



# COVID-19 GUIDELINES

# New Operating Guidelines

## School Year 2021 – 2022

Mia Piccolo Montessori is committed to balancing the need to provide a safe school environment with students' developmental needs to socialize and inspire a love of learning. To that end, all interventions will be made in as natural a manner as possible with as much subtlety as we can so that the predominant climate of our school remains positive and stress-free.

Mia Piccolo Montessori is committed to implementing health and safety precautions to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 in our school community while prioritizing the safety of your children and our teachers, as well. As a staff of 5, we are in charge of following the recommendations of the CDC and Health Department at school and in our personal lives. But we represent 15% of the on-campus community. Students comprise the other 85%, so parents, we need your help! Because we are such a close-knit community, we cannot do it without your support. To that end, we are asking Mia Piccolo Families to review and follow the guidelines below so that we all work as a team to keep each other healthy.

Please keep in mind these guidelines might be changed/adjusted as the health crisis continues to evolve.

### GENERAL CHANGES

- Staff will be wearing masks at all times.
- Cleaning and disinfecting procedures will be enhanced and carried throughout the day.
- Viral and Bactericide disinfecting will be carried out every Friday.

### CHANGES TO DAILY ROUTINE

- Washing hands will be emphasized after each change of activity, before and after snacks and lunch times, after using
- bathrooms and after playground time.
- Playground will be disinfected after each use.

- Classrooms will not be mixed at any times.
- Each classroom has been assigned a bathroom to use, which teachers will be disinfecting after each use.
- Each classroom has been assigned a separate playground time.

### DROP OFF

- Teachers will be waiting for children through our back gate from 8:00 am to 8:45 am.
- Teachers will receive 1 child at a time. If there is another child being dropped off when you arrive, please wait outside the gate, and always keep a distance of at least 6 feet.
- Parents will not be allowed in the classrooms, please drop off your children at the door.
- Temperature screening will be done at arrival with an infrared thermometer. Children with high temperatures of 100 degrees or more will be sent home. (We will continue monitoring temperatures throughout the day).
- A shoe disinfection station will be set up by the door before entering school grounds.
- As soon as children walk in teachers will accompany them to wash hands.
- If you arrive after 8:45 am same procedures will be carried out through front door.

### PICK UP

#### For 12:00 pm and After Care pick-ups:

- Please pick up your child through the front door and wait outside by the door. If there are other parents picking up their children, please stay at least 6 feet apart from each other. Make a line if needed.
- Teachers will bring 1 child at a time (exception of siblings).

#### For 3:00 pm pick-up:

- Please pick up your child through the back door and wait outside the gate. If there are other parents picking up their children, please stay at least 6 feet apart from each other. Make a line if needed.
- Teachers will bring 1 child at a time (exception of siblings).

**DROP IN/VISITS**

- No visitors (including parents) will be allowed on school grounds.
- School tours will be offered by appointment only. Visitors will be required to wear a mask during the tour. Tours will not go inside the classrooms.
- Enrollment meetings will be held virtually.

**SNACK AND LUNCH TIMES**

- Children will be divided into small groups during snack and lunch times.
- Children must bring plastic or waterproof lunchboxes and backpacks that can be washed and disinfected. (Please disinfect at home before sending to school, teachers will disinfect during school times as well).
- Hot lunches must be packed in thermal containers to maintain heat.
- Cold lunches, drinks and fruit must be packed with an ice pack.

**NAP TIME PROCEDURES**

- Please send nap sheets in plastic bags.
- Nap time blankets will be sent home to get washed Wednesdays and Fridays.
- A 6 ft distance will be kept between beds.

**BIRTHDAY POLICIES**

Due to new Birthday Party Policies because of COVID 19, the party will be for children only. Parents are not allowed in school grounds. We will take lots of pictures and videos and share it in the chat!

Please find below what you are allowed to bring for the party:

- Theme decorations (tablecloths, centerpieces, plates, napkins, small balloon arrangements)
- Cake or Cupcakes (Nut Free)
- Snacks (Fruits, crackers, pretzels) \*Everything must be sealed \*
- Juice drinks
- Goodie Bags (Must already be prepared)

**FAMILY AT HOME SAFETY MEASURES**

To show support and help the school community reduce the chance of transmission, we recommend that families commit to the following precautionary measures:

In Public Spaces, including work, all members of the household must commit to the following:

- Increased social distancing
- Face masks worn when social distancing measures not available
- Hand sanitation after contact with high touch surfaces
- Hand washing during or after public activities
- Monitor for symptoms of Covid-19 such as: mild, cold-like symptoms, such as fever, runny nose, and cough, vomiting and diarrhea, temperature, loss of taste/smell, shortness of breath.
- Reporting to school when there is a confirmed case in the family.
- Disclosure and self-quarantine when known direct contact with a confirmed case has occurred
- Monitoring for symptoms, or self-quarantine for 14 days if chance of exposure, after international travel or domestic travel through plane.
- ***Children that have had direct contact with a person with Covid 19 must present a Covid 19 test on or after day 5 of exposure, before returning to school.***
- ***Children that travel through plane must present a Covid 19 negative test 24 hours after their return date, before returning to school.***
- ***Children that test positive for Covid 19 must stay home for a minimum of 10 days. 2 negative Covid 19 tests must be presented before returning to school.***

## Changes to classroom capacity

Even though facilities that offer Day – Care services have been authorized to operate at full capacities (following safety guidelines) at Mia Piccolo Montessori we have continued operating at reduced capacities due to the increment in cases over the last month in Miami- Dade. We will continue operating at reduced capacity the upcoming weeks, and will increase capacity in the following phases if it is safe to do so at the moment:

### REGULAR CAPACITY FOR CASA DEI BAMBINI CLASSROOM: 21 CHILDREN

#### December 1st:

Casa dei Bambini: 14 max capacity

#### January 1st:

Casa dei Bambini: 16 max capacity

#### February 1st:

Casa dei Bambini: 18 max capacity

#### March 1st:

Casa dei Bambini: 20 max capacity

### REGULAR CAPACITY FOR NIDO CLASSROOM: 20 CHILDREN

#### December 1st:

Nido: 12 max capacity

#### January 1st:

Nido: 14 max capacity

#### February 1st:

Nido: 16 max capacity

#### March 1st:

Nido: 18 max capacity

These guidelines may be revised and updated as the health crisis continues evolving. All members of the Mia Piccolo community are required to stay home when showing symptoms of illness and report any cases or contact with sick people immediately. We encourage all families to practice precautionary safety methods and to stay home as much as possible. We are ALL in this together protecting and caring for each other <3.

MIA PICCOLO MONTESSORI- GUIDELINES REVISED 01/05/2021