



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](#), recommendations from the CDC and in partnership with Hartley Nature Preschool. Throughout the year, this policy will be updated whenever MDH's guidelines are changed. If you are unsure whether or not your student can attend HNC programming, please see the MDH [decision tree](#).

Masks

- All students are required to wear masks when in any indoor space or when physical distancing cannot be maintained
- Because our programs are primarily outdoors students can be maskless but distancing most of their time here.
- Staff will follow the same masks protocol as students regardless of their vaccination status.
- Parents and guardians are encouraged to wear masks at pick up and drop off.
- Please provide students with multiple masks.

COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

- The CDC recommends vaccination as the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. All eligible individuals are *strongly encouraged* to get vaccinated to help protect the children in our care. Visit [vaccines.gov](#) to find out where you and your family members can get vaccinated.
- All HNC staff are required to be vaccinated for COVID-19 or to test weekly and provide test results to their supervisor.
- All HNC volunteers that come into contact with program participants are required to be vaccinated.
- HNP staff began receiving COVID-19 vaccines in January 2021. Please note that vaccination status, like other medical information, is private data. None of our staff members are able to share another person's vaccination status.

Pods

- To decrease potential for exposure and increase ability to contact trace, students will be grouped by age and be encouraged to not interact with students outside of their groups.

Sanitation and Hygiene

- High touch items such as shared tools and door handles will be sanitized regularly.
- Students will always have access to hand sanitizer and are encouraged to use it regularly. Especially before meals and after any contact with another student or high touch item.
- Students will be asked to sanitize or wash hands upon arrival and departure from HNC.
- Students will have access to handwashing stations whenever in our outdoor campus or building.

Snack

- Children will physically distance themselves as they eat their snack (if applicable).

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 HNC. 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 programming 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 attending HNC programming please contact the office 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