



**Nature's Pointe Cooperative Preschool
Pandemic Policy
2022-2023**

This plan will be in place as of December 2022. Because the circumstances surrounding COVID-19 are constantly changing, this is a fluid plan that will be reviewed and updated as needed. We will follow guidelines and recommendations put forth by the CDC, ISDH, Hamilton County Health Department, ICPC, and the local school districts.

Our objective is to provide a safe environment for our students, families, and staff while offering a developmentally appropriate play-based program. Our students will learn, grow, and experience through play and nature, using the outdoor classroom as much as possible.

The Nature's Pointe Constitution and Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, Health and Safety Guidelines, and ICPC Statement of Standards still apply, except where there is a difference with the Pandemic Policy. In such situations, this Pandemic Policy will override other policies and guidelines.

School Calendar

We will continue to follow the Hamilton Southeastern school district (HSE) for all holidays and school closings. We will begin school the Tuesday after Labor Day and end the week before Memorial Day. We will start school in person (as detailed in the Class Schedule section below).

If the state or local school districts have mandatory closings, and we have to close as well, we will evaluate the situation to determine if offering virtual class meetings makes sense.

Face Masks

Face Masks are optional for staff, participating adults, and students. This policy is subject to change based on the circumstances surrounding COVID.

COVID-19 Vaccines

All staff members are vaccinated. While we encourage participating adults and students to get vaccinated, we are not requiring it at this time.

Health Screening/Illness Policy

If a student or adult exhibits a fever or other symptoms, they will not be able to attend school. Admittance will always be per staff discretion.

We will be following current [CDC](#) and [ISDH guidelines](#) for determining when students, staff, or participating adults can return to school after an illness. Guidelines may differ between vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.

If children begin to exhibit symptoms during the school day, they will be isolated from the other children and wait in a separate area with an adult until the child's parent and/or caregiver arrives.

Class Schedule

Classes will be fully in-person, and we will not offer a virtual option. We will review and evaluate this policy as needed.

We will continue to spend a significant amount of time in the outdoor classroom. If there is active lightning or thunder, we will move indoors. Teachers will refer to the Wind Chill Chart published by the National Weather Service (Addendum B) to determine if a short weather break indoors is needed.

Children will need to be dressed appropriately and have multiple sets of clothing, including socks, shoes, and diapers to be kept at school.

Students will wash hands or use hand sanitizer frequently and throughout the day.

Positive COVID-19 Test (Addendum A)

If your student or a member of your household tests positive for COVID-19, please contact the Director and your student's teacher. We will follow the guidelines set by FERPA to inform participating adults that may have had direct exposure. School-wide emails may be sent to notify families that we have a case, but individuals will not be identified.

Close Contacts

If a vaccinated student or participating adult has been exposed to someone that has COVID-19 (close contact), we will follow the current CDC quarantine guidelines.

Positive COVID-19 Test and/or Symptomatic Individuals

If a student or participating adult develops symptoms and/or tests positive for COVID-19, we will follow current CDC guidelines to determine when the individual can return to school.

Our policies are subject to change based on the circumstances surrounding COVID.

For both close contacts and positive cases, the Director must be notified for tracking purposes. We also strongly recommend testing for COVID (and having a negative test result) before returning.

Please visit the CDC's website for more information.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>

Wind Chill Chart (Addendum B)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/10R0SQgF-7O_5EyRxFvndgtPNRDAezry1/view



Wind Chill Chart

