



## SAFETY & OPERATING PLAN

At Playful Learning we are committed to providing a safe and joyful place for children to discover, grow, and learn together during these unprecedented times. To ensure that this happens, it's going to take a sincere community effort by all of us to adhere to a common set of safety guidelines and to keep lines of communication open.

In addition, it's important that everyone follows recommended social distancing outside of your time with us. This especially pertains to any other groups or activities your child may be participating in. We ask that you do not miss any days at Playful Learning to attend other educational programs. This helps us to keep exposure to our students at a minimum. If your child is involved in any other group activities outside of your time with us, we ask that you carefully review the safety protocols they have in place. Communication will be key as we move forward and want to emphasize that we are always here to talk through any circumstances that may arise. Transparency is key.

It's also important to emphasize that we are a symptom-free school. As parents, you are our best line of defense. Please do not send your child to school with ANY symptoms (fever, sore throat, cough, runny nose, stomach ache, etc.). Although, there will be times that this will feel like a great inconvenience, children that come to school with ANY symptoms, will be sent home (see more details below). This is the single most important thing we can do to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

Please review our safety protocols below carefully and let us know if you have any questions or need clarification. We have a lot of amazing learning experiences planned for the year ahead and it's important that we all stay healthy and happy :-)

Fondly,  
Mariah & The Playful Learning Team



First and foremost, all children and staff will be required to take a COVID-19 test for active infection and submit their results before the first day of attendance. This allows us, to the best of our ability, to ensure that the fall season will begin COVID-free.

Parents can take their child to any certified COVID-19 testing location. Proof of the negative result must be emailed to, [hello@playfullearning.net](mailto:hello@playfullearning.net), prior to the child's start-date.

All children and staff will also be required to submit an online health history and questionnaire with COVID 19 specific questions before starting our programs.




We are currently limiting enrollment in order to reduce our class size to 6-12 children/class. This small-group experience will allow for greater open space in our classrooms, and a more personalized learning experience for the children. We have also made classroom modifications such as removing furniture, spreading tables out for individual seating, and providing acrylic dividers (shields) at tables that seat more than two students.



- We have installed three hand sanitizing stations at our front and back entrances and back gate.
- Children, staff, and parents will be required to sanitize hands before entering the building and immediately wash their hands before entering the classroom.
- Children and staff will thoroughly wash hands after every activity period, before/after snack, after bathroom use, and after outdoor time.
- Staff will be trained to ensure that proper hand washing and sanitizing procedures are followed effectively by their students.
- EACH classroom will have a “sanitation caddy” that includes hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray, wipes, gloves, face masks, tissues, and paper towels.
- ALL areas in the studio, supplies, and toys will be disinfected daily with a 70% Isopropyl Alcohol solution, approved by the EPA for COVID-19 disinfection use.
- ALL teachers will disinfect any/all shared surfaces and supplies at their location between activity periods.
- All bathrooms, surfaces, and common areas will be disinfected routinely throughout the day.
- Staff will always wear proper PPE items when cleaning & sanitizing.




Plenty of fresh air... Our studio garden and outdoor classroom brings the natural environment into our learning experiences through daily outdoor explorations and investigations. These experiences spark curiosity, nurture a spirit of adventure, and instill a love of the natural world.



## SNACK AND FOOD PREP

- Weather permitting, snack will be eaten outdoors in our beautiful shaded picnic table area. There will be assigned tables and times for each class.
- Daily snacks consist of organic foods such as fresh vegetables and fruits, various salty chips and crackers, and protein such as hummus, yogurt, or cheese sticks. We will provide water in disposable cups.
- We often make snack from our own garden. When children engage in the preparation of snack, they will make and eat their own individual servings.
- Teachers will wear gloves and masks during the preparation and serving of snack.
- The tables will be properly cleaned and disinfected between each snack period.



## FACE MASKS

- All teachers and staff will be required to wear face masks when engaged with children throughout the day.
- All adults entering the building will be required to wear face masks.
- Children are required to wear face masks.





## DAILY MONITORING OF CHILDREN AND FACULTY

- Parents are our first line of defense – please DO NOT send your child to the studio if he/she has a fever, sore throat, body aches, cough, difficulty breathing, fatigue, runny nose/congestion, upset stomach, or has an unexplained loss of smell or taste. If a child comes in with any of the symptoms above they will be sent home.
- A daily health questionnaire will be emailed to all families each morning and must be returned digitally before your child arrives at the studio.
- All families are required to notify Playful Learning if any child, staff member, or family member tests positive for COVID-19.
- Teachers and staff will be trained on how to / monitor children's wellness throughout the day (i.e. lethargy might indicate a fever).
- If a sibling or member of a student's immediate family tests positive for Covid-19, the student must quarantine for 10 days and will need to be cleared by a physician and submit negative Covid-19 PCR test results before returning to the studio.

### Drop-Off Procedures

- Markers will be placed outside to designate where to wait in line (6 feet apart) as children enter the studio, one-by-one. We installed a new gate, for added security in our front courtyard.
- Upon arrival at the studio, children will be screened for symptoms and go through a temperature check using a touchless thermometer—any child with a temperature over 100 will not be allowed in the studio.
- Parents/caregivers will say good-bye to their child at the front door or back gate.
- Parent access to the studio will be limited. All adults who enter the building must: sanitize hands, have their temperature taken, and wear a face mask.
- If you anticipate that your child may experience separation anxiety, please arrange to bring them in for a private tour of the studio before the first day. Dropping your child off at a familiar place will help ease the transition.

### Staff


- A daily health questionnaire will be emailed to all staff each morning and must be returned digitally before they arrive at the studio.
- Upon “signing in” each morning, all staff members will be screened for symptoms and perform a temperature check using an infra red touch-less thermometer. Any staff member with a temperature over 100 will not be allowed in the studio.
- All staff are required to notify Playful Learning if any child or family member tests positive for COVID-19.
- If member of a staff's immediate family tests positive for Covid-19, the person must quarantine for 10 days and will need to be cleared by a physician and submit negative Covid-19 PCR test results before returning to the studio.
- Staff members will agree to an “honor code” requiring them to follow all social distance guidelines outside of studio hours.



- If a child develops symptoms during their time at Playful Learning, they will be asked to wear a mask and be safely isolated in a comfortable space or in a shaded, outdoor spot—until parents/caregivers arrive.
- Any child who is sent home with any symptoms of COVID-19 (named above) will be required to be cleared by a local physician (no virtual health care) and/or a negative Covid-19 PCR test before returning to Playful Learning (TBD by Director).
- If a parent reports to us that they are keeping their child home with any symptoms of COVID-19, they will be required to be cleared by a local physician (no virtual health care) and/or a negative Covid-19 PCR test before returning to Playful Learning (TBD by Director).
- Children must be FEVER FREE for 72 hours (minimum of 3 full days) without the use of a fever-reducer (in addition to being cleared by a physician) before returning to Playful Learning.

#### **Protocol if a child or staff member contracts COVID-19:**

- All exposed families and staff within the class will be notified immediately.
- <sup>a</sup>• All children and staff who came in “close contact” (less than 6 ft for at least 15 minutes) with the individual who has tested positive, will be required to quarantine for 10 days and receive negative Covid-19 PCR test results before returning.
- A full email update will be sent to the school community, but the privacy of the individual will be kept under strict confidentiality.
- All facilities that the individual came in contact with will be deep cleaned and disinfected. Certain areas may need to be closed for 24 hours.



# CONTINGENCY PLANS

If there is an uptick in Covid-19 cases and we feel the need to reduce exposure, Playful Learning will flip to a hybrid model of learning.

**Each student and family will receive:**

- Access to smaller pods or one-on-one instruction.
- A personalized learning plan that will consist of online lessons and printable activities.
- Lessons-in-a-Bag containing hands-on projects that can be picked up curbside and completed at home.
- Digital Portfolio for tracking growth.

If we are legally mandated to close the studio we will provide:

- A personalized learning plan that will consist of online lessons and printable activities.
- Lessons-in-a-Bag containing hands-on projects that can be picked up curbside and completed at home (depending on supply chain).
- Digital Portfolio for tracking growth.

*\*If we are legally mandated to close and you decide not to participate in our hybrid or online learning programs, you will be eligible for a pro-rated refund or credit.*