

COVID-19 Amendment to St. Peter's Preschool's 2021-2022 Parent Handbook

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Peter's Preschool is making an amendment to its 2021-2022 Parent Handbook to incorporate the following policies.

As a condition of your child's enrollment at St. Peter's Preschool, all parents are required to sign the enclosed Acknowledgement of Handbook Amendment and COVID-19 Release and Waiver of Liability.

Please be aware that these protocols may change during the year due to changes in guidance from MSDE and CDC. ***Only the last page needs to be returned to the director.***

Enhanced Safety Procedures

- Only 1 class at each age level
- Masks worn by teachers and kids while indoors, masks optional outdoors
- Daily symptom screening before entry into school
- Temperature checks upon arrival
- Classes kept separate
- Limited parents/volunteers in classroom
- Limited outdoor field trips
- Limited family events like Pizza Ice Cream Social held outdoors
- Increased outdoor time
- Open windows/run fans
- Individual art supplies for each child (markers, pencils, scissors, etc.) in their cubby
- Individual playdough
- Physical distancing during snack/lunch
- Waterbottles brought in and sent home daily
- Snack and milk served by teachers
- Lunches brought from home in lunchboxes with ice packs, kept in cubbies
- Different dismissal areas for each class: 2's/3's at the playground gate, 4's near the orange cones

Enhanced Cleaning Procedures

- Frequent handwashing
- Hand sanitizer used by staff, supervised limited use by children
- Cleaning/disinfecting high touch surfaces multiple times a day
- Cleaning/disinfecting toys daily
- Cleaning/disinfecting playground between classes
- Cleaning/disinfecting bathrooms daily

Drop-Off Procedures

- Check-ins/symptom screening will be done outside by the director.
- Masks are optional for vaccinated people during check-in. All unvaccinated people are required to be masked.
- Check-in will start around 9:20. School doors will open at 9:30.
- Parents will answer screening questions prior to drop-off via Google Form. A new form will be emailed daily. Please do not fill it out until the morning before school.
- Every child's temperature will be taken with a non-contact thermometer by the director.
- If the screening is passed, the child will be taken into school by a teacher.
- Children will wash hands immediately upon entering the classrooms.
- The playground will not be available before school starts but can be used under parent supervision after school ends.
- Please do not allow your child to play on the wall/steps next to the building for safety reasons. Thank you!

Daily Health Check

All students will be required to pass a daily health check before being allowed entry to the school. This will take the form of a parent-completed Google Form prior to arrival and temperature check upon arrival at school. A new Google Form will be emailed to parents the daily. Please fill it out in the morning before school. Students must be free from any symptoms of COVID-19 and other illness, including but not limited to the following:

- Fever (100.4° F or above)
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Difficulty Breathing
- Green or thick mucus
- Diarrhea or Vomiting
- Headache
- Loss of taste or smell
- Close prolonged contact with someone who has COVID-19 (confirmed or suspected)

If your child develops any of these symptoms during the school day, they will be separated from other children/staff, and you will be required to pick them up within 30 minutes of being contacted.

Zero Tolerance Illness Policy

St. Peter's will be continuing the policy of "zero tolerance" for any illness symptom. We realize that many of the symptoms of COVID-19 can be indications of other illnesses. However, our plan to proceed with an abundance of caution is aimed at keeping everyone as safe as possible and to prevent unnecessary school closures.

If your child regularly suffers from allergies and exhibits a clear runny nose or red itchy eyes, please have your pediatrician write a note detailing an allergy diagnosis so they can come to school.

NO STUDENT WITH ANY SIGN OF ILLNESS WILL BE ADMITTED TO SCHOOL WITHOUT A DOCTOR'S NOTE STATING THEY ARE FREE FROM COVID-19.

What to do if Your Child is Sick

- If your child is sick, please contact your pediatrician. The pediatrician is the best person to decide if a COVID test is required.
- If you take your child to get COVID tested, please let me know ASAP. Do not wait for results to come back.
- Only PCR test results will be accepted.
- Please share a copy of negative COVID test results with me (email or hardcopy).
- If anyone is experiencing COVID-like symptoms, I need to contact the Health Department. They will guide our next steps, including how long St. Peter's could be required to close (anywhere from 2 to 14+ days).
- If your child is sick with COVID-like symptoms, either a negative COVID test or a note from the pediatrician stating a different diagnosis is required before they are allowed back to school.
- Alternatively, you can have your child quarantine at home for 10 days after the first appearance of symptoms before returning to school.
- **PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME IF THEY ARE SICK!**
- Tuition and cleaning fee payments for school closures up to 2 weeks will not be refunded. Refunds for closures over 2 weeks will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Siblings

- If anyone in the family is awaiting COVID test results, all the children from that family are excluded from school until test results come back.
- If a class is closed while awaiting test results, siblings of students in that class are not required to quarantine but may choose to stay home if their family feels more comfortable doing so.
- If a class is closed because a student in the class tested positive for COVID, any sibling of any student in that class must also stay home from school for the entire quarantine period. The length of the quarantine period will be determined by the Health Department.

Travel

- Unvaccinated individuals who travel to a state with a test positivity rate higher than 10% per the CDC website https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases_positivity7day must present a negative COVID test result and quarantine for 7 days to come back to school.
- Vaccinated individuals who travel within the US will not need to present test results.
- All individuals who travel out of the country, regardless of vaccination status, will be required to present a negative COVID test as well as quarantine for 7 days to return to school.
- Travel to the following states are exempt from these restrictions: DC, VA, WV, PA, DE.
- CDC Domestic Travel Guidelines: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>
- CDC International Travel Guidelines: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>

Required Forms and Immunizations

Per MSDE guidance, all student immunizations must be up to date to start school. All required school forms, including health forms, are due at/before Meet the Teacher Day.

Parent Handbook Amendment Acknowledgement

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the COVID-19 Amendment to St. Peter's Preschool's 2021-2022 Parent Handbook and that I agree to abide by the policies included. I acknowledge that failure to act in accordance with the provisions listed in the Amendment or with any policy/procedure outlined in the St. Peter's Preschool 2021-2022 Parent Handbook may result in termination of services. I acknowledge that care for my child(ren) may be terminated if it is determined that my actions, or lack thereof, unnecessarily exposes another employee, child, or their family member to COVID-19.

COVID-19 Waiver of Liability

I understand that while present in school my child will be in contact with children and teachers who are also at risk of community exposure. I understand that no list of restrictions, guidelines or practices will remove 100% of the risk of exposure to COVID-19 as the virus can be transmitted by persons who are asymptomatic and before some people show signs of infection. I understand that I play a crucial role in keeping everyone in the school safe and reducing the risk of exposure by following the practices outlined in the Amendment.

I voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to my child(ren) or myself (including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that I or my child(ren) may experience or incur in connection with my child(ren)'s attendance at St. Peter's Preschool ("Claims") arising from COVID-19 or related illness.

On my behalf, and on behalf of my child(ren), I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless St. Peter's Preschool and St. Peter's Episcopal Church, their employees, agents, and representatives, of and from any Claims, including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out from COVID-19 or related illness.

I understand and agree that this release includes any Claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence by St. Peter's Preschool, as well as their employees, agents, and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after attendance at St. Peter's Preschool.

Child's Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____