

# Oneonta Montessori School



## SCHOOL YEAR 2022-2023 SAFETY PROTOCOLS PRESCHOOL



### WELCOME TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

*We can't wait to get started with a promising and healthy new school year! We are excited to welcome everyone to Oneonta! We are confident and eager to stand fast on our commitment to our families; thank you for the trust placed on us. We have persevered throughout this pandemic standing true to our commitment to follow the science and the advice given to use by professionals in the field. We will continue to do so this school year.*

### DROP OFF/PICK UP PROCEDURE

**Preschool & TK Students  
Use Lower parking lot**

- \* Park on Poplar Blvd (street).
- \* Vehicles not allowed inside parking lot.
- \* Walk to designated social distancing spots & await turn at designated area by gate.
- \* Parents must remain in parking lot; staff will escort children in.
- \* Limited access on campus.

### TEMPERATURE CHECK

- \* **Temperature check**
  - \* **Children get hand sanitizer and teacher walks them into building.**
- At entry, any children displaying any symptoms associated with Covid-19 will not be allowed into school.

During the school day, children exhibiting any symptoms will be isolated immediately and must be picked up within 15- 20 minutes. Child must stay home for a minimum of 5 days until symptoms have improved & are free of fever for at least 24 hrs (without fever reducing medication) & submit & a negative test before returning to school.

We thank you ahead for your utmost cooperation.

### COVID EXPOSURE – Please inform us immediately.

**If child tests positive;** child has a mandatory ISOLATION for 5 days. Child may return to school ONLY after the 5<sup>th</sup> day if the child tests negative, has no symptoms & submits a negative test.

**If there is ANY exposure;** child has a mandatory QUARANTINE period for 5 days. Child may only return after 5<sup>th</sup> day; if displaying no symptoms and after submitting a negative test.

**If we are notified of an exposure when child is already in school;** child will be isolated & sent home immediately. The pod of children close to the exposed child will be notified & must be picked up & quarantine for 5 days, show proof of negative test before returning. The entire class will be notified; however, all students do not have to be picked up.

### SURGICAL/NOT CLOTH MASKS

All students 2 yrs & over must wear a SURGICAL mask at all times INDOORS. Students may remove their masks when outdoors, however, if parents would like their child to keep the mask on outdoors, please inform the teacher. All Oneonta staff members will wear surgical masks indoors as well. Extra masks can be brought & kept at school. A little personal paper bag with child's name will be provided so masks can be stored when not in use.

### LUNCHES/SNACKS

Please send lunches in Lunch boxes. Snacks may be brought from home; school will provide snacks as well. We have a catering service that parents can sign up for on an a la carte menu; lunches & snacks are delivered daily. Sharing food is not allowed. Ice packs may also be placed inside lunch boxes to keep food cold.

### DISPOSABLE WATER BOTTLES

All drinking fountains are no longer operational; only disposable water bottles or thermoses must be brought to school. Water bottles can be saved for use the following day, only if unopened. We will recycle the bottles.

### TRAVEL

According to the CDC recommended guidelines, all families returning from vacation from any other state or another country must complete a 5 day mandatory quarantine period. Three days after arrival, if a Covid19 test is conducted and it is a negative result, & no symptoms are present, student may return to school on the 5<sup>th</sup> day.

We ask that everyone, please comply with this guideline so that all of us at Oneonta can remain healthy. Thank you for your cooperation!

# Happiness is our culture

## CLASSROOMS

Children will remain mainly with their own group all day. Classrooms have been restructured & configured to maintain social distancing; desks, tables, chairs and designated squares on carpets display children's names. Nap mats have children's names & will be placed further apart (head to toe) at naptime & will be sanitized daily.

## OUTDOOR RECESS

Each class will have outdoor recess time of 30 - 45 minutes daily. Children may remove their masks outdoors. Outdoor toys will be disinfected after each group uses the play ground.

## PICK UP PROCEDURE

School is over at 3:00 p.m. Please do not arrive earlier as we will not release children before 3:00 p.m. Use the **same entrance for pick up** after school as you did in the morning.

Adults must stay on social distancing spots & await turn before walking up to gate.

Staff member at gate will use Walkie Talkies to gather & send children out to meet parents.

If there is no staff member on duty Preschool & TK parents must buzz the office.

Please make sure to notify the office if anyone, other than those on the Emergency Pick up form, arrives to pick up your child. They must have an ID with them.

## PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE !

### SCHOOL STARTS AT 9:00 A.M. SHARP

We ask that all our students be in school by 9:00 a.m. the latest. A teacher will be at the main gate from 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. to welcome children. Our Montessori program is jam packed with activities that have been scheduled to start on time. Please make sure that children are in school and inside their classrooms by 9:00 a.m., set & ready to begin the day. Thank You!

## DAY CARE HOURS

To limit time on campus, our daycare hours were shortened this school year; **Start time is 7:00 a.m. and closing time 5:00 p.m. daily.** Please do not be late as the late fee is \$1.00 per minute past 5:00 p.m., payable to the teacher who stays with the children until pick up.

## HAND WASHING

Children will wash hands many times during the school day. They will have supervised hand washing before/ after meals & before/ after recess.

## HAND SANITIZER STATIONS

Numerous stations have been installed all around the school; classroom entrances, hallways and under patios. Children are able to use hand sanitizer whenever they pass these stations.

## MATERIALS AND TOYS

All materials and toys used during the school day will be sprayed with disinfectant at the end of each day. Personal pencil boxes with classroom essentials such as pencils, markers, crayons etc will be given to each child.

## DISINFECTING SCHOOL/CLASSROOMS

We have always used a professional janitorial company to clean and sanitize our school on a daily basis. They will continue to do so with an emphasis on disinfecting all high touch common areas such as door knobs, light switches gates etc on a daily basis.

## VISITORS NOT ALLOWED

We ask that everyone please understand that Covid 19 is once again on the rise in LA County, therefore, limiting the number of people inside our campus will help us keep our students & staff healthy. Parents will continue to drop off their children at the gates. Teachers will sign children in and out of school.

## COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

Children as young as 6 months – 5 years are now eligible for the vaccine. We encourage everyone to please get their young children vaccinated to eliminate the risk of them getting very sick. We urge parents and caregivers with questions to talk to their doctors, nurses and pharmacists to learn more about the benefits of vaccinations and their importance.

# Welcome to Oneonta