



# Midland Montessori School

## Reopening Information

Dear Midland Montessori Community:

Midland Montessori leadership cares deeply about the health and safety of our school community. Our board, faculty, and staff have worked diligently throughout the summer to thoughtfully prepare a thorough and proactive reopening plan. Our plan strives to provide a safe on-campus environment for our children and staff that mitigates health risks as much as possible while Covid-19 is still in our midst. We focus to provide the safest possible environment for our children, parents, faculty, and staff while staying true to our Montessori beliefs and practices which is the foundation of our learning environment.

We miss our students and look forward to opening our school doors on Tuesday, September 1st. We know our school day will look different as we follow new guidelines and protocols, but our goal is to bring our students and teachers together in a safe and healthy environment. Our plan supports our Montessori curriculum, while practicing social distancing and keeping a schedule as close to a typical school day as possible.

Enclosed you will find answers to questions that will be relevant to our families at this time. Please know we will continue to monitor the guidelines from local and state health agencies, and make appropriate changes as needed. You will also find our complete mitigation plan for the upcoming year.

It is hard to predict at this time if we will be mandated to return to remote learning sometime during the school year. Please know we are prepared and have a plan ready. You will receive a "Parent's Guide to Remote Learning" before school starts. This guide is intended to help the transition from a school model to an at home learning model with schedules, ideas, activities, and resources. The remote model will provide both online and offline learning for our students. We will strive to make the at home learning model engaging, productive, and a continuation of a Montessori based curriculum.

In closing, I want to express my appreciation for the dedication of our teachers, staff, and board as they have worked tirelessly to rise to the challenges the pandemic has brought to our community. We will continue to work together to make this school year the best it can possibly be!

With much gratitude,  
Donna Luke  
Head of School



**MIDLAND MONTESSORI SCHOOL**

1011 AUSTIN ST.  
MIDLAND, TX 79703  
432-699-1665

**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**





## MMS Reopening Plan Questions

### What guidelines will the school follow in planning for this school year?

Reopening plans have been formulated following the guidance of a variety of national, state, and local entities. We will continue to monitor any changes in guidelines from these entities:

- ❖ Midland Health Department
- ❖ Texas Health and Human Services (THHS)
- ❖ Texas Education Agency (TEA)
- ❖ Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- ❖ Governor Abbott's Taskforce

### What facility changes will be made to enhance health and safety guidelines?

- ❖ We ordered and will install HVAC air purification systems for all building units
- ❖ Touchless faucets will be installed along with touchless soap dispensers
- ❖ Hand sanitizing stations will be placed throughout the campus
- ❖ Social distancing markers will be placed throughout our indoor and outdoor areas
- ❖ Designated points of entrance/exits for each class
- ❖ Signage clearly displayed to remind and instruct students of procedures for hand hygiene and social distancing
- ❖ Arrangement of furniture in classrooms to support social distancing
- ❖ Increased ventilation of classrooms by opening windows and doors when possible

### Will there be an option for parents to choose in person school or remote learning at this time?

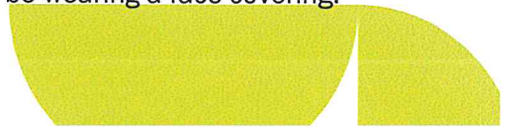
At this time, we will only offer in person school. If in the event the city or state mandates remote learning, we will move to our remote learning plan.

### Will parents receive a reimbursement/tuition discount if we go into remote learning?

MMS is operating in accordance with local and state government mandating if or when we move into remote learning model. At this time, our teachers would continue working to provide support and instruction for our students. We would also continue to maintain the upkeep of our facilities. As such, there would be no reimbursement or discount in tuition.

### Will students be required to wear a face covering?

Students in grades kindergarten – 6<sup>th</sup> are required to wear a face covering (mask or face shield) indoors. Face coverings will be removed while eating, play time or during outdoor lessons when they can social distance. It is *recommended* that preschool students wear a mask if they are comfortable doing so. All MMS teachers and staff will be wearing a face covering.







### **Will my child's temperature be taken at drop off?**

Students and staff temperatures will be taken before entering the school building, before lunch, and at dismissal time. If a temperature of 100.0 F or above is noted at arrival, the student/staff will not be allowed in the building. If a temperature occurs during the day for a staff member, they will be sent home. If a temperature occurs during the day for a student, a parent will be contacted to pick up the student within the hour. The student will remain in an isolation room in the office until pick up.

### **Will there be a daily health questionnaire?**

Yes, parents will complete a daily health questionnaire for their child through an App. Teachers and staff will also complete a daily health questionnaire. More info and instructions to be provided later.

### **What are the arrival and dismissal procedures for this year?**

**Preschool:** Parents will arrive at designated class time, and ONE parent will walk the child to the door for a temperature check. *Parent must wear a face covering.* Social distancing markers will be placed on the sidewalk and playground area. Upon entering the playground area, student and parent must use hand sanitizing station. THE PLAYGROUND WILL NOT BE OPEN FOR CHILDREN TO PLAY BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL. During dismissal, parents will again wait on designated social distancing marker for their child to be released. NO PARENT MAY ENTER THE CLASSROOM.

**Kinder-Elementary:** Students will be dropped off through a carpool line. Student is to remain in the car until a staff member comes to the car to take temperature. Upon entering the playground area, student will hand sanitize.

### **What if my child arrives late to school?**

In the event of a late arrival, please go to the office door and wait for an office staff to let the child in.

### **What if I need to pick up my child early?**

Office must be notified of an early pick up time. Parent will be asked to wait on the office porch and a staff member will bring your child to the door.

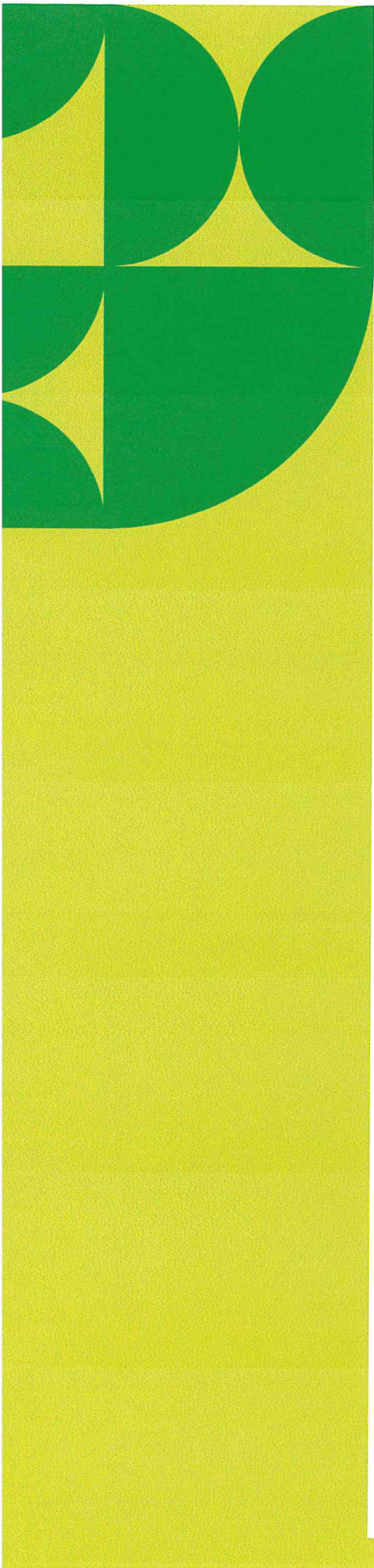
### **Will there be any changes to the daily schedule?**

At this time, we will not have PE, music, or Spanish classes due to space availability. Once social distance mandates are removed, we will be adding these classes back to our schedule.

### **Will parents be able to volunteer and attend events?**

Not at this time. Our focus is to minimize contact of students and adults in a given area. Plans will be made to create a way to include parents in an





activity such as “Celebration of Life” in a virtual manner. Plans will be shared as the school year gets underway.

**What if a teacher or another student in my child's class has tested positive for Covid-19?**

If someone tests positive in a classroom, parents will be notified immediately. No other identifying information will be given out to protect the individual's identity. The Midland Health Department and Texas Health and Human Services will be contacted and contact tracing will begin. Deep cleaning and sanitizing by a licensed service provider will begin immediately. Further information regarding other necessary precautions, which may include quarantine, will be followed as directed from the Midland Health Department. If quarantine is warranted, that particular class will move to remote learning.

**What if a member of my family has tested positive for Covid-19?**

If a member of a student's household has been exposed, has symptoms, has been tested and waiting on results, or has tested positive for Covid-19, the school must be notified and the student must quarantine for 14 days. In this case, the student's teacher will provide at home assignments. If the student presents Covid-19 symptoms within 72 hours while in quarantine, the school must be notified immediately.

**If my child has a fever or is sent home from school with a fever, when will they be able to return to school?**

Please keep in mind that the beginning of school and change of seasons brings about viruses, strep, flu, etc. Without a doctor's diagnosis it may be difficult to identify the illness. In order for a child to return to school after a fever and/or other symptoms, we will require a doctor's note indicating it is safe to return to school. PLEASE NOTE: A CHILD MAY NOT RETURN TO SCHOOL UNLESS THEY ARE FEVER FREE WITHOUT MEDICATION FOR 72 HOURS.

**How will the facility and materials be sanitized on a daily basis?**

Cleaning and sanitizing protocols have been reviewed and enhanced throughout the school based on state and federal guidelines. CDC approved disinfectants will be used throughout the school day on frequently touched surfaces.

**When will I hear more?**

We hope this answered many of your questions about how we plan to safely open the school on September 1<sup>st</sup>. We will continue to monitor any changes and update you as we receive information. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our director, Donna Luke, if you have any other questions. You may reach her at: [director@midlandmontessorischool.org](mailto:director@midlandmontessorischool.org)