

LOS AMIGUITOS

COVID PROCEDURES

September 2020

It has been exciting to see amiguitos again, and for them to run around outdoors with their friends!

We are keeping up with updates of CDC, WHO, and Health and Human Services Commission guidelines for schools, have taken required related trainings and have defined and updating strategies to implement at Los Amiguitos. Please read the variations of procedures based on the COVID stage we are in found below.

In order to minimize risks of transmission of COVID19, it is also necessary that parents participate in this reorganization.

Please carefully read the following procedures, then sign at the bottom that you have read them ALL and agree to them.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL NEED

- A big sturdy plastic storage bin with a lid, with your child's name - this will be their outdoor cubby, where your child will be storing lunchbox, waterbottle and backpack with change of clothes.
- A smaller plastic storage bin, big enough to put a couple of books, paper, pencils, and a few other things that can be used during the day;but not so big they can't carry it themselves. We'll be filling it each morning so each child has materials needed while limiting having to go into the classroom.
- A labeled picnic blanket - This will be where your child will be sitting during circle time and to eat. It can be stored in the large bin, and will go home weekly unless it is dirty. Please make sure to bring it back.
- 2 or 3 masks with a neckband so they don't lose them; that are comfortable enough, cool enough and easy enough to put on and take off independently, and

are labeled. No valves. Children will only be wearing a mask when distance can't be maintained. Please be aware there will be a learning curve in wearing a face covering and maintaining distance.

- A labeled lunch box with a snack, a lunch, and extra food (in case of spilt food or extra hungry)
- 2 labeled water bottles (so they don't need to refill it)
- A hat for the sun
- A labeled backpack with changes of clothes and a plastic bag where any wet or dirty clothes will go (we will get wet when it's hot). The backpack will be kept inside the big bin.
- A large labeled plastic spray bottle with water in it for spraying ourselves down and keeping cool.

-- Please label your child's items to reduce risk of cross contamination--

RIGHT BEFORE LEAVING HOME - DAILY-

- Take your child's temperature and text it to us. Also let us know if your child or anyone close has presented any symptoms of COVID or has tested positive. We WON'T accept children who haven't sent this information and won't be doing it at school. *
- Have your child use the bathroom (to minimize him/her using the one at school). Make sure they have clothes and shoes they can put on/take off independently.
- Put sunscreen/bug repellent on. Please let us know if your child is sensitive to mosquitoes and needs reapplication during the mornings. If we are in the sun later in the morning we will reapply sunscreen.

** Symptoms of COVID 19 include but are not limited to:*

Cough - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing - Chills - Repeated shaking with chills - Muscle pain - Headache - Sore throat - Congestion and runny nose - fatigue - Loss of taste or smell - Diarrhea and/or stomach pain - Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 99.6 degrees Fahrenheit

HEALTH SCREENING AND ACTIONS IN CASE THERE ARE SYMPTOMS

1. Health screening needs to be done daily. It applies to children, staff, parents and people with legal authority coming to the school (such as licensing inspector)
 - Temperature checks must be performed by parents each day before dropping off your child. A child or staff must not have a fever above 99.6 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - Check for any symptoms that could be related to Covid (Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Chills, Muscle pain, Headache, congestion and runny nose, fatigue, Sore throat, nausea and vomiting, Diarrhea or stomach pain, repeated shaking with chills, Loss of taste or smell). If such symptoms are present, please keep your child at home and monitor. If they persist or worsen, keep your child home and consider getting tested.
2. Children or staff will not be admitted if they
 - have a fever above 99.6 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - Present new or worsening symptoms of Covid
 - Have been tested positive
3. If children or staff have been in close contact with someone presenting symptoms of Covid but are not currently presenting symptoms, they need to closely monitor their health for the above symptoms during the 14 days after the last day they were in close contact with the individual suspected with COVID-19 and get tested.
4. If children or staff have been in close contact with a person who has a confirmed case, a 14 day self-quarantine period from the last date of exposure is required.

5. In case of a staff member who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to work when all three of the following criteria are met:
 - at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery
 - And the individual has improvement in covid symptoms
 - And at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

6. We require immediate pick up (within 20 minutes) if a child gets sick while at school. He/she will be asked to wear a mask (if indoors) and isolated and until picked up. We will follow CDC guidelines on how to disinfect areas where a sick child or staff has had access.

7. If COVID-19 is confirmed in a child or staff member, the school will:
 - a. Contact the local health authority to report the presence of COVID-19 in our facility.
 - b. Contact Child Care Licensing to report the presence of COVID-19 in our facility.
 - c. Contact our families and notify them of the circumstances surrounding the positive case and how it is being handled, while maintaining patient confidentiality.
 - d. Clean and disinfect all indoor areas used by the person who is sick, if applicable.
 - e. If more than 7 days have passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
 - f. Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

- People with higher risk of contracting Covid should not do drop off/pick up.
- Please inform teachers in writing (text or email is ok) if someone other than a parent will be picking up the child.
- At least 6 ft distance needs to be maintained at all times with other families and staff.

- Please enter by the parking lot and exit by the playscape.
- Always put on your mask and sanitize your hands and your child's hands right before entering school premises (make sure to have masks and hand sanitizer in your car).
- Parents and siblings are not allowed in the classroom unless necessary. Hands need to be clean, distance maintained, and masks on.
- Groups will be smaller (between 5 to 9 children based on the ages) and maintained mostly separate, except for occasional necessities (ex: if a teacher needs to help a child in the bathroom, or when they eat at a distance).
- Community is important, but distance conversations between parents should be kept outside the school fence and not distract teachers and children. Always carefully monitor your children if they're with you.
- Parents need to be available for any emergency pick up at all times. If anyone other than parents can do emergency pick ups, please inform the teachers in writing (email or on the enrollment form).

INCLEMENT WEATHER

- We will have a large canopy outdoors that will serve as a shade and rain structure.
- In case of inclement weather we will be using the classroom. Distance will be maintained as much as possible, and masks will be worn. Surfaces will be frequently cleaned and disinfected, and -as with outdoors- hand washing frequent.
- If you do not want your child to be indoors with others, you may opt for keeping your child home or picking him/her up when there is inclement weather.

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

At Los Amiguitos, we want to offer your children a space where they will have fun, learn, be engaged, and have social interaction, while adjusting to minimize risks of transmission.

Offering the right support for their emotional wellbeing in these times is crucial. We are receiving training in understanding trauma and building resiliency. We will also continue our mindfulness and yoga practice and be available for your child's needs.

Please make sure you explain to your children about the virus and how we will be adjusting, and help them adjust by making it empowering vs. scary. Have them practice wearing a mask and maintaining distance, in a fun way, little spurts at a time.

First days drop off: It would be advisable that the parent who is less anxious bring the child to school, as children can sense parents' emotions, and this can add to their anxiety, as well as that of others around. If needed, parents can stay for just a few minutes the first day, but then will be asked to leave so children and teachers can go on with their day. We will keep you posted as to how your child/dren are doing the first few days.

Please always keep us posted (email preferably) about any changes in your child's emotions, so we are aware and can be on the same page.

MONITORING THE SITUATION

We are closely monitoring the ongoing evolution in regard to COVID-19, and will be updating the procedures as we get more information.

- At Stage 2, we offer our regular programs with plenty of outdoor time, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting, hand washing and masks required indoors when distance can't be maintained.
- At Stage 3, we will be offering mostly outdoor time and optional use of indoor space, with focus on maintaining distance and enhanced cleaning and protection measures. Masks required indoors for all (teachers will be wearing masks with filters). While outdoors, children will be encouraged to maintain distance or use a mask; teachers will be wearing masks when in close proximity to others.

- At Stage 4, education will be outdoors only, staff will be taking monthly tests, and any of you who might have been exposed, even if symptom free, is strongly encouraged to get tested. Masks required by all when distance can't be maintained (teachers will be wearing masks with filters). Children won't be wearing masks all the time. They will only be asked to wear them during those times when distance may not be maintained. Children need to be picked up in case of inclement weather.
- At Stage 5, we will be offering only distance learning (online and/or in small in person pods maintaining distance). We will keep you informed if we need to close the school and return to distance learning due to increased risk.

Please make sure to check your emails, as these updates are very important.

FOLLOWING CDC GUIDELINES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

Outside of school, it is important that all children and staff families follow the CDC guidelines, and take extra precautions as this affects us all (ex; wearing masks, maintaining distance, preferring outdoors, washing hands, etc.).

Thank you for trusting us and for helping keep everyone as safe as possible in these times while allowing children to meet their needs.

We, _____ and _____, parents of _____, have carefully read all of the above procedure points and agree to abide by them. Date: _____

Signature : _____

Signature: _____