



# **A.G.B.U. Alex and Marie Manoogian School**

## **Preschool COVID-19 Response Plan**

September 2021

A.G.B.U. Alex and Marie Manoogian School is committed to protecting the health of our children, families, staff, and community. The following policies were designed in response to guidance from the Michigan Departments of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and Health and Human Services, in accordance with best practices from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and with everyone's well-being in mind. The following plan outlines the recommended practices and strategies that will be used to protect the health of our children, staff, and families while at the same time ensuring that children are experiencing developmentally appropriate and responsive interactions and environments.

### **Program Information**

1. The Preschool hours will be 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m Monday- Friday.
2. Parents and visitors are not allowed to enter the school building.
3. If you need to visit the front office, please call the office, (248)569-2988, to make an appointment first. \* It is important to limit the number of persons in the building, and exposing any risks to students, staff, and faculty.

### **Safety Equipment**

Face Masks and PPE

1. Staff will be provided and wear surgical masks, shields, gloves, and other protective equipment to ensure safety of staff and children at all times.
2. Face masks are required for children.

*Mask should:*

- Completely cover the nose and mouth
- Fit snugly against the sides of the face and not have any gaps
- Be handled only by the ear loops, cords, or head straps (not by the surface of the mask)

### **Changes to Our Physical Spaces/ Social Distancing in Classroom**

We will use the following strategies in our classrooms and facilities to minimize the spread of illness:

1. Students have designated seats/chairs at the tables where they'll work, play, and eat. They also have designated hooks to hang up their belongings and cubbies to place their finished work.
2. Students will have markers placed on the floor for circle time and will sit at designated areas.
3. Isolation location- In the case of a child showing symptoms or becomes ill, they will be given a child mask and taken to the front office clinic where they will have access to their own bathroom and

wait for parent to pick up. Parents will be notified immediately to come pick up their child. Parents must still use Preschool entrance.

### ***Availability of Toys and Classroom Materials***

At this time, we will make the following changes to the toys and materials in our classrooms:

1. Toys will be washed and sanitized before being moved from one child to another.
2. We have removed toys and objects which cannot be easily cleaned or sanitized between use.

### ***Snack Time/Lunch***

To limit opportunities for exposure during Snack/Lunch, we will engage in the following recommended practices:

1. All students will bring their own sandwiches, snacks, and water bottles with their name and date on it. Sharing of snacks will not be allowed. If a child has a food allergy, parents must notify Preschool staff and office.
2. The children will eat their snacks/lunch at their designated space at a table.
3. All staff and children must wash their hands before and immediately after eating.

### ***Naptime***

Each child will have their designated sleeping cot. These cots will be cleaned and sanitized after nap time each day. The pillow, blanket, and nap bag will be sent home weekly to be washed and returned.

### **Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures**

We will use the following recommended practices during drop-off and pick-up times to protect the health of children, families, and staff.

1. Parents will drop off and pick up only using the Preschool entrance.
2. Students waiting to enter the school must wait on the marked X's on the porch or ramp.
3. Social distancing measures must be practiced.
4. A Preschool staff member will greet each family at the door.
5. Children will wash their hands once in the classroom.

### **Hand Washing**

We will reinforce regular health and safety practices with children and staff and continue to comply with licensing regulations and CDC hand washing guidelines as follows:

1. Staff and children will wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
2. Staff and children will wash hands prior to and after eating snack/lunch.
3. Staff and children must wash hands after using the restroom.
4. Staff and children (with frequent reminders and support) will cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sleeve and wash hands immediately after. If a new mask is needed, we will have the child replace the mask.

## **Cleaning and Disinfecting**

We will engage in the following cleaning and disinfecting practices in accordance with CDC recommendations:

1. Daily cleaning/disinfecting of high-touch surfaces (e.g., sinks, toilets, light switches, door knobs, counter and tabletops, chairs).
2. Restrooms will be disinfected after each use.
3. Staff will wear disposable gloves to perform cleaning, disinfecting, laundry, and trash pick-up, followed by hand washing.
4. All toys and furniture in the Preschool classrooms will be washed with soap and water, rinsed, and then sanitized using an EPA-registered household disinfectants or diluted bleach solution.
5. All cleaning products will be kept secured and out of reach of children, avoiding use near children, and ensuring proper ventilation during use to prevent inhalation of toxic fumes.

## **Monitoring and Responding to Symptoms of COVID-19**

Childcare providers are required to check for staff for COVID-19 symptoms when they arrive (per Executive Order 2020-161) and are highly recommended to check children for symptoms.

If the child's temperature is higher than 100.4, the child cannot enter the building and must return home with the parent.

### ***When Should a Sick Child Stay Home?***

Children should stay home, or will be sent home, if they are experiencing any of the following symptoms not related to other known or diagnosed medical conditions:

- Fever of 100.4 degrees or above or signs of fever (chills/sweating)
- Body aches
- Shortness of breath
- New loss of taste/smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough
- New onset of severe headache

If your child does not feel well during school hours, we will contact parents immediately. If we cannot get in contact with the parents, we will call the emergency contacts that parents have given us and are on the student's record. The child will be given a child mask and taken to the front office clinic where they will have access to their own bathroom and wait for parent to pick up. Parents must still use Preschool entrance. Children should also stay home if they are in quarantine due to exposure to an individual with a confirmed case of COVID-19 or an individual being quarantined for possible exposure to COVID-19 or have other signs of illness.

### ***When Can a Sick Child Return to School?***

When a child can return to care depends on their symptoms, whether they have a high risk for COVID exposure, and whether they test positive.

A child has a high risk of COVID exposure if they have had close contact with a person with COVID-19 within the past 14 days. Close contact includes exposures within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more. This includes brief exposures totaling 15 minutes in a 24-hour period.

### **If a Child Tests Negative for COVID-19 or No Testing Was Done**

#### *No Testing Was Done*

- If a child visits a healthcare provider and another cause is identified for the symptoms, the individual may return to care once symptoms improve and they have been fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of medicine that reduces fevers.
- If a test is not done, the individual should stay home until:
  - o Has been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of medicine that reduces fevers **AND**
  - o Other symptoms have improved **AND**
  - o At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

#### *Tests Negative*

- If a child was not exposed to COVID-19, a child may return to care based on A.G.B.U.'s COVID-19 Response Plan.
- If a child was exposed to COVID-19 within the past 14 days, current CDC guidelines and MDHHS guidelines recommend they quarantine for at least 10 days, even with a negative test result and follow all instruction from the local health department.
- After 10 days if no symptoms have developed, quarantine may end early, however continue to watch for symptoms until 14 days after exposure.
- If symptoms appear, the child should be immediately isolated and contact the local health department or a health care provider.

### **If a Child Tests Positive for COVID-19**

Providers must cooperate with the local public health department to determine when a child may return to care after testing positive for COVID-19. In general, individuals must stay home until they:

- Have been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of medicine that reduces fevers **AND**
- Other symptoms have improved **AND**
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms appeared or the individual tested positive.

Most children can return to care based on improved symptoms and the passage of time. There is no need to get a negative test or a doctor's note to clear the child to return to care.

**Checking and Monitoring Preschool Staff**

The Preschool staff will be monitored daily upon arrival to school and follow similar protocols as students and families.

*We are doing our best to maintain the safety of all students, staff, and faculty. Please enforce these rules at home by following the safety procedures and protocols to ensure a successful and safe rest of the school year.*

We thank you for your cooperation and look forward to working with your child.

Sonia Kalfayan  
Preschool Director/Principal

2021/2022 Preschool Staff