



Nature Nook Programming Procedures 2021

In order to keep participants, volunteers and staff as safe as possible we will be implementing the following procedures:

Weather:

In the event of severe inclement weather the program will be moved to Room 1. On days where we will be outside, Room 1 will be available for families to store any personal items they would like.

Hand Washing:

Participants will be asked to wash or sanitize their hands upon arrival. The teacher will carry hand sanitizer that may be used as needed when a hand washing station is not available.

Face Masks:

Following the recommendations of MDH and CDC due to the rise of the delta variant and the increase in COVID cases among preschool aged children, masks are required for all children 2 and up indoors.

Masking for Teachers

At this time teachers will mask while indoors. The Hartley Nature Center building is owned by the City of Duluth, which currently has a mask mandate for city owned buildings.

During times of substantial and high community transmission all teachers will mask at outdoor drop off and pick up and at any time they are within 6 feet of a child. We encourage parents to do the same.

Indoor and outdoor masking policies for teachers will be updated as the transmission level and public health guidance change. Throughout the school year teachers will always be welcome to wear a mask at any time regardless of vaccination status even in times of lower transmission levels.

Masking for Families

- At this time parents and family members who are age 2 and above are required to mask at all times inside the Nature Center regardless of vaccination status. The Hartley Nature Center building is owned by the City of Duluth, which has a mask mandate for city owned buildings.
- Masks are recommended for adults participating in nature nook when distancing

cannot be maintained.

During the 2020-21 preschool year teachers were required to wear masks at all times indoors and to wear masks outdoors when social distancing could not be maintained. We were surprised and pleased to find that our Hartley preschoolers were not bothered by their teachers wearing masks; it's very normal for children to see adults wearing masks and children care about keeping their teachers, friends, and communities healthy and safe.

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 camp. 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 a program 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 Nature Nook or up to 4 days after being at Nook 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.