



**MAGNOLIA**  
MONTESSORI SCHOOL  
JOYFUL HEARTS, PEACEFUL MINDS

## Magnolia Montessori School's Pandemic Information and Policy

A pandemic is a global disease outbreak. A flu pandemic occurs when a new influenza virus emerges that people have little or no immunity to and for which there may be no vaccine. The disease spreads easily person-to-person and causes serious illness. It can sweep across the country and around the world very quickly. It is hard to predict when the next flu pandemic will occur or how bad it will be. Many studies have demonstrated that school children are responsible for most of the disease transmission. They have a high attack rate of influenza infection because they have limited pre-existing immunity and once infected, transmit influenza viruses to many others even before they themselves have recognizable symptoms.

In the event that the CDC or WHO identifies the presence of a potential pandemic virus (such as Human Avian influenza A, SARS, H1N1 Swine Flu, Ebola, Zika, Covid-19), Magnolia Montessori School will monitor CDC and local government recommendations, as well as, guidance from the medical community in order to ensure the safety and well-being of our school community. Magnolia Montessori School will adhere to all mandates including school closures and safe operating procedures. Such closures may be deemed necessary even if there are no confirmed cases in our school or local community.

In addition, Magnolia Montessori School will undertake the following practices:

- Any child who has returned, or whose immediate family member has returned, from a trip to an area for which the local, state, and/or national governments have travel advisories due to a pandemic situation, or any child who has an immediate family member who has been infected, will be excluded from school for the incubation period of 14 days for the virus as defined by the local, state, and/or national governments.
- Any child with a suspected or confirmed case of the Covid disease will be excluded from school until they have been asymptomatic for a minimum of 72 hours (or as long as is deemed appropriate by the local, state, and or/national health departments) without the aid of medication. The case will be reported to local authorities who will oversee the child's re-entry.
- Magnolia Montessori School will notify parents and staff of any confirmed or suspected cases.
- Magnolia Montessori School will comply with all state or local health department guidelines regarding school closures, cleaning and sanitization practices, safe practices (increased hand washing, face coverings as appropriate, physical distancing, smaller group sizes, alternative schedules, temperature checks, and increased disinfecting protocols), reopening, and re-entry of students after infection with the disease.

- Magnolia Montessori School will utilize email and text messaging as the primary methods of communicating school closures and other information. In the event of an extended closure, we encourage parents and teachers to utilize email to keep in touch. In addition, every effort will be made to engage students and families in a combination of work pick up and remote learning platforms. Magnolia Montessori School reserves the right to close the school at any time that such action is deemed appropriate to minimize the transmission of disease. Tuition that has been collected will not be refunded for closures related to a pandemic. This is to preserve the integrity and longevity of the program and retain essential staff. Such closures may be deemed appropriate even if there are not any confirmed cases of the disease in the school.
- Additionally, at the discretion of the Head of School, a closure may be deemed appropriate even though local school district or other local authorities have not undertaken similar action or issued a similar recommendation in order to minimize the transmission of the disease.

\_\_\_\_\_ At times, primarily due to weather or widespread health-related challenges, often accompanied by official directives from governmental agencies, Magnolia Montessori School must close its programs until danger is passed or the governmental directives are lifted. When this occurs, Magnolia Montessori School will implement home learning protocols appropriate for every level of its learning programs so that students can continue to progress through school. Consequently, Magnolia Montessori School will not refund tuition already paid when its programs are closed due to these circumstances and families will be individually contacted regarding subsequent tuition payments.

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_