



ASPIRE ACADEMY

2021-2022 SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING PLAN

Aspire Academy is committed to provide a safe and healthy workplace for all of our staff, students, families, and visitors. To ensure we have a safe and healthy workplace, all ASPIRE employees are responsible for implementing this plan. As we prepare for the 2021-2022 academic year, we have reviewed and updated our learning plan based on the current directives and suggestions from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), and Minnesota's relevant and current executive orders that includes:

- Making sure that sick employees and students stay home;
- Prompt identification and isolation of sick persons;
- Encouraging employees, visitors, and students to remain at least three to six feet apart if not fully vaccinated;
- Supporting employee and student hygiene practices
- Workplace cleaning and disinfection protocol
- Sustaining communications and training practices.

Below we provide a summary of ASPIRE protocols related to guests and visitors, students, and parents, sanitation and hygiene, food and nutrition, transportation, and social distancing following MDH and MDE guidance related to school openings during 2021-2022 academic year.

ENSURING SICK EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS STAY HOME AND PROMPT IDENTIFICATION AND ISOLATION OF SICK PERSONS:

Employees, parents, and students are informed and encouraged to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Procedures described below have been communicated and implemented to assess employee and students' health status prior to entering the workplace and for workers to report when they are sick or experiencing symptoms. The ASPIRE Health Services staff will coordinate the notification of the appropriate persons and/or employees if a person has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. ASPIRE Health Service staff will notify MDH of any positive COVID

cases. In addition, ASPIRE adheres to all federal and state regulations and laws to protect the privacy of employee and student health status and health information.

EMPLOYEES:

1. Employees should stay home if they are demonstrating symptoms of COVID 19 and contact the School Director with a status update
2. Staff notifications of confirmed COVID-19 case exposure will follow MDH guidance.
3. Accommodations for employees with underlying medical conditions, or those who have household members with underlying health conditions will be implemented in accordance with the ADA.

STUDENTS:

1. Students should stay home if they are demonstrating symptoms of COVID 19 and contact the Front Office at (952) 295-0401.
2. Students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 must be absent from school until symptoms meet the return to school standards.
3. Parents of students who test positive for COVID-19 must contact the school Director immediately upon learning of the test results.
4. Parents must contact their school attendance line immediately to report absences for students who are experiencing symptoms as described in the self-assessment to be considered excused.
5. Student notifications of confirmed COVID-19 case exposure will follow MDH guidance.

VISITORS:

Visitors who are experiencing symptoms as described in the self-assessment are not to enter ASPIRE building and should contact their medical professional for further direction.

FACE COVERINGS:

All employees, students, and visitors who are not fully vaccinated are encouraged to wear face coverings. ASPIRE will make free face coverings available at front office.

SOCIAL DISTANCING:

Social distancing will be encouraged between employees, students, and visitors who have not been fully vaccinated.

CLASSROOMS:

Classroom seating will be configured with recommended space between students. Instructional plans will be created to limit the sharing of digital materials and equipment and maintain appropriate social distancing as possible. This includes summer School and Preschool Summer program as much as possible.

HALLWAYS:

Drinking fountain access may be limited based on guidelines. Bottle-filling stations will be accessible

and students will be encouraged to bring refillable bottles to school.

COMMON SPACES:

ASPIRE will post signs and visual cues to encourage traffic flow, social distancing, and hygienic procedure and spacing will be implemented throughout the building.

OUTDOOR RECESS/PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

Students will be encouraged to wash or sanitize their hands before and after using playground equipment. Outdoor recess is encouraged for elementary students. Outdoor physical education is encouraged for elementary and middle students.

EMPLOYEES, STUDENTS, AND VISITORS HYGIENE:

Basic infection prevention and cleaning measures are being implemented at our workplaces at all times. Employees are encouraged to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water frequently throughout the day, but especially prior to any mealtimes and after using the restroom. Employees, students, and visitors who are not fully vaccinated are encouraged to wear masks at all times. Employees, students, and visitors are being instructed to cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and to avoid touching their face, particularly their mouth, nose, and eyes, with their hands. Employee and student work stations will be cleaned on a regular basis. The use of reusable water bottles will be encouraged. Food service will implement processes as recommended by MDH, FDA and MDE and students will be served breakfast and lunch in classrooms

WORKPLACE BUILDING AND SANITIZATION PROTOCOL:

Operation of the building in which employees and students are located, includes necessary sanitation, assessment and maintenance of building systems, including water, plumbing, electrical, and heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems.

WORKPLACE CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROTOCOL:

Regular practices of cleaning and disinfecting have been implemented, including a schedule for routine

cleaning and disinfecting of work surfaces, equipment, tools and machinery, vehicles and areas in the work environment, including restrooms, offices, break rooms, lunchrooms, meeting rooms, classrooms, locker rooms, and drop-off and pick-up locations. Frequent cleaning and disinfecting is being conducted of high-touch areas. Increased daily cleaning protocols will be instituted at all facilities with an

emphasis on repeated cleaning of high-touch/high-traffic areas especially when students are in place and during staff training before school starts.

DROP-OFF, PICK-UP AND DELIVERY PRACTICES AND PROTOCOL:

ASPIRE has implemented procedures related to the drop-off and pick-up of students before, during, and

after the school day. The ASPIRE will follow guidance from CDC, MDH and MDE regarding students' transportation.

MATERIALS/MEALS:

ASPIRE food service will follow food procedures that meet the requirements of MDH, FDA and MDE.

VACCINATIONS:

Vaccination information provided by the Minnesota Department of Health and local public health

officials will be communicated to families as needed.

COORDINATION WITH STATE / LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH:

ASPIRE Officials will continue to coordinate and implement plans with state and local public health officials.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRAINING PRACTICES AND PROTOCOL:

This plan is posted under the COVID-19 tab at www.aspireacademyschools.org. Additional communication

and training will be ongoing by utilizing the District email system for all employees and families as needed. Any questions can be directed to the Front Office at (952) 295-0401 or info@aspireacademyschools.org