness to spread to the rest of the classroom. Please see the Parent Handbook for our policies on illness.

Here are the symptoms that will be checked upon arrival (our list include symptoms now identified with the Omicron strain):

\*sudden loss of taste or smell

\*chills

\*body aches/pain

\*rash

\*fever

\*vomiting

\*diarrhea

\*Runny nose with yellow or green discharge

\*cough

\*short of breath/difficulty breathing

\*nasal congestion/stuffy nose

\*sore/scratchy throat

‘“Omicron looks like much more of an upper respiratory tract infection,” says Dr. Diego Hijano, a pediatric infectious disease specialist at [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](https://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals/area/tn/st-jude-childrens-research-hospital-6520815) in Memphis, Tennessee.

Patients are experiencing a lot of nasal congestion, stuffy nose and cough. With omicron in particular, he adds, scratchy throat is gaining traction as a frequently reported symptom, and one that he and colleagues are seeing.’

1. Reporting: Parents are required to report to ADM administration any case of Covid within the household as soon as it is diagnosed. Withholding such information can lead to the cancellation of the family’s contract with ADM.

ADM is required by the Chicago Department of Health to report all cases of Covid with contact information for tracing.

1. Quarantine:

POSTIVE COVID TEST:

Student must quarantine for 10 days, returning to school if fever-free for 24 hours and no symptoms.

CLOSE CONTACTS

OPTION A:

Students must quarantine, taking a PCR test after the fifth day, returning when results are received fever-free for 24 hours with no symptoms.

OPTION B:

Students must quarantine for 10 days and may return on the 11th without a test result fever-free for 24 hours with no symptoms.

1. Tuition: As Covid quarantines are beyond our control, the ADM contract with families and the Pandemic Closure Policy are still in effect. If ADM would have to close down for more than two months, the parent would be given the choice to cancel their agreement for the remainder of the school year.

All Day Montessori -- Pandemic Closure Policy

In the event of a case of Covid-19 in any classroom, ADM will follow the Department of Public Health guidelines for closure:

\*The class and its staff will follow current DPH guidelines for quarantine

\*The class/pod goes into e-distance learning program for the required quarantine time

\*Students return to their classroom following the quarantine if they are fever-free and symptom free.

\*The rest of the school continues with their daily in-person routine.

If ADM is closed due to a state or city health department Shelter in Place order:

\*Distance learning program will be provided by the classroom teachers for the remainder of the month and the following month.

\*Full tuition for these two months is required (current month and following)

If ADM is closed due to a state or city health department Shelter in Place for more than two months, parents may choose from the following options:

\*Pay $250.00 per month to hold their child’s seat at ADM following the 2nd month of closure

\*Pay $500.00 per month to continue the e-distance learning program until ADM can reopen following the 2nd month of closure

If ADM is closed more than 2 months due to an official mandate:

\*with 30 days’ notice, parents can withdraw without further contractual obligation. Notice may be given at the beginning of the second month of closure.

If ADM is open:

\*parents are responsible for the full year contract unless there is a wait-listed family to fill the vacated spot.

*These are the guidelines updated in accordance with guidance*

*from the Chicago Department of Health,*

*the Illinois Department of Health and the CDC.*