



**FIDALGO**  
NATURE • SCHOOL

## Outdoor Preschool COVID-19 Policies

[www.fidalgonatureschool.com](http://www.fidalgonatureschool.com)

Updated March 11th, 2022

## Covid-19 Symptoms and Exclusions

**We request that caregivers/parents and students do a daily temperature and symptom check at home before coming to school.** That way, if anyone tests at 100°F or higher for fever, or has any other symptoms listed below, you know to stay home. Please keep your child at home if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Congestion or sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- Unusual fatigue
- New onset of severe headache
- Muscle or body aches

We ask that you do not send your child to school if they have any of these symptoms to help keep our community safe. It is our expectation that students will not arrive at school if any of the above symptoms have been observed. If your child shows signs of illness or a high temperature throughout the school day, they will be sent home with a caregiver as soon as possible.

If a student or staff member has any of the symptoms listed above, they will be referred to their health care provider for possible testing. In order to return to school, they will need either a negative test result or a doctor's note releasing them to return, or if they no longer have symptoms after 10 days.

## Exposure to Covid-19

If a student or staff member has been exposed to someone who is COVID positive, they must stay out of school for ten days from their last exposure and be symptom free in order to return, or receive a negative test result from a COVID-19 test no sooner than 5 days after exposure. In the first few days after exposure, viral load is not high enough for accurate testing.

All unvaccinated children in a class where a student tests positive for COVID-19, and was at school up to 2 days before showing symptoms, will be considered exposed. They must not return to school until they wait 10 days after exposure or receive a negative test result no sooner than 5 days after exposure. Staff members or children who have received a full course of COVID-19 vaccine or who have had confirmed Covid-19 within the past 90 days will not be required to be tested or quarantined after an exposure risk if asymptomatic. However, they should continue monitoring for symptoms for 10 days and isolate if necessary. FNS director will contact families of children who have been exposed to communicate the exposure risk and closure period. We will also contact the relevant health authorities.

## Responding to Cases of Covid-19

If a child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 by a molecular or antigen test, they can return to the facility when the following criteria are met:

- 5 days\* (day 0 through day 5) have passed since symptom onset, or since positive test specimen collection date if no symptoms are present AND
- No symptoms are currently present or symptoms have significantly improved; AND
- No fever within the past 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications.

Day 0 is the first day symptoms appeared, or the day the positive test sample was collected if not symptomatic. Individuals should continue monitoring for symptoms and wearing a well-fitting mask around others through day 10 (days 6-10), even after all symptoms have ended. During times when masks cannot be worn, such as during meals, individuals who are returning from isolation will be kept distanced whenever possible, while still safely under provider supervision.

Children who cannot correctly and consistently wear a well-fitting mask around others should stay in isolation through day 10.

## Drop-off and Pick-up

### **Drop-off:**

As families drop off their children at school, they will be asked to line up at least 6 feet away from other families to sign in. We ask that temperatures and symptoms be checked by caregivers at home or in the car before coming into school.

### **Pick-up:**

Children will be seated at circle time or playing in the home-base area and families can line up to sign out, keeping at least 6 feet of distance between them.

## Physical Distancing and Masks

Correct use of well-fitting masks or face coverings protects the wearer as well as others, thereby helping to prevent transmission of COVID-19. Children, and staff will have the choice to wear a mask at school, with the expectation that others' choices will be respected. Some may need to wear a mask because they or a member of their household is at high risk for severe COVID-19 disease. Students, children, and staff who are immunocompromised, medically fragile, and/or otherwise high risk for severe disease should consult their health care provider about whether or not to continue wearing masks.

Parents who would like their child to wear a mask at school should speak to teaching staff, who will give the child reminders and encouragement to continue to wear their mask.

## Vaccination

FNS requires staff and consistent classroom visitors/volunteers to be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 before working with children. This includes any recommended boosters.

We encourage all family members and children 5 and older to get vaccinated as well, to help protect them and other children who are too young. We can all help keep schools and childcare safe and open by reducing the transmission risk to the unvaccinated members of our families. Getting vaccinated, wearing masks, distancing, and keeping gatherings outdoors or virtual can help reduce the spread of Covid-19.