



## COVID-19 Policies and Procedures for Nature Play Group

The health and safety of our students and staff is our utmost priority. Our Covid-19 response policy is modelled off the requirements and recommendations of the [Minnesota Department of Health for Summer Camp](#). Throughout the summer, this policy will be updated whenever MDH's guidelines are changed.

### Masks

- Participants above 6 years old will wear facemasks whenever they cannot effectively distance from one another outside and always when they are indoors. Based on this recommendation from the MDH;

Because children under the age of 12 are not eligible for vaccination and many over the age of 12 are only recently eligible and may not yet be fully vaccinated, there is a risk that COVID-19 transmission will occur in youth programs and camp settings. As a result, MDH strongly recommends that participants wear face coverings:

- During all indoor programming, as the risk of transmission is heightened in indoor settings.
  - During outdoor programming if physical distance cannot be maintained.
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- Staff will follow the same masks protocol as children and other participants regardless of their vaccination status.
  - Parents will be asked to social distance during play group, mask use encouraged when unable to distance from other families, regardless of vaccination status.

### Sanitation and Hygiene

- High touch items such as shared tools and door handles will be sanitized regularly.
- Participants will always have access to hand sanitizer and are encouraged to use it regularly, especially after any contact with high touch items.
- Participants will be asked to hand sanitize or wash hands upon arrival and departure from play group.
- Participants will have access to handwashing stations whenever in our outdoor campus or building.

### Symptoms Policy

As your child, you, or a family member experience symptoms, please refer to the [decision tree](#) from MDH for information on when to keep your child home and when they can return to play group. If you aren't sure what to do, call a health care provider for advice.

HNC requires written proof of negative test results for a child to return to camp after a child has symptoms. Please email the education director a screenshot of your child's test results.

Following the direction of MDH, we are not able to accept home antigen tests as proof of a negative test at this time.

**If your child tests positive for Covid-19 while at camp or up to 4 days after being at play group please contact Hartley Nature Center as soon as possible.**

**Child stays home and pursues testing or quarantine if they have one “more common” symptom of COVID-19:**

- New cough or cough that gets worse
- Difficulty/hard time breathing
- Fever of 100.4 degrees F or higher
- New loss of taste or smell

**Child stays home and pursues testing or quarantine if they have two or more “less common” symptoms of COVID-19:**

- Sore throat
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Extreme fatigue/feeling very tired
- New severe/very bad headache
- New nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose

## **Vaccines**

While the vast majority of HNC staff is vaccinated, please note that vaccination status, like other medical information, is private data protected by state and federal laws. None of our staff members are able to share another person's private medical information, including vaccination status. HNC will continue to follow all COVID-19 MDH requirements including following the requirements for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals as appropriate.