

**Secret Garden Montessori**  
**COVID Close Contact Policy**

Updated 1.18.2023

Quarantine is no longer recommended for people who are exposed to COVID-19. Individuals who are exposed to COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, can continue to attend school as long as they remain asymptomatic. **Individuals who are exposed to COVID-19 are required to wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days after exposure.**

Individuals, regardless of vaccination status, are strongly encouraged to get tested 5 full days after exposure, on day 6 (date of exposure is considered day 0). Secret Garden has tests available for families in this situation. If the test is positive, isolation recommendations must be followed.

**Individuals who are exposed and under 2 years of age (therefore unable to mask), will be required to resume daily symptom monitoring at drop off each morning for a period of 10 days after the date of exposure.** Mask use will be encouraged in the Sprouts classroom for all individuals (staff and students 2 years of age and older) who care for or come in contact with the exposed child(ren) who are unable to mask.

After an exposure, students/parents and staff should carefully monitor for fever (100.4°F or greater), cough, shortness of breath, or other COVID-19 symptoms for 10 days. If COVID-19 symptoms develop, students/staff should immediately get tested and follow isolation recommendations.

Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone with suspected or known COVID-19 for 15 or more minutes during a 24-hour period. In certain situations, it may be difficult to determine whether individuals have met this criterion and an entire cohort, classroom, or other group may need to be considered exposed. Individuals would be considered exposed to someone with COVID-19 from 2 days prior to symptom onset (or positive test date if asymptomatic) to 5 days after onset (not during the case's additional precaution period at day 6-10).