

BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN

2022-2023

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

Reviewed/Updated February 2023



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School Priorities for 2022-2023

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 last year. 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 2022-2023. While there were many obstacles in the previous

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year our commitment to our students and families is that we are going to do everything we can to address loss learning 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.



Instructional Information for Families

Goodwater Montessori School continues to provide face-to-face learning for all students in for the -2022-2023 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 are closely 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

- 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 alma.lahmon@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.
- If an individual who has been at school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local health department, following applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Student Protocols

Students 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.

Students with COVID-19 Symptoms may not attend school. They may return to campus when:

- 5 days have passed from symptoms onset with a return on day 6, OR
- Receipt of a negative Covid test, OR

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- An alternative doctor's diagnosis is provided;

AND

- Improvements of symptoms and at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medication) or diarrhea (without the use of anti-diarrhea medication) .

Students who experience close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 may attend school.

Every close contact regardless of their vaccine or prior infection status should:

- Monitor for symptoms for 10 days following exposure
- Test immediately if they develop symptoms, and
- Test at least 5 days after exposure regardless of symptoms.

Even mild allergy related symptoms following a Covid-19 close contact may be a sign of a positive Covid-19 infection and should result in immediate testing and notification to the school

Staff Protocols

Staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 may not report to work until they have documented the following requirements:

- 5 days have passed from symptom onset or positive test result;
AND
- Has 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.

Staff who are experiencing one or more COVID-19 symptoms may not report to work until they have documented the following requirements:

- 5 days have passed from symptom onset; **OR**
- Receipt of 1 negative Covid test; **OR**
- An alternative diagnosis from a doctor; **AND**

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- Improvement of symptoms and at least 24 hours have passed with no fever.

An Employee who experiences close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 may continue to work, but must complete the following steps:

- Employees must test periodically (Day 1 and Day 5 after initial exposure)
- Employee can work as long as there are no symptoms

Those who are up-to-date with vaccination or have had a PCR confirmed Covid infection in the last 90 days aren't recommended to quarantine, but every close contact regardless of their vaccine or prior infection status should:

- Monitor for symptoms for 10 days following exposure
- Test immediately if they develop symptoms, and
- Test at least 5 days after exposure regardless of symptoms.

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 and does not bring one to school.
- Staff and students are expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.

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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 hired a behavior specialist 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 Alma Lahmon. alma.lahmon@goodwatermontessori.org for further information.

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
- [ESSER III 3013](#)
- [ESSER III 3014](#)

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