



Healthy Together

Frequently Asked Questions

What precautions are you taking against COVID-19?

We follow state and federal health guidelines via a rigorous health and prevention plan developed in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Johns Hopkins University to provide the maximum amount of safety for our students and staff. To learn more about the safety precautions we have implemented, please visit endeavorschools.com/healthy-together.

Will children have to wear masks at school?

We strongly recommend mask usage for children above the age of 3 based on the current recommendations from the CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics. We understand that some children might have breathing difficulties or other reasons that make mask wearing difficult. However, if children are able, we strongly encourage them to wear masks and will provide a clean, unused mask if they don't have their own.

Our staff members are required to follow CDC guidelines on mask usage, and they must wear them (or an appropriate alternative) whenever they are around children.

Which age groups does social distancing apply to?

Social distancing guidelines apply to children ages 4 and up. Children under 4 often require care that makes it impossible to maintain social distancing, especially with infants. However, our staff adheres to the maximum safety guidelines, including mask usage, when around children.

How do you get children to adhere to social distance guidelines?

We limit class sizes to the recommended group limit, according to state guidelines. Our classrooms are isolated and contained so they do not mix with other groups of children or share space. Children will remain in their group for the duration of the school term. By limiting group numbers, children are able to have a normal school experience, including playing and interacting with other children.

In older classrooms, we space out desks and seating areas six feet apart. We also have areas marked off with tape to alert students about the distance requirements. On the playground, we limit the number of students at a time to ensure social distancing.

Our staff consists of experienced, professional early childhood educators and we understand how to convey the importance of these social distancing requirements to children.

Frequently Asked Questions (Cont'd)

What kind of cleaning and sanitation protocols are the schools taking?

We've consulted with the CDC, Johns Hopkins University, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop our safety and sanitation protocols. Each school day, all surfaces and play areas are disinfected with an EPA-approved solution that eliminates the coronavirus within four minutes. At the end of each school day, a professional cleaning company services our schools.

Throughout the day, our staff members clean high-touch areas, such as doorknobs, light switches, table and desk surfaces, and playground areas. We use EPA-approved disinfectants that are strong enough to kill the coronavirus but keep our air healthy for our children.

We are extremely careful with toys and learning materials. We wash them after every use and have a rotation of toys and materials so that children are always able to have them freshly washed and disinfected before use. Toys and learning materials that cannot be cleaned and sanitized are not being used currently.

What kind of chemicals are you using to disinfect?

We use an EPA-registered microbial disinfectant that comes in capsule form to ensure the dilution ratio remains consistent for each disinfecting treatment of our schools. This product will kill COVID-19 within 4 minutes of application. The solution dries within 10 minutes and is safe to use during the day while children are present. Before COVID-19, we relied on bleach to disinfect our classrooms, per licensing guidelines. However, due to the frequency we now must disinfect, we thoroughly researched a product that would function like bleach, but is non-corrosive to eyes, skin, and even clothing. The selected disinfecting solution has been a highly effective bleach substitute.

What do you do for the daily health check?

Our first step has been to significantly limit who may enter the buildings to only students and staff during the school day. Before entering, every staff member and child must have their temperature checked and answer a thorough health check questionnaire. If the answer to any of the health check questions is a "yes," they are not permitted to enter the building and are asked to stay home. To return to school, they need to have one of the following:

- a) Be symptom free for 72 hours
- b) Doctor's note that approves the child for admittance to school
- c) A negative COVID-19 test
- d) Isolation or Quarantine for a minimum of 10-14 days depending on the situation

Frequently Asked Questions (Cont'd)

What kind of ventilation systems do the schools have?

We always maintain excellent air quality through our high-rated filtration system to prevent the spread of viruses and bacteria. Here's how it works:

Our schools are equipped with standard HVAC split systems that encompass an outdoor condensing unit that blows air through the interior Air Handling Unit (AHU). These units supply conditioned air to each classroom, and then recirculates the air through the ventilation system. The air is then filtered through a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) 8 or higher rated filter before the air is recirculated into the classroom. The higher the MERV rating of the filter provides our HVAC system the ability to capture airborne contaminants. We continuously run our HVAC systems 24/7 as recommended by the American Society of Heating Air-Conditioning & Refrigerating Engineers (ASHRAE) to ensure the temperature setpoints remain at a level to keep filtered air circulating in our schools.

Will the schools offer day camps and childcare for elementary students enrolled in remote learning programs?

Yes. Through our Learning Labs Programs, we are offering safe and supervised day programs for remote learning students. Students will be assigned to small class groups that will remain consistent throughout the term. The groups will get the benefits of being in school, including extracurricular activities and outside recreation, under our rigorous safety guidelines. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to have a joyful school experience, including teacher assistance and social interaction. For more information about our Learning Labs Programs and participating schools, please contact us.

What happens if a student shows signs of flu or cold symptoms?

If any child shows cold or flu symptoms (or any COVID-19 symptoms), we immediately separate them from other children and call their parents/guardians to take them home. To return to school, they must satisfy the health check requirements.

What happens if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, that individual must stay home and follow local health department and licensing recommendations before they can return to school. We then immediately notify the parents of every child who was potentially exposed to the student or staff member. All potentially exposed students and staff members may not return to school until they have satisfied the health check requirements.

We thoroughly follow state health department mandates on closure and re-opening if a student or staff member is positive for COVID-19 and notify the state health department about the positive case.

Frequently Asked Questions (Cont'd)

What kind of safety training has been given to staff?

We have thoroughly trained our staff on CDC and state health guidelines, as well as our new operational procedures to maximize safety. The staff continue to receive training as COVID-19 and the guidelines are updated.

Why are your schools still open when my city/state's public schools are closed?

Our schools never closed! We made the critical decision early on to remain open for the first responders in our community. This decision has provided us with the preparation, experience, and confidence to keep our staff and students safe. One key element is the small size of our schools compared to larger private and public schools. We have the ability to implement our safety protocols with every family that attends our school due to the smaller size of our school facilities and student population.



Learn More About Our Safety Protocols

To learn more about the safety precautions we have implemented in our schools, and to see a full list of the safety and sanitation steps we take every day, please visit our website: endeavorschools.com/healthy-together.

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