

Opening Plan Sussex Montessori School 2021-2022

This guide has been prepared as a resource for staff, students, and the families of Sussex Montessori School (SMS) as we navigate the 2021-2022 school year during the presence of COVID-19 in our communities. The details provided in the sections below are consistent with current public health guidance.

This guide has been completed using information to the best of Sussex Montessori School's knowledge in combination with the recommendations made by the Governor of Delaware, the Delaware Department of Education, and the Division of Public Health. As we continue to learn about this complex virus, and receive continued guidance from our revered medical community, this guide may require updating. Please review this plan frequently.

We will always strive to keep you informed, keep the lines of communication open, provide support where we can, and above all, keep our students, their families and our staff safe. Your health and well-being are our top priority as we work diligently to deliver an exceptional Montessori education to our students.

Montessori education is, by its very nature, hands-on and requires in-person learning. However, should a situation arise due to COVID-19 or any other emergency situations, we are prepared to offer remote learning experiences for our students until it is safe for their return to in-person learning.

Table of Contents

Innovative Montessori Learning Scenarios for the Year Ahead	3
What the start of the year will look like at Sussex Montessori School	
Campus Spaces	
Important Calendar Change	
Hybrid and Remote Learning Options	
Overview of 2021-2022 Learning Plans at SMS	
Parent Support and Communication	
Learning Plan Definitions	
Educational Equity: Planning and Monitoring	
School Operations Plan	7-14
Definitions for the School Operations Section	7
Emotional and Mental Health and Wellbeing at SMS	7-8
Technology	
Technology on Loan Policy	
Face Coverings, Hygiene and Health Screening Protocols at SMS	8-9
Face Mask Policy	9-10
Social Distancing, Movement and Facilities	11
Dining and Gathering	11
Transportation	11
Cleaning	12
In-School Diagnoses and Quarantine Procedure	
Acceptable Documentation	13
Substitutes, Parents and Visitors	13
Home Health Assessment/ Screening Tool	14
Resources	15
How You Can Help	
Resources	
Significant Community Spread	

Significant Community Spread

Innovative Montessori Learning Scenarios for the Year Ahead

Sussex Montessori School (SMS) was founded in order to provide children of Sussex County an innovative teaching and learning environment so that they can flourish both academically and socially. The mission of the Sussex Montessori School is to nurture the development of empathetic, collaborative, persistent and innovative global and community citizens in accordance with the time-tested philosophy of Maria Montessori. The school's vision is that the Montessori method is used to educate children through respectful relationships, opportunities to innovate and to focus on global citizenship. These guiding principles are the foundation for our approach to learning, whether it is one that takes place on campus or remotely.

The mission of Sussex Montessori School guides us as we address the Delaware Department of Education's guidance for the 2021-22 school year. In order to ensure that Sussex Montessori School's plan for every scenario stays true to our mission, it needs to be about community, innovative learning, and meeting the learning needs of our students. Our in-person and remote learning plans reflect our need to adapt with technology to provide what children need for their social, emotional and intellectual growth. Classroom culture is established early on as teachers lead students to create community and routines that work for all students. Whether students are at school or at home, their school experience needs to promote a shared classroom culture and give students continuity.

Because a Montessori education is an education of exploration, it is an education that lends itself to learning outside of school, and as is the case in our current environment, it provides a solid foundation for remote learning as well. By introducing children to topics of inquiry, teachers will give children the key to open doors to explore areas of the curriculum in more depth. When children share their excitement about what they have discovered with each other or with their family, they build a community of united learners that connects the children within each classroom together. These classrooms of explorers are why the school was founded and will be what brings the school community together.

Dr. Montessori did not have access to computers during her lifetime. As a result, modern Montessorians wonder what she would have made of our technology driven world, especially when it comes to its use in the classroom. It is our opinion that she would have taken a careful approach to technology usage. The materials in Montessori classrooms were created with the awareness of children's development needs at each stage. When it comes to technology, we need to make sure that children's developmental learning needs are being met. In the event of remote learning, we will use technology as the vehicle for delivering the curriculum of Dr. Montessori and adapt the tools she created in a fun, new way to learn.

Campus Spaces

- The classrooms at SMS have individual doors from the outside allowing for each cohort of children to be separated from other cohorts.
- The classrooms in the Quads each have their own separate HVAC system. Each HVAC unit has outside air introduced to it meeting all code requirements for fresh air. Each unit also has an air purification system. Each unit has many windows which provide cross-ventilation.
- Classroom square footage allows for adequate social distancing per current CDC guidelines.

Important Calendar Information

- Sussex Montessori School will begin school on September 7, 2021, with students participating in 5-day a week, in-person learning.
- Sussex Montessori has the ability to offer remote learning on days when school may need to be closed due to inclement weather or other unforeseen emergencies.

Remote Learning

Per the guidance from the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE), SMS will provide a robust Montessori program using **in-person learning in 2021-2022**. Remote learning is an option for children who may not be able to participate onsite due to extended illness or other approved reasons such as extended quarantine or other medical reasons. A note from a physician will be required for remote learning due to extended illness or other medical reasons.

First and foremost in our minds is the safety of our children, families, and teachers.

- Seesaw will be used as a learning platform to support remote learning and communication between children, families, and teachers.
- Remote lessons will be connected to in-person instruction via the meeting platform Zoom.
- When possible, live interaction via Zoom will be available. These lessons will be connected to the in-person instruction children have experienced.
- Lessons will also be recorded through Zoom and posted on classroom websites for students to access. Passwords and other privacy protections will be used as needed.
- Grab & Go Bags will be available for pick up at SMS for students who are learning remotely. Directions will be provided by your child's teacher.

Parent Support and Communication

- Teachers will provide whole classroom updates to families once per week via email, zoom and/or telephone.
- Each classroom will have a webpage that will provide families with links to schedules, contact information, recorded lessons, and other useful learning materials. These webpages will be accessible from the SMS website.
- Teachers will keep a "virtual classroom" in Seesaw for families to access and upload projects.
- All teachers will provide students with "Grab and Go" materials when needed for remote learning (see above).

Learning Plan Definitions

This section provides definitions for the terminology unique to Montessori classrooms.

Cohorts: Groups of children and staff who, as much as possible, will function as a unit with minimal interaction with other children or SMS staff.

Individual Lessons: Individual lessons are scheduled lessons given to a student when a teacher determines that a more focused lesson is needed, through conversations with the student or family, or through observation of their work.

Practical Life: Practical Life is an essential component of a Montessori education. Practical life is the care of oneself and one's environment, and the lessons and tasks that students learn and practice are a routine part of the classroom day.

Morning Meeting: Morning Meetings are the starting point of every day. Classrooms will review the schedule and talk about the day and expectations. Teachers also will have the opportunity to present whole class lessons at this time.

Quiet Reading: Quiet reading is a focused block of time when students read. They can read to themselves or be read to.

Reading Groups: Reading groups are small group guided reading lessons for students.

Grab and Go Bags: Grab and Go Bags will be prepared by teachers to support families with materials as needed. Schedules for picking up and dropping off Grab and Go bags will be scheduled and organized between the teacher and each family.

Seesaw: Seesaw is a learning platform that will be used by Sussex Montessori School. Seesaw will also provide a communication link for families.

Small Group Lessons: Small Group Lessons are the core instructional tool for teachers in all areas of the curriculum. Each lesson will have follow-up work for children to do, and there will be a connected group lesson for children to share their work and their discoveries.

Work Block: The work block is the extended work period where students are given lessons, do their independent work, and explore the curriculum in the classroom.

Educational Equity: Planning and Monitoring

- Sussex Montessori School has a special education coordinator, guidance counselor, social worker, and English Language Coordinator to support our families and children.
- We seek partnerships with local community organizations to support our diverse learning community.
- SMS will support the individual learning needs of all children as determined by ongoing learning- based assessments and observations. Additional support will be provided as outlined in IEPs, 504 plans and for those identified as English Language Learners.
- SMS will identify students who will need assistance with internet connectivity, hardware, software, and basic learning supplies. SMS will work to provide access for these students wherever possible, and/or provide information of third-party resources which families can contact for support.
- Students who are unable to be physically present at school will be provided with Montessorialigned assignments and instruction adapted for a remote setting to ensure that they are meeting all benchmarks for learning. This includes students who are out of school for COVID-19-related illness or are immunocompromised and have been advised by their health care provider to not attend school in-person.

Student attendance at school is essential to learning. Both attendance and performance will be monitored closely to quickly identify any barriers that might prevent a student from achieving success throughout the academic year. Per our school Attendance Policies:

1. Following the 10th day of an unexcused absence, the school shall immediately notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) and a teacher from the school may visit the student's home.

2. Following the 15th day of an unexcused absence, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be notified by certified mail to appear at the school within ten days of notification for a conference and counseling.

3. Following the 20th day of an unexcused absence, the school shall refer the case for prosecution at Magistrate Court. Following the completion of prosecution of the case, and the subsequent failure of the student to return to school within five (5) school days thereof, the school shall immediately notify the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families requesting intervention services by the Department. The Department shall contact the family within ten (10) business days.

- For more guidance on where families can access help with healthcare or educational tools, please see the tab below titled "Resources" on the last page of this guide.
- Forms of communication, translated as needed, with staff and students and their families will include email, text, home visits, newsletter, phone calls, Zoom workshops and meetings.
- The academic goals for students will be outlined, updated, and communicated on a regular basis to ensure that students stay on track with the learning goals for the academic year.

School Operations Plan

Definitions for School Operations Section

Attendance: See student/staff handbook for additional details regarding attendance and specific allowances for COVID-19 related events.

Face Coverings: Please reference the Face Mask Policy at SMS for more information about acceptable face coverings and sanitization.

Home Health Assessment: Adapted by SMS from the Delaware Public Health Assessment, this quick assessment is required to be performed every morning by families and staff before deciding whether to report to Sussex Montessori School.

Quarantine Area: The place (to be determined) where students or staff will be monitored while awaiting pickup if they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 while being transported to school or during the school day.

Technology: Any hardware or software provided to students to facilitate remote/hybrid learning including the internet, computers, apps, and other digital programs and platforms.

Emotional Well-being and Mental Health

Sussex Montessori School recognizes that the current public health crisis may have an added effect on the emotional well-being and mental health of our students, families and staff. Consistent with our Montessori values, we have established additional opportunities to support one another as we navigate potential challenges. In addition to these measures, we encourage all staff and families to seek professional advice, support and treatment as needed.

Assessing and monitoring mental health and emotional well-being of students and staff:

- SMS will conduct a needs assessment to help identify social and emotional needs of students and staff.
- SMS has established routines for students and staff, keeping goals modest and attainable.
- Regular communication with each family will always be a priority at SMS. Teachers have established routine opportunities for personal and whole group communication.
- Families are encouraged to share both academic and emotional concerns as they arise.
- SMS has established a "check-in" system with students and staff that can be utilized in both in-person and remote settings.
- SMS has prioritized deep listening and offers ongoing opportunities for feedback from children, families, and staff.

Destigmatizing COVID-19 through conversation and forums for students, families, and staff:

- Daily morning meetings are used to establish routines, provide reminders of expectations and emphasize the importance of following the health and safety protocols.
- Consistent with the Montessori ideals of grace and courtesy, SMS has established and will continuously reinforce universal expectations with an emphasis on teaching and practicing healthy behaviors (e.g., handwashing, mask wearing).

Social/Emotional Learning, School Counseling and Mental Health Referrals:

• Teachers incorporate weekly Social Emotional Learning (SEL) lessons, focusing on feelings, connectedness and positive relationships.

- SMS employs a school counselor who will schedule virtual meeting times with students if needed.
- SMS will provide referrals or contact information to outside agencies and mental health professionals as needed. If at any time a family has serious concerns about their child's mental health, they are encouraged to reach out to their child's pediatrician or other health provider immediately.
- Additional information is found in the Resources section of this document.
- SMS staff is available to support families with technology needs related to virtual/remote learning.

Technology

- SMS will implement remote learning plans for students unable to attend school in-person due to COVID-19 or at the recommendation of their healthcare providers (see Remote Learning above).
- Training and guidance for remote learning will be provided for students and their families.
- SMS will identify students who will need assistance with internet connectivity, hardware, software, and basic learning supplies. SMS will work to provide access for these students wherever possible, and/or provide information of third-party resources which families can contact for support.
- Students are expected to actively participate in Zoom conferences and independent online activities.
- A list of school and community access points for the internet will be communicated to families.
- Technology and devices on loan to families are property of SMS and expected to be returned in excellent used condition. Please reference our Technology Loan policy.
- In the event that families are unable to connect to SMS learning platforms, Grab & Go Bags will be available for pick up.

Technology on Loan Policy

• A draft of the Acceptable use policy can be found <u>HERE</u>

Face Coverings, Hygiene and Health Screening Protocols

- As per current DPH requirements, all students will wear face coverings while they are at school unless or until the Department of Health amends congregate setting masking requirements. Please reference the SMS Face Mask Policy below for additional information.
- The school nurse will distribute information about face coverings to all families before the start of school in the fall.
- All staff and visitors will wear face coverings throughout the school day. Please reference the SMS Face Mask Policy for additional information.
- Additional Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) like shoe covers, gowns, face shields, or gloves, are not necessary for on-campus learning.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available in many areas of the school. At a minimum, all classrooms will have hand sanitizer and hand-washing stations. Hand cleanliness will be promoted continually throughout the school day.
- Students will wash their hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting their classrooms.
- Children are asked to bring "indoor" shoes to change into when in the classroom. These will be stored in their cubbies.
- Families and staff will need to complete the Home Health Assessment (see page 15) each morning before deciding to send students to school or report to work. Students or staff

exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home and isolate/self-quarantine until they are cleared by a physician. Please see acceptable forms of documentation required to return to SMS.

- Students or staff who know they have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 are not to report to SMS for school or work until they have satisfied the requirements for returning. Anyone who has been exposed to COVID-19 must contact the school nurse to determine when the student/staff member may return to campus.
- Students or staff who have been sent home from SMS due to symptoms of COVID-19 may return when they have satisfied the requirements for returning.
- Sussex Montessori School will have printed resources regarding symptoms, home screening, school policies and contact information regarding COVID-19 available for families.
- Students who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 while being transported to school or during the school day will be isolated at SMS until the student's emergency contact has picked up the student. Students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 *will not* be permitted to ride home on the school bus.
- SMS will contact the Delaware Department of Public Health's Office of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (OIDE) to discuss next steps if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 after having been in attendance at SMS.
- SMS will coordinate with the Delaware Department of Education and the Delaware Department of Public Health to notify families of the presence of any positive COVID-19 cases in the school to encourage close observation of other students and staff.
- SMS encourages all families and staff to have individualized conversations with their health care providers to assess their own health risks and make decisions regarding their choice to participate in the hybrid or remote learning plan at SMS.

Face Mask Policy

Students

- Students are required to wear a mask when in attendance at Sussex Montessori School until the CDC, Department of Health and/or the Department of Education advise otherwise.
- Students must have their masks on when exiting vehicles during pickup and drop off.
- Students must wear masks while on the bus. When weather permits, bus windows will be open to increase ventilation.
- Students will wear face masks in their classrooms during their lessons and independent learning.
- There will be a snack table in each classroom where student water bottles will be stored. Students may remove their mask in this area to get a drink of water throughout the day, while practicing social distancing.
- Students will remove their masks during breakfast and lunch once they are seated and practicing social distancing.
- Students will take lessons outdoors when weather permits. As long as students are 3 feet apart from others, they may remove their masks during outdoor learning and recess. Students must wear masks outdoors if they are not 3 feet apart.
- Student masks will need to be labeled with their name or initials to avoid mix-ups.
- All masks must have ear loops to ensure proper fit.
- SMS does not allow "Gator" style masks, even those with ear loops.
- Masks will not be shared among students.
- Students should come to school with an extra mask in the event one becomes soiled.

Staff

- Staff are required to wear masks while on campus at SMS until the CDC, Department of Health and/or the Department of Education advise otherwise.
- Staff may remove their masks during lunch and water breaks, while practicing social distancing.
- Staff may remove their masks when outside and at least 3 feet from others.
- Staff may remove their masks when they are alone in their classroom after the school day has ended.

Parents & Visitors

- During pickup and drop-off, all vehicle occupants do not have to wear a mask unless they wish to speak to staff.
- All Visitors at SMS must wear a mask while on campus until the CDC, Department of Health and/or the Department of Education advise otherwise.

Acceptable Face Coverings

- Surgical masks. A new surgical mask should be worn each day.
- Cloth or Fabric masks with ear loops. Cloth or fabric masks should only be worn one day before being washed.
- No "Gator" style masks are allowed on campus.

To Note

- Masks must cover both the nose and mouth when being worn.
- All masks must have ear loops to ensure proper fit.
- Additional masks will be available, in limited quantities, in all SMS classrooms, the administrative building and the Nurse's office.

Guidance on Washing Face Coverings

- Fabric face coverings should be washed after each use.
- Wash fabric face masks in the regular laundry cycle using the hottest setting recommended for your fabrics.
- When washing by hand, follow the steps below based on current CDC guidelines:

Prepare a bleach solution by mixing:

- i. 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) household bleach per gallon of room temperature water, or
- ii. 4 teaspoons household bleach per quart of room temperature water
- iii. Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection. Some bleach products, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing, may not be suitable for disinfection. Ensure the bleach product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.
- iv. Soak the face covering in the bleach solution for 5 minutes.
- v. Rinse thoroughly with cool or room temperature water.
- vi. Masks must be completely dried after washing.
- Fabric masks may be dried in the dryer on the highest heat setting safe for your fabric, or they may be laid flat to air dry. If you choose to air dry, it is recommended that the masks are placed in direct sunlight until they are completely dry.

Social Distancing, Movement and Facilities

- Windows and doors at SMS will be opened when possible to improve ventilation in the school.
- Classroom furniture will be kept at a minimum to allow the greatest space for social distancing.
- Signage regarding proper hand hygiene, social distancing guidelines, and other etiquette will be posted throughout the school grounds.
- SMS will practice social distancing by maintaining the recommended distance between students of 3 feet while wearing proper face coverings. Social distancing requirements may change based on updated DPH policies.
- When masks are not in use, during mealtimes and mask breaks, 3 feet social distancing must be maintained. Social distancing requirements may change based on updated DPH policies.
- Students will have individual supply boxes that hold their tools and materials.
- Lesson-specific learning materials will be introduced as needed, instead of readily available on shelves to minimize touch points.
- To help smoothly facilitate social distancing among elementary-aged students, ageappropriate signage will be used to help children understand where they should stand and walk in shared spaces, bathrooms, upon school entry, in lines, and other scenarios where social distancing is a challenge.

Dining and Gathering

- Students will be offered pre-packaged breakfast and lunch options, as per SMS standard operating procedure.
- Students will be allowed to bring lunch from home.
- Students will eat meals in their classrooms, at tables, socially distanced.
- Disposable food service items will be used when possible, including utensils, dishes and individual condiment packages.
- Common microwaves may be used by staff, SMS will supply cleaning materials so handles and buttons can be wiped down after each use.
- Students and staff will eat outdoors separated by classroom groups and socially distancing when circumstances permit.

Transportation

- SMS encourages families that can drop off and pick up students at schools to do so to help reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.
- Students will be required to wear face coverings while being transported to and from school and on school buses.
- School bus drivers will be responsible for ensuring proper social distancing on school buses, enforcing students to wear face coverings, and meeting all cleaning standards between rides as required by DPH (subject to change based on updated DPH guidance).
- Students from the same household may sit together on school buses.
- Students will have assigned seats.
- Windows will be open on school buses to maximize ventilation when possible.
- Bus service providers will ensure that they have the proper help to meet the expectations of safety and cleanliness set forth under the guidance of the Governor.
- Bus drivers are responsible for following the same protocols of isolation and quarantine as students and staff if they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19.

Cleaning

- SMS will comply with all cleaning guidelines, as set forth and amended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- SMS has partnered with a third-party cleaning company to clean all classrooms, hallways and office spaces daily using the EPA-approved disinfectant "Neutral Q" which is safe for children and schools.
- Students will be guided to understand the importance of a clean environment and will practice cleaning their individual spaces and tools throughout the day.
- Children will be taught to wipe down any materials that they use before returning materials to their shelves for other children to use. Every classroom will have a sanitation station with safe and effective cleaning materials for children to use. A spray bottle filled with dish detergent and water; as recommended by the CDC and DDOE, and paper towels will be used for cleaning Montessori materials and tables. Children will be taught how to spray their paper towel and proceed wiping down the materials (or their worktable) they just used before returning them to the classroom shelves.
- Teachers and associate teachers will ensure that all surfaces are wiped down with EPA approved disinfectant, Neutral Q, during the day and will ensure that children are being safe when taking care of their own cleaning. Cleaning our tables and materials is a part of taking care of our environment and is a natural expectation within a Montessori classroom.
- Student movement throughout the school day will be designed to help minimize the number of surfaces students touch. Surfaces will be cleaned sufficiently.
- Efforts will be made to minimize the sharing of educational materials between students.
- The buses will be wiped down after every bus run with a safe, EPA approved disinfectant. Additionally, they will be deep cleaned (sanitized) at the end of every school week.

In-School Diagnosis and Quarantine Procedure

If a student or staff member shows symptoms of COVID-19, the following steps will be followed to limit exposure to other students and staff members:

- Once identified as being symptomatic, the student or staff member will be placed in the Quarantine Area.
- The Quarantine Area will have a cot.
- No staff are to enter the area without wearing proper PPE, including an N95 mask, an isolation gown, gloves and a face shield.
- A face mask will be worn by the ill student or staff member.
- If a student is placed in the Quarantine Area, the parent/guardian will be contacted to come pick them up from school. The student will need to be picked up within 45 minutes. If this is not feasible, we will reach out to other emergency contacts listed for the child.
- The school nurse will escort the quarantined student to the car.
- In the case of a staff member becoming ill, and they are unable to drive themselves home, their designated emergency contact will be contacted for pick-up within 45 minutes.
- If at any time the student or staff member becomes unstable, emergency medical care will be contacted.
- Once the symptomatic student or staff member vacates the quarantine area, the area must be cleaned according to CDC guidelines after a 60-minute waiting period. The cleaning staff must wear an N95 mask, gloves and a face shield.
- In the event that a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, an effort by SMS will be made to identify and notify any students or staff who were in contact with that person for 15 minutes or longer in close proximity so that they can be quarantined at home. Personal and identifiable information will not be shared.

- All parents/guardians will be notified of positive cases in the school or in the classroom via email, followed by a note home for families without email. Personal and identifiable information will not be shared.
- In the event of a positive case within the school community, Sussex Montessori will work with DPH and follow recommended guidelines.
- In the event of a positive case at the school, parents/caregivers will be encouraged to monitor their child(ren) closely for symptoms.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** Fully vaccinated individuals will not be required to quarantine after exposure, but are required to monitor for symptoms for 14 days. If symptoms develop, they then are required to quarantine and be tested.

Acceptable Documentation

For Returning to School after Quarantine

• Return to school will be permitted after the required quarantine period has been met as outlined in DPH guidelines. No child shall return to school without permission from the School Nurse and HOS in consultation with DPH.

Substitutes, Parents and Visitors

- As a general practice, visitors (non-SMS staff) will be limited.
- From time to time, it may be necessary for a visitor to be on campus. All visits must be approved by the office staff in advance.
- All visitors must wear a mask when on campus and practice the social distancing guidelines followed at the school.
- All visitors will be required to check in at the main office upon arrival. A strict log of all visitors at SMS will be kept, including substitute staff, cleaning crews, parents/families, maintenance personnel, and others.
- Scheduled Visits: If you have a scheduled visit to the school you will need to first sign in at the main office. Your child's teacher will inform the main office ahead of time. Please be prepared to present your driver's license or equivalent identification in exchange for a visitor tag which will need to be returned to the office when your visit is complete.
- Unscheduled visits: We understand that from time to time it may be necessary to stop at the school unexpectedly. You will need to sign in at the main office first. Once signed in, a member of our office staff will call the person you are visiting to determine their availability. If they are available, he/she will meet you in the lobby. If you are dropping an item off, please leave the item with the main office staff. Parents will not be able to take items such as a forgotten lunch, etc. to the classrooms. We will make sure the parties involved are informed and the items are collected.



Ask Yourself... Social Services COVID-19 Health Assessment Self-Screening Tool In the past 14 days, have you been within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more with a person who has a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19? Yes No In the past 48 hours, have you had any of these symptoms: Fever of 100 F or above Vomiting or Diarrhea New cough New loss of smell or taste. New trouble breathing. or change in taste shortness of breath, Headache Do not report to SMS. Follow all CDC and State or severe wheezing Nausea recommended guidance New chills or shaking with chills Fatigue for testing and quarantine. New muscle aches Congestion or runny nose Sore throat Yes No You are safe to return to SMS today!

How You Can Help		
Volunteering	We appreciate the many ways that parents support Sussex Montessori School. As we develop our plans for the fall, we will have many opportunities for parents to volunteer. Potential examples are assisting with technology, making materials for Grab and Go Bags, etc. We will be communicating in more detail about these opportunities as we get closer to the opening of school.	
Support	Sussex Montessori School is expecting to have many unanticipated expenses as we ensure the safety of children and families this year. Your support is always appreciated. Donations can be made at our <u>website</u> . Sussex Montessori School is a 501C3 and all donations are tax deductible.	

Resources

Health

- American Academy of Pediatrics
- <u>Centers for Disease Control</u>
- Delaware Division of Public Health
- <u>Nemours Children's Health System</u>
- La Red Health Center
- <u>CASEL</u>
- Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families (Mental Health, etc.)

Education

- Delaware Department of Education
- Delaware Department of Education Guidance for Dual Language Immersion
- Delaware Department of Education Guidance for English Learners
- Delaware Department of Education Guidance for Students with Disabilities
- <u>State of Delaware FAQ on School Reopening</u>

Technology

- <u>Verizon</u>
- <u>Comcast Internet Essentials low-cost internet for students</u>

Significant Community Spread

If schools in Delaware are required to close per Governor's orders, Sussex Montessori is prepared to provide fully remote instruction and services to all children. Specific schedules and additional details will be provided at that time.