

Santa Cruz Montessori
COVID 19 - 2020/2021
ADMISSION AGREEMENTS

Due to the Coronavirus/Covid-19 pandemic, we are all living through some trying times. Please be assured that SCM takes the safety and health of our students, including your child, and our staff very seriously. Because of this, we have implemented protocols and practices in accordance with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and the public health officials of the State of California. As you probably are aware, this guidance has changed from time-to-time over the first few months of 2020, and it is reasonable to anticipate that further changes in such guidance will be issued as our public health officials learn more about this disease and the mechanisms by which it is transmitted. We are fully committed to monitoring announcements about any such changes daily, and to modifying our protocols and practices on a timely basis to ensure that they remain in conformance with the most current guidance our public health officials provide.

For our part, we will implement the following measures to reduce the risk of Covid-19 infection for all our students and our staff until our public health officials recommend changes or give us reason to believe that it is safe to discontinue them:

- Classrooms and other areas to which students have access when at SCM will be carefully sanitized every evening or before students arrive to begin their school day in the morning. Any area observed to have come into contact with bodily fluids during the school day will be cordoned off and sanitized immediately.

- Upon arrival every day, all members of our staff and all of our students will be screened by having their temperatures checked using a non-contact forehead infrared thermometer and asked if they have experienced any of the common Covid-19 symptoms or have come into contact with anyone who they believe may have had such symptoms in the past 24 hours (or on days following school days, since they left school the day before). Any staff member or student who has a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, who has or reports any one or more of the common Covid-19 symptoms, or who has come into contact with someone known to have a Covid-19 infection or having such symptoms, will be sent home.

- Due to recent Public Health updates (6/19), all staff, parents, and children age 3 and above will be required to wear face masks or equivalent facial coverings. We understand that our younger students may not be able to keep them on and are currently working with our Public Health Department for clarification. The face mask regulation has changed over time and may change again before the official start of school.

- To the greatest extent possible, social distancing (minimum 6 feet of separation) will be practiced throughout the school day.

- We will incorporate instructions on practices recommended to reduce the likelihood of Covid-19 infections into our classroom curricula. This will include instruction on frequent hand washing, the proper method for effective hand washing, avoiding touching one's face, and covering one's mouth and nose if one must sneeze or cough.

- In the event we have any reason to believe that any of our students, despite our best efforts, has been exposed to Covid-19, we will promptly notify the parents of the affected students of the suspected exposure.

- If there is exposure within a class group or the classroom is closed for more than three consecutive days, then we will switch to our Distance Learning model.

What we are requesting of you and all parents and staff at SCM is the following:

Monitor the health condition of your children, yourselves and other family members.

- Keep students home if they have a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit
- Keep students home if they have any of the following common symptoms of Covid-19: a persistent cough, tightness in the chest, difficulty breathing, sore throat, nasal congestion, headache, aches and pains, diarrhea, or the symptoms of conjunctivitis (pink eye).
- Keep students home if they have come into contact with someone who is suffering from Covid-19 or who has manifested any of the common Covid-19 symptoms, for at least 14 days, even if not displaying symptoms, to see if they develop any symptoms of Covid-19.

Adhering to these strict guidelines, and updating them in accordance with evolving guidelines from the CDC and county health officials, will give our community the best chance at minimizing the spread of this virus.

The learning curve on Covid-19 has been very steep, and there is still much about the disease that even our most highly qualified infectious disease physicians and researchers do not know. Despite all we are doing to prevent any exposure of our students and staff, we of course cannot guarantee that your child will not be exposed, whether at SCM or elsewhere, or if exposed, that your child will not contract the disease. By signing below, you acknowledge this uncertainty and you agree to waive any claims

of liability against SCM and to hold the school harmless if your child contracts Covid-19 despite our best efforts to prevent it.

In addition, by signing below, you are acknowledging that SCM has no control over governmental measures, such as stay-at-home or quarantine orders, that could interfere with our ability to provide the full educational experience for your child during this school year. In the event we are unable to provide the classroom experience because of such governmental actions for more than 20 consecutive school days, then we will offer a discounted tuition rate as set by the Board of Trustees (50% toddler, 25% primary, 15% elementary, 10% WC) for a maximum 40 day Distance Learning period.

SCM will try to work with you and the parents of our other students to provide a meaningful, alternative educational experience through the period when normal classroom attendance is not possible. Because tuition monies are fully committed at the beginning of the school year for such things as staff salaries, equipment, supplies, and overhead, we may not be able to offer full or partial refunds for tuition paid. We will work with families on a one-on-one basis whenever possible, but by signing below you are acknowledging this risk and committing to pay your tuition as outlined in your contract.

Printed Name: Parent/ Guardian

Signature: Parent/ Guardian