

ASPEN LEAF PRESCHOOL ILLNESS AND COVID POLICIES

ILLNESS POLICY

It is a licensing requirement that sick children cannot attend preschool. Children will be screened at drop-off for general health and the below symptoms. If a child is exhibiting symptoms, we will require the child be taken home. The decision to send a child home due to illness often requires the exercise of judgment on the part of Aspen Leaf Preschool and is in the full discretion of Aspen Leaf Preschool. If we observe that your child is showing symptoms of illness while in our care, we may isolate him/her so as not to spread the illness to other children and will notify you immediately and require your child be taken home. If you cannot be reached, we may contact your emergency contact. For the health of all children in our care, we require that a child remain at home until he/she is symptom free for at least 24 hours (or longer for particular symptoms).

Symptoms that require a child to be kept home. If your child is showing any of the following symptoms before coming to preschool, please keep him or her home until symptom free for at least 24 hours.

- *Fever (100°F body temperature, meaning over 98.9°F when measured under the arm, over 99.9 orally, or over 100.4 rectally)
- *Cough
- *Sore throat
- *Nasal congestion, runny nose with colored nasal discharge (typically green or yellow)
- *Diarrhea
- *Nausea or vomiting
- *Loss of taste or smell
- *Headache
- *Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- *Myalgia (muscle pain) or abdominal pain
- *Fatigue or poor appetite/poor feeding
- Conjunctivitis (pink eye) or “cold in the eye”
- Mouth sores
- Unusual rash
- Infected skin patches
- Yellowish skin or eyes
- Grey or white stool
- Head lice (can return when nits removed *and* after treatment has been professionally administered)
- Contagious illness of any sort that results in child being too ill to participate in daily activities

COVID-SPECIFIC POLICIES

The primary aim of our policies and protocols is to **prevent the virus from entering the preschool in the first place**. We are also relying on you to minimize your own risk of exposure, to closely monitor your children and household members, and to be honest and transparent with us regarding any possible exposure.

The symptoms above marked by an asterisk (*) are common COVID symptoms. If your child exhibits any COVID symptom, your child may return to school **after** the symptoms resolve **and** the child obtains a negative COVID test (at-home rapid test okay).

If your child tests positive for COVID. He or she must be kept home until one of the following occur:

- Subsequent negative test:
 - **Four** days have passed since symptoms began or the positive test was administered,
 - AND the child tests negative (at-home rapid test okay),
 - AND symptoms have resolved or are improving,
 - AND the child has been fever-free for at least 48 hours.

- Beyond likely contagious period:
 - **Five** days have passed since symptoms began or the positive test was administered,
 - AND symptoms have resolved or are improving,
 - AND the child has been fever-free for at least 48 hours.

If someone in your household other than your child tests positive for COVID. Please administer an at-home test to your child each day. So long as the child continues to test negative and exhibits no symptoms, he or she may attend school. If the child tests positive or begins to exhibit a COVID symptom, please follow the applicable policy above. You can submit results to Aspen Leaf at www.aspenleafpreschool.com/COVID.

Classroom/school closures. Classroom or school closures may continue to be necessary in the future in the event of a significant outbreak or COVID or other disease. We will otherwise endeavor to avoid or reduce the disruptions for all families.

Requiring testing. We may require widespread COVID testing from time to time, based on events (apparent outbreak) or community COVID levels. When a negative COVID test is required, you can submit results to Aspen Leaf at www.aspenleafpreschool.com/COVID.

Rapid tests. At-home rapid tests are acceptable anytime we require a negative COVID test. Aspen Leaf endeavors to keep rapid antigen tests available on site, which can be deployed as needed or when advisable. Aspen Leaf will not administer a COVID test on a child without the family's prior consent. Aspen Leaf currently acquires the tests on the private market at full retail price, and so the cost for an antigen test provided by Aspen Leaf is **\$6 per test**. We ask families to use the honor system in paying for school tests. Payment can be made via cash, check, or Venmo (@AspenLeafPreschool).

Vaccination highly encouraged. We highly encourage all eligible individuals including children to obtain the latest COVID vaccine and to stay up-to-date on available boosters based on eligibility.

Teacher COVID policy. Teachers and staff members who test positive for COVID have discretion to stay home (and utilize available PTO) or continue to work (mask required until beyond the likely contagious period). As with all illnesses, teachers experiencing a fever or serious symptom should remain home.