

# WMS Townhall Frequently asked Questions

## Two questions that resulted in the most feedback and interest for the Midyear Survey 21-22

1. Please share comments to improve the community's safety related to the WMS COVID-19 response (car line, morning triage, two mask policy, etc.); and Please share comments to improve the community's safety related to the WMS COVID-19 response.
  - a. There were numerous questions and remarks related to the following categories:
  - b. Mitigation approach
    - i. Promote vaccination (see FAQ 10, 20)
      1. VDH is promoting the following vaccinations per age group [here](#).
      2. The [following](#) are the required minimum immunization requirements from VDH that don't currently include the flu or COVID.
    - ii. Mask usage (see FAQ 6,7,8,9,13,15,32)
      1. Masks are prudent, and low-cost mitigation that has proven effective if a properly fitting Type N95 is selected [CDC](#) and [VDH guidance](#), wearing a mask is strongly recommended for [K-12 Schools](#).
        - a. Harvard
          - i. Article: <https://www.health.harvard.edu/diseases-and-conditions/coronavirus-resource-center>
          - ii. Upgrade masks: <https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2021/02/brace-yourself-for-another-covid-surge-and-mask-up-say-experts/>
        - b. Mayo Clinic
          - i. <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/coronavirus/in-depth/coronavirus-mask/art-20485449>
        - c. Med Journal AU
          - i. [https://www.mja.com.au/system/files/issues/213\\_10/mja250823.pdf](https://www.mja.com.au/system/files/issues/213_10/mja250823.pdf)
      2. Risk of masks wearing in children
        - a. [Should young children be made to wear face masks? - BBC Future](#)
      3. With COVID-19 slowly adjusting to an endemic nature, WMS will develop a phased approach to relax mitigations. However, masks and vaccinations will remain essential tools to protect the teachers and members of the community who have immuno-compromised family members.
    - iii. Health and Wellness checks (see FAQ14)
      1. Health and Wellness checks have remained necessary tools to force a deliberate interaction between the families and WMS staff to determine a risk vector. However, with the endemic nature of the pandemic approaching, COVID will become like the FLU or other contagions. Therefore, the Health and Wellness checks will be adjusted accordingly based on the environment, if new visitors are introduced, or after long periods away from School like winter or spring break.
    - iv. Cohorts (see FAQ 4) remain essential in periods of viral surges. However, aftercare, bus loading, and general flexibility for managing recess or school trips make cohorting

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challenging. Combining best practices of social distancing will be how we adjust the cohort integrations.

- a. Visitors (see FAQ 12) will be dependent on the phase of mitigation relaxation for the classroom.

## v. Cleaning

1. General hygiene promotion will remain.
2. Class and tool cleanliness (see FAQ 1, 37) will remain a priority and is a best practice from the Pandemic.
3. AC, air purifiers, open windows, window fans (see FAQ 27). The School has invested in HVAC MERV-13 filters, replaced multiple AC units, invested in and received donations for air purifiers, utilizes exhaust window fans to promote air circulation, and continues to attend industry-wide online seminars and forums to be educated on best practices.

## vi. Social distancing

1. Eating and recess remain at the teacher's discretion to be outside based on weather. The School has invested in and received donations for inflatable bubble rooms, umbrellas, and tents to accommodate outside time as much as possible. In the event of inclement weather, teachers monitor social distancing best practices.
2. Outside activities (see FAQ 5)

## vii. Testing (see FAQ 19)

1. Testing at School is not feasible even with several programs sponsored by the State due to test availability, results delayed beyond viral loading time to mitigate with isolation, and no school nursing capability.
2. Home testing is encouraged, and since the OMICRON peak, have become more widely available. The results of home tests can be accepted to return to School.
  - a. WMS encourages families to seek medical advice with a positive indication and will not allow anyone in the School with a positive test.
  - b. Future parent drop-in will likely consider a 'test-in' model where parents attending a session in class will follow the mitigations in the class and provide evidence of their negative test result within the last 12-24 hours.

## viii. Layered approach

1. (see FAQ 32, 33). The overall plan will remain a layered COVID-19 prevention strategy to provide the Board with timely guidance to prepare the community
2. Once the Pandemic becomes endemic and conditions allow, WMS will implement a phased approach to relax mitigations that will be cohort dependent. Again, feedback from the families, teachers, and staff will be essential to understanding how to make adjustments.

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## FAQs and Areas of Interest from other surveys throughout the Pandemic.

### Daily Activities

1. What is the status of sanitizing and disinfecting supplies in the classrooms? Is there a need for parents to help with supply?
  - It is in accordance with VDH Interim Guidance to K-12 School Reopening, dated 31Aug21. It calls for regular and routine cleaning at least once daily with the use of EPA recommended products.
2. I appreciate the thoughtfulness of the plans presented. Could you please offer your perspective on how mask wearing might impact language development in toddlers?
  - this may be useful as regards the question about toddler language development:  
<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/COVID-19/Pages/Do-face-masks-interfere-with-language-development.aspx>
3. If you have a child taking the bus from Lower campus to upper campus, do they have their temp taken at both places?
  - The student will be tested at the bus drop off to protect that small cohort and then at the classroom by the teacher.
4. Would you please talk about how/if any outside speakers, maintenance, etc. can be invited into the classroom and/or if the School is considering any field trips at this point?
  - Specialty Teachers are part of the WMS staff and have all been vaccinated and will follow our mitigations strategies.
  - Visitation will not take place in the immediate future with the Delta Surge with High to Substantial Transmission possible as determined by the CDC.
  - Routine maintenance is scheduled while children are out of the classrooms, typically on the weekends. If non-routine maintenance occurs or is required, a suitable time will be determined to minimize exposure to the cohort.
5. Will there be tents set up outside again?
  - Lower campus has been set-up with exterior tents to accommodate outdoor lessons.
  - MS/UEL have a number of outdoor tables, some with umbrellas
6. Could you please go in more details how the youngest kids handled masks last year?
  - Masks for the toddlers was not required.
  - In CH, a phase in and education was required. Following the first couple of weeks of reminders and correction, CH children became more accustomed to wearing masks, although they needed more back-ups.
  - UEL and MS adjusted quickly and only needed to be reminded occasionally and remember to pack a back-up in their backpacks on the off chance it was needed.
7. How will mask wearing for two years olds be reinforced? How are you planning to encourage 2yo to wear a mask?
  - This is a new requirement set by the VA Health Commissioner. This age group is not well suited for the 'normal' cloth or NH-95 Masks are prudent, and low-cost mitigation that has proven effective if a properly fitting Type N95 is selected [CDC](#) and [VDH guidance](#), wearing a mask is strongly recommended for [K-12 Schools](#).
    - Harvard

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- Article: <https://www.health.harvard.edu/diseases-and-conditions/coronavirus-resource-center>
  - Upgrade masks: <https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2021/02/brace-yourself-for-another-covid-surge-and-mask-up-say-experts/>
  - Mayo Clinic
    - <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/coronavirus/in-depth/coronavirus-mask/art-20485449>
  - Med Journal AU
    - [https://www.mja.com.au/system/files/issues/213\\_10/mja250823.pdf](https://www.mja.com.au/system/files/issues/213_10/mja250823.pdf)
  - Risk of masks wearing in children
    - [Should young children be made to wear face masks? - BBC Future](#)
  - Also are you requiring toddlers to nap in masks?
  - All masks will be taken off and mats spaced considering social distancing requirements before napping.
  - Social distancing requirement for toddlers is three feet.
8. How can parents help children adjust masks so it fits their face snugly?
- A good resource for parents for mask fit and adjustment can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html>
9. During phase-in for toddlers, will the parents in the classroom need to be vaccinated? How many parents are allowed in the classroom during the phase-in period?
- During the phase-in period, only one vaccinated parent will be allowed into the classroom.
10. Is there such a thing as virtual learning for the toddler room?
- VDSS/VDOE follow-up in the event that a COVID case occurs.
    - i. Is it more appropriate for the <5 or <2 to use the exception?
  - <https://www.dss.virginia.gov/cc/covid-19.html>
11. Since parents are not allowed to visit, is there discussion to install cameras accessible to parents in the classrooms?
- Follow-up policy and legal implications for the COVID Committee group (add to agenda)
12. Why is there a requirement for 2 years old to mask outdoors?
- VA State Health Commissioner Order of Public Health emergency states (12Aug21): [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html#anchor\\_1619804600020](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html#anchor_1619804600020)
  - VDH recommendation: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/cloth-face-covers/> (as of 25Feb, 2022, the site indicates VDH is currently reviewing its mask guidance. Thank you for your patience; updated information will be available soon)
    - i. Previously, If you are not fully vaccinated: You should wear masks and practice physical distancing in all indoor public settings and in crowded outdoor settings based on CDC recommendations [Español]
  - To protect our unvaccinated people on campus, masks are required at WMS.
  - We have implemented 'mask sanctuaries' over summer camp and will be making adjustments to accommodate case by case situations to give individuals space and time to have relief from their mask, but not at the expense of others' safety.

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13. How are we getting children out of cars in car line?

- o For children going to the Toddler Room, upon arriving, please park in a designated spot and walk your child to the classroom. At the door, the teachers will proceed with the Health Check. Adults are required to wear masks.
- o For families with children in Children's House and Lower Elementary, we ask you to pull forward in carline and place your car in park. A teacher will greet your child and proceed with the Health Check through the window. We ask you to please assist your children in unbuckling their car seat and stepping out of the vehicle. Adults and children ages 3 and up are required to wear masks.
- o For students at the Upper Campus, we ask adults to park and stay in the car during drop-off. Please have your student step out and stand beside the car. A teacher will greet the child and do the Health Check by the car.

14. Outside areas for mask relief. Outside study areas.

- o See question #13

## Travel

16. What is the School's policy for families traveling outside of our area? Are there quarantine requirements? Is a negative test required?

- a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>
- b. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>
- c. Domestic: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>
- d. International: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>

17. What is the travel policy? When will it be communicated?

- a. WMS follows the DoS, CDC, and VDH guidance for testing and travel. There are no limitations on your travel by the School. However, we ask that you deliberately consider the following factors before you travel to consider if you may be at risk of COVID transmission:
  - i. What is your vaccination status
  - ii. Location of travel, domestic or international
  - iii. Transmission condition at destination
  - iv. In what activities will my family and I participate
  - v. What social setting will my family and I be in
  - vi. What mitigations will my family and I implement in the activities and social settings
  - vii. What is the vaccination and COVID status of those I am visiting
- b. Risk considerations
  - i. VDH:
    - 1. <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/schools-workplaces-community-locations/social-gatherings/>
    - 2. <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/schools-workplaces-community-locations/businesses/>
    - 3. <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/prevention-tips/>

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- ii. IDSA: <https://www.idsociety.org/globalassets/idsa/public-health/covid-19/activity-risk.pdf>
- iii. OSHA: <https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus/hazards>
- iv.

## Exposure/COVID

18. If student/teacher gets infected with COVID-19 and if the class gets exposed, will the entire class be closed? If yes, for how long and how WMS is going to conduct class for those students? Online thru Zoom?
- a. The class will shift to virtual after the School notifies the parents and the VDH.. we need about 1-3 days to do the traceback, work with VDH and get connected virtually. Last year we shifted in one classroom with a possible case and had no delay due to the quick-acting teachers. We will stay out of the classroom based on VDHs recommendation, but usually about 10 class days.
19. Has WMS thought about weekly testing of students and staff? Will there be periodic testing of staff and/or children? Testing-Has WMS considered requiring periodic PCR testing?
- a. Testing will not be a mitigation strategy implemented at WMS due to lack of information, accountability, and enforcement of information at WMS.
  - b. Testing is a valid and strong mitigation currently implemented worldwide.
    - i. However Federal and State regulations and laws do not enable private schools to access to test results. WMS must rely on the honor system of the individuals.
    - ii. Secondly, WMS does not have medical staff resources or training to attend and be accountable for the amount of testing or PHI/PII management.
    - iii. Lastly, the only enforcement mechanism that is within WMSs control is to monitor and screen for symptoms and respond to case by case.
  - c. However, over-the-counter tests that are FDA approved are readily available at online and in store retailers.
    - i. We know Federal and State agencies are assessing the viability of the OTC test kits to be used to test out of isolation or quarantine.
20. Are all staff members required to be vaccinated? What is the vaccine policy for employees?
- a. All teachers, including specials teachers, are vaccinated and will stagger face-to-face schedules by campus and classroom.
21. Would the parents of the rest of the students be called to let them know that there is a student sick in the room?
- a. If a classroom has a COVID case:
    - i. The HoS will call VDH,
    - ii. Notify the parents of the classroom there was a case
    - iii. Notify the School there was a case
  - b. Being notified depends on having valid and updated contact information in the office. WMS will do test notifications via email, text, and call in the fall, so ensure your information is correct.
22. If a classroom or School is closed for an extended period of time (like last year), do you plan on continuing to charge tuition for that time it is closed?
- a. Per the WMS tuition contract, yes.
23. So if someone is COVID positive then the classroom closes? Just confirming

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- a. Ye, we will be conservative and make sure there is no other exposure to protect the other children.
24. How long should students be fever free before coming back to School
  - a. Children should be fever and symptom free for 24 hours
  - b. [What to do if you have confirmed or suspected coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)? - Coronavirus \(virginia.gov\)](#)
25. What are the SPECIFIC attendance policies regarding travel, exposure and positive cases?
  - a. See Travel #17 for travel answer.
  - b. See Health and Wellness Plan page for exposure and positive case procedures.
26. With Delta variant spreading around, is the School going to remain open and if not how we will conduct classes, thru Zoom?
  - a. If we must close all classrooms and transition to distance learning, this will not change our mission to provide a prepared Montessori environment. Zoom will be used at all levels for classroom discussion, meetings and small-group sharing. Elementary and Middle School students will use a combination of Zoom, Haiku or Power School Learning, and Google Docs, to work and discuss their projects and assignments.
  - b. Teachers will create packets for home use. Some packets would be picked up at the School, while others can be emailed and printed at home.
27. Is ventilation a priority again this year?
  - a. WMS has replaced three HVAC systems across two campuses last year. We have replaced the MERV-13 HEPA filters in all the systems.
  - b. Additionally, we have purchased air purification systems suitable for the classroom sizes to supplement airflow.
  - c. Lastly, we have purchased window exhaust fans to help with airflow and to help limit keeping doors open that is both a security issue and makes regulating classroom temperatures challenging.
28. With delta, are there metrics in place to determine whether to go virtual?
  - a. The COVID committee monitors the local transmission levels, the outbreaks, Federal and State guidance balanced against current day to day operations, special activities, and any planned external activities.
  - b. Based on the judgement of the committee and Head of School, they make a recommendation to the Board monthly on the impact or recommendation for the school status.
29. meal and snack times (aerosol not fomite concerns)
  - a. Toddler Rooms and Children's House will continue to have lunch provided by WMS, but it will be plated and served by adults, with no family-style dining. Additionally, snacks will be served individually by adults. As in previous years, Elementary and Middle School students will bring their lunch from home. No sharing will be allowed, snacks will be served individually by adults. Lastly, the Teachers provided an extensive review of the social distancing considerations for seating and all classrooms have supplemental personal plastic divider/plexiglass sneeze guard.
30. Can the School install a video system for parents to monitor their children since visitors are not allowed?

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- a. Due to legal and liability issues, a publicly accessible video system is not recommended or advised due to Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors considerations. WMS uses Class Dojo for photo sharing for each classroom that is deliberately assigned by the School Administration to our Classes.
  - b. Teachers and assistants balance educating the students, monitoring their well being, and capturing the special moments to afford parents a glimpse into the daily schedules until we can open the classrooms to visitors.
31. What Constitutes 1st responders? And Will teachers at the School be considered first responders?
- a. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), in collaboration with other federal agencies, State and local governments, and the private sector, has issued the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce Guidance for COVID-19 response.
  - b. Under Federal and VA State policy, Educators are part of the Essential Critical Infrastructure workforce.
  - c. Federal policy: see page 10
    - i. [https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/ECIW\\_4.0\\_Guidance\\_on\\_Essential\\_Critical\\_Infrastructure\\_Workers\\_Final3\\_508\\_0.pdf](https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/ECIW_4.0_Guidance_on_Essential_Critical_Infrastructure_Workers_Final3_508_0.pdf)

## Strategies

32. Multi-layered strategy: combination is aimed to provide educational services to our students while protecting them, their families, our staff, and the community. Using deliberation, prudent and practical measures
- a. COVID and Delta specifically have higher transmission rates and more dangerous
    - i. In the US, two weeks after School started 90,000 kids in quarantine
    - ii. UK study over 18 months compared Alpha with Delta variant as 2.25 times likely to be hospitalized and 1.5 times for ER care with key factors of age and vaccination status.
  - b. Mask Use
    - i. One of the roles of the WMS Board is to provide a safe, educational environment to foster the academic, physical, social, and emotional growth of the entire community. COVID has proven to be particularly challenging as it is enduring and changes frequently. As the scientific communities review more and more evidence, their recommendations also change, sometimes weekly. A COVID Committee has routinely met and has a process to review, assess, and adjust our mitigation strategies as that information is available. Again, our fundamental focus is a safe, educational environment, but this is not limited to the immediate school grounds.
    - ii. We have to consider how actions and activities impact our community's immediate families, some of which have compromised immune members. In the current conditions that changed from the beginning of summer 2020 until September 1st, we judged the need to take prudent action by adjusting WMS's mask-wearing policy to be more proactive with mask-wearing outside in crowded settings. This is in accordance with the CDC and VDH recommendations balanced with our experience with young children's social distancing outside
    - iii. However, as many of you have pointed out, we also understand potential long developmental risks with this approach. We've made adjustments all summer and continue in the school year to accommodate children with 'mask sanctuaries' and monitored mask breaks, keeping small cohorts outside, and using the playground as much as possible. The



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reality is that COVID is mutating. When the virus changes, we must be flexible, adapt, and adjust to the threats for that short period. Again, we hold the protection of the WMS children and teachers as part of the core mission. Combined with the lack of understanding of clear science for the long-term effects of COVID, this is even more essential. However, when the COVID conditions change, we will make adjustments considering the best information we have at the appropriate time after communicating with the WMS community.

- iv. Lastly, if you are interested in some of the resources we review, here are a few links for COVID-related information for children about a few topics that you asked about. We hope this provides you with how we came to a decision and how we approach this dynamic and enduring pandemic period.

## 33. [VDH K-12 Guidance](#)

- a. Monitor the community transmission (visitors, activities, etc)
- b. Vaccination levels (monitoring/screening at drop off)
- c. Impacts to School
  - i. Operations (classroom, aftercare, bus)
  - ii. Activities (visits to parks, libraries, etc)
  - iii. Extra (social events)
- d. How would we respond – what if and impact to children, teachers, staff and families switching
  - i. Transition periods (holidays, breaks, etc)
- e. Operations impacts
  - i. Communications (TT, group emails, Board participation)
  - ii. Screening (Part A and Part B)
    - 1. Part A are symptoms and temperature by teacher in car line
    - 2. Part B is behaviour by HoS: park and wait
    - 3. Testing: honor system
      - a. On consumer: available by appt, OTC, honor system
      - b. On School: cost, OTC availability, no school resource nurse or management
  - iii. Masks
    - 1. [VDH guidance](#)
    - 2. [CDC guidance](#)
  - iv. Physical distancing (maximize per distances, outside use)
  - v. Ventilation (MERV-13, purifiers, exhaust fans)
  - vi. Cleaning (per guidance, 1/day or per use of high touch items)
  - vii. Handwashing (remind, signs)
  - viii. Response (Plan is defensive -> health of children)

## Daily Routine

- 34. Do I need to take my child's temperature before coming to School?
  - a. Yes, take your child's temperature prior to arriving on the WMS Campus.
  - b. Upon arrival the parent will be completing a health screen every morning. The Questions asked will be: is temperature below 100.4° F without aid of medicine, recent travel, and potential exposure.
- 35. Does my child need facemasks and if so how many?

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- a. All adults are required to wear masks while on the WMS Campuses.
  - b. Children 2 years and over are required to wear masks at all times. Parents are asked to provide two masks each day.
  - c. The School will provide space and time for mask relief that will be controlled and observed if a student needs time for relief from the mask wearing.
  - d. The School will be providing the staff supplemental personal protective equipment like face shields and clean-up kits in the event situations or preference dictate the use.
36. What is a cohort and how is WMS implementing this?
- a. Cohorts describe a way to reduce risk. It describes groups of people that share common characteristics, like shared classrooms, families, etc. (also known as: bubble, pod)
  - b. Recess will be staggered to separate the different classrooms.
  - c. To the maximum extent possible, we will use the outdoor environment for instruction, lunch, etc.
  - d. Classrooms have been deliberately reviewed and adjusted to ensure social distancing is accounted for traffic flow to tools and bathrooms, and entrance and exits. An additional supplemental measure of clear-see-through social barriers will be implemented on desks and high traffic areas. Common areas for group sessions will be separated with marked sitting areas, such as hula hoops, to ensure social distancing is observed and maintained.
  - e. NO Visitors, will reassess monthly based on factors reviewed and recommended by COVID Committee
    - i. Specialty Teachers are vaccinated
  - f. Limited visits with vaccinated cohorts
    - i. Library
    - ii. Special programs
37. What cleaning and disinfecting steps is the school taking?
- a. The School is providing training and education for hand washing and general cleaning for the children during the first few weeks of School to re-enforce personal hygienic habits.
  - b. The School will be cleaned and disinfected daily with emphasis on high touch indoor and outdoor areas, tools, children's seating areas.
  - c. A supplemental deep cleaning and disinfecting service will be used twice a week
  - d. Areas for cleaning and disinfecting include desks, chairs, door handles, faucets, light switches, keyboards, bus seats and rails, desktops and tools.

## Sick/quarantine/isolation

38. [Isolation & Quarantine Calculator - Coronavirus \(virginia.gov\)](#)
39. If my child is sick at School, how long do I have to pick them up and where?
- a. Per the WMS Parent Handbook, parents will be notified and asked to promptly make arrangements to pick up their child within an hour, themselves or by an authorized guardian.  
<https://www.williamsburgmontessori.org/resources/>
  - b. Be prepared to recall/answer the following questions:
    - i. Has your child been near someone w/COVID in last 14 days?
    - ii. Does my child have another condition that would make them sick?
    - iii. Is my child vaccinated?
    - iv. Seek medical attention with a Doctor and ask for COVID test
      - 1. Follow the VDH guidance:
        - a. If it is non-covid related, children can return to School within 24 hours fever free

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- b. If COVID related, follow your Doctors and VDH recommendations
  - c. A child must remain at home for a 24 hour period and be symptom free before returning to School.
  - d. Consider researching what your employer VA FMLA policy is to ensure your child care needs are taken into consideration
    - i. <https://www.blr.com/HR-Employment/Benefits-Leave/Leave-of-Absence-FMLA-in-Virginia>
- 40. If my child stayed home from School, do I need a note from our family doctor to return to School?
  - a. Per CDC and VDH, no doctor's note can be required. It is advisable if your child has COVID-19 symptoms to consult your family medical support.
- 41. If my child or member of my family is positive for COVID-19, what should we do?
  - a. First and foremost, seek medical attention.
  - b. For the safety of the other children and families, keep your child at home and plan per the VDH [guidance](#)
  - c. It is essential to contact the Head of School to notify the School in order to understand if other children or families may be at risk. COVID-19 is a highly communicable disease and is best mitigated by removing potential exposure and maintaining stringent control of our clean class cohort bubbles.
- 42. If there is a change in the school status, how will I find out?
  - a. WMS will contact the families by School Messenger, email, text and ClassDojo. Please ensure your contact information is updated to ensure you can be reached.
- 43. If VA Governor returns the State of VA, or our region, to Phase II what will WMS do?
  - a. WMS will follow the Federal and State guidance to ensure we minimize the risk of exposure to our children.
- 44. What can I do for my child's lunch and snack?
  - a. **Elementary and middle school** – lunch brought from home in reusable containers. Snacks will be served individually by the adults
  - b. **Children's House and Toddlers** - lunch provided by WMS will be plated and served by the adults, no family style dining. Snacks will be served individually by the adults
  - c. Everyone will need to bring their own reusable water bottle every day to WMS.
- 45. What will virtual education look like this year?
  - a. The administration will notify families and teachers in order to give everyone time to plan for remote learning. Teachers will implement a format based on improvements from the spring. It will necessitate that students can access Zoom and a virtual classroom site (such as Haiku or Power School Learning)
  - b. Test your laptop or desktop and ask your teachers for preferred programs (zoom, haiku, etc) suited for program
  - c. Look ahead at family travel plan
    - i. Scheduled Absentee Forms: work to provide tailored program work to make it through a week if your plans don't afford time to return and consider quarantine/testing.
  - d. We have purchased a curriculum guide for elementary to help ensure continuity among the classrooms whether we are in class or online. The plan would be to deliver our normal curriculum as much as possible online with individual, small group and whole group lessons throughout the week.
  - e. The goal would be to offer at least one live session each morning and afternoon. Some of these will be to satisfy the social needs of the students, such as a lunch zoom, or more informal get-togethers, such as read-alouds.
  - f. "You can do Montessori without the materials, but you can't do it without the philosophy" and that is exactly what we plan to do...keeping Montessori best practices in mind while offering ways for

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students to develop academically, socially, morally and physically as much as possible in an online format.

## Links for COVID Information

- CDC Local Transmission <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>
- VDH COVID Measures <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-in-virginia/>
- Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
  - Masks, 1:00 - 10:00: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fC7Ai4pKuSE>
- American Academy of Pediatrics
  - Masks, 21:00 – 25:30 (02Sep21):  
[https://players.brightcove.net/6056665225001/default\\_default/index.html?videoId=6270763206001](https://players.brightcove.net/6056665225001/default_default/index.html?videoId=6270763206001)
  - Vaccines 5-11, 13:05 - 15:00 (09Sep21):  
[https://players.brightcove.net/6056665225001/5cmMqFpv5\\_default/index.html?videoId=6271920200001](https://players.brightcove.net/6056665225001/5cmMqFpv5_default/index.html?videoId=6271920200001)
- Nature:
  - More than 50 long-term effects of COVID-19: a systematic review and meta-analysis,  
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-021-95565-8>