

BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN

2023-2024

Board Approved 2021-2022 July 27, 2021, Updated August 2022

Reviewed/Updated February 2023, September 2023



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School Priorities for 2023-2024

The COVID-19 pandemic has required our school to collaborate in new ways, examine practices, learn new information and skills, show flexibility in a time of changing information and needs, and make difficult decisions. As we have transitioned back to a more normalized learning environment, Goodwater Montessori School has committed to supporting our students and staff. We understand the concern for our students and as we continue to navigate through uncertain times, every decision we make must be student-centered. We must make sure our students are prepared for their future by providing the best environment possible for their education. Because of the environment in our previous year, we must have a plan that provides assistance to students to not only focus on this year but also assist them in any learning loss that may have occurred during the pandemic. We need the support of our parents and caregivers as well.

Goodwater Montessori School staff plans to work tirelessly and provide the best Montessori environment for our students in 2023-2024. While there were many obstacles in the previous years, our commitment to our students and families is that we are going to do everything we can to address learning loss and to move students toward the future. Our entire team has one mission this year and that is to provide a Montessori environment for our students.

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Instructional Information for Families

Goodwater Montessori School continues to provide face-to-face learning for all students in the 2023-2024 school year. We are excited to have all of our students back to campus and do not anticipate offering remote learning this school year. We understand that there might be parents and caregivers who are concerned about new developments with regard to COVID-19 but we want to assure all of our parents and caregivers that we continue to monitoring the situation and will adapt as new information is provided to the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and WCCHD (Williamson County and Cities Health District).

Learning Tools

Our school was founded on Montessori instruction and our plan is to continue to the roots of Montessori education by utilizing the materials that each community has been provided. Technology is a supplemental tool that is important and will be available to students at school as determined by the Guides and Curriculum team.

Protocols for Safe and Healthy Schools

The school may need to change protocols at any time to address specific needs and circumstances in order to protect the health and safety of students, employees, and the community. Goodwater will continue to seek guidance from governmental agencies including the Williamson County and Cities Health District (WCCHD). The school will comply with applicable federal and state employment and disability laws, workplace safety standards, and Accessibility standards to address individual needs. Updates to safety protocols will be posted on our website as needed.

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Protocols for Screening and Isolation

Screening Protocols

- Neither staff nor students should report to school/work if they are actively sick with Covid-19, who are suspected of being sick with Covid-19 as evidence of Covid-19 symptoms or who have received a positive Covid-19 test result.
- For questions regarding attendance procedures, you may contact registrar@goodwatermontessori.org with questions or review the [Student Handbook](#).
- Employee questions regarding absence procedures should be directed to hr@goodwatermontessori.org

Isolation Protocols

- If students display symptoms of COVID-19 OR are feeling feverish, the school will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home.

Student & Staff Protocols

Students/Staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 may not attend school. They may return to campus when:

- 5 days have passed from symptom onset or from the date of the positive Covid19 test (if asymptomatic), AND
- Have improved symptoms, AND
- At least 24 hours have passed (without the use of fever reducing medication).

The return to campus date is the 6th date after symptom onset or positive Covid test, whichever comes first.

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Protocols for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Schools are required to comply with the governor's executive orders regarding the wearing of masks. As of June 1, 2021 masks are optional for all students and staff.

Protocols for Disinfecting and Hand Washing

Frequent disinfection and hand sanitization will contribute to the positive health and wellness of students and staff.

Hand Washing/Sanitizing Expectations

- Hand sanitizer is available at the main entrance to the school, in common areas, in each community, and the administrative office.
- Each community has access to an electrostatic sprayer to sanitize material in the community.
- Each community has an air purifier.
- Masks are available if a student would like one.
- Staff and students are expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.

Protocols for Cleaning and Disinfecting

Frequent cleaning and disinfection support a healthy learning and work environment for students and staff. The school continues to supply adequate cleaning and disinfectant supplies for our facilities. Staff are trained on proper protocols.

Resources for Mental Health

We have a counselor to provide support to students through large and small group instruction and/or working with classroom teachers to meet the personal/social needs of students.

For those students who need more specific mental health support please contact Taryn Wellington, taryn.wellington@goodwatermontessori.org, for further information.

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Resources

- [CDC List of COVID - 19 Symptoms](#)
- [TEA Guidance](#)
- Public Input:
 - In preparation for the 2021-22 school year, Goodwater provided several opportunities for public input including but not limited to public notice, survey and district discussions and feedback. Community notice and public notice was provided on July 27. Survey to all stakeholders distributed June 22, 2021.
 - As part of the six month review of this plan, Goodwater provided several opportunities for public input including a survey distributed to stakeholders and a public meeting January 25, 2022.
 - [Goodwater Montessori School ESSER Survey Results](#)
 - 6 month review of Back to School Plan July 18, 2022
 - Public Meeting August 23, 2022
 - 6 month review of Back to School Plan February 28, 2023
 - Final review of the Back to School Plan, September 2023
- [ESSER III 3013](#)
- [ESSER III 3014](#)

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