



August 8, 2020

Hello all, hope you're doing well!

First, I would like to acknowledge the significant contributions of CPNS' reopening committee that has met each Tuesday night of the summer, over Zoom, for at least two hours each week to craft the safest environment possible for your children. I literally could not have arrived at this email without their input and feedback. A huge thanks to:

Jennifer Deem - Health and Safety Coordinator

Shannon Guzzetta - Past Board President and Current Alumni Rep

Kim Marar - VP Membership

Denise Menger - 3-day teacher and facilitator of our CPNS-at-Home virtual experience

Marcia Molina - VP Operations

As you know, things will look different than what we are accustomed to, this year. We recognize that some aspects slightly deviate from our philosophy of free exploration and child led choices. We really grappled with decisions such as daily snack time, for example. While we embrace the idea of family style snack, child assisted food prep, and allowing a child the decision of when to break for sustenance, we opted for a new procedure that feels most responsible.

But, let's start at the beginning, shall we?

I realize this is a lot of information but our hope is that it reassures you that **we have your family's safety as our highest priority.**

We ask that you do a visual health check of your child for wellness before coming to school. While you are on the way to school, **the high touch areas in the yard will be freshly sanitized** with hydrogen peroxide that will air dwell to disinfect fully.

Your teacher will meet you inside the gate, to do a **temperature check of children** and any working parents. We ask that you remain physically distanced, on the Xs taped on the ground, while waiting your turn.

We will play almost exclusively outside. Coverage permitting, we will have an inside room available for each class that will rotate every two weeks. We have moved hooks to the fencing for your child to **daily bring a backpack** with a change of clothes, water bottle and a hearty snack. We would suggest a bento box style container that is ideally easy enough for your child to open independently.

After finding a backpack hook, your child will **wash hands** at our new outdoor sink set up (assisted by a designated workday parent) and then move to the opening circle, held outside the snack room windows.

Another workday parent may read with children until the health checks and handwashing are finished. Teachers will provide co-op workday cards with details.

As we are a cohort, **children are not required to wear a face covering** but your child is welcome to wear one, if you'd prefer. Please ensure that your child is easily able to manage it.

Adults will be asked to mask and distance where possible but we are encouraging a typical play experience for children. Numerous activities will be set up throughout the school to heighten interest and exploration but we are not mandating distancing. **Certain items will be individualized to avoid cross contamination.** For example, each class will have its own set of dress-ups and each child will have his or her own playdough bag.

As referenced earlier, there will be a **group snack time**, during which some parents will have their 10 minute break. We will have chairs available to be taken outside to enjoy your own beverage or snack that you provide. If you need to use the restroom, please note that we have an agreement with the other tenants (OT 4 Kids and Roots for Kids aftercare) that **both children and parents will use the CPNS bathroom only.**

Additionally to avoid cross-over, you will no longer see OT clients entering through the middle gate; they now are utilizing a private entrance to avoid co-mingling. Also, during the 3-day class on Monday and Wednesday, the Pre-K class will wear masks upon arrival through the main gate to proceed to handwashing and class in the designated rooms.

After finishing snack, children will again wash hands and resume their play!

After Helping Hands, 15 minutes before class ends, **co-oping parents will clean and sanitize** while the closing circle is underway.

At pick up time, we ask you to respectfully distance as you arrive, and then feel free to have your child wash hands before exiting the middle gate.

And then we repeat, with new **opportunities to explore and learn**, at each next class day!

We are very much looking forward to seeing you soon and continuing to support your family as well as observe the JOY of children playing again in our awesome setting, among friends.

Be well,

Jill Watkins
Director & 4-day Core Teacher
Carlmont Parents Nursery School/Belmont, CA