



**TARA REDWOOD SCHOOL**

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SINCE 1989

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## **2021-2022 COVID-19 Protocols**

Childcare is a critically important service for our community. The COVID-19 Pandemic represents unprecedented challenges to Tara Redwood. Tara Redwood will strive to remain open throughout the remainder of the pandemic.

By following these protocols and guidelines, we hope to ensure the health and safety of families and Tara Redwood staff and to provide services to meet fundamental childcare needs of our families and access to the wonders of learning for children for the 2021-2022 school year.

These protocols are an addendum to the Tara Redwood Parent Handbook. When there are discrepancies between policies/procedures laid out in these two documents, the following Protocols will take precedence until further notice. Given the evolving nature of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Tara Redwood reserves the right to establish revisions to policies on an ad hoc basis (especially to provide additional detail and/or respond to an emergent scenario).

### **Resources Consulted in Development of the 2021-2022 COVID-19 Protocols**

[County Department of Public Health SCCOE- Superintendent's Office County](#)

[Health Services Agency](#) Licensing Board

[Santa Cruz County of Education](#) Family and Staff feedback

### **Daily Safety:**

- Children and adults on campus will be required to wear a mask indoors. ● Classroom teachers are vaccinated or alternatively are participating in surveillance testing on a weekly basis.
- Bathrooms, materials and play things will be wiped down and sanitized daily.
- Each classroom is outfitted with a HEPA air purifier.
- Doors and windows will remain open as weather and air quality allow to maximize ventilation.
- Teachers will monitor their classroom for signs of illness.
- Children may not bring toys from home.
- The children wash their hands with soap and water when:
  - they arrive at school and before pickup
  - after they use the toilet
  - before snack and lunch
  - when they return to the classroom after the playground



## Sick Policies:

- At this time, we are not required by the county to conduct health screens at drop off. However, we will be screening our families each morning and ask that families screen their children before coming to school, including temperature checks, to ensure your child is healthy upon arrival.
- If children develop a fever or any sign of illness while at school, we will separate them from the group and they can wait comfortably in the office until they can be picked up. ● If your child is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, please schedule a COVID-19 PCR test. ● Please email the office with the results of your child's COVID-19 PCR Test. *The results of this test will be strictly confidential.*
- Your child must remain at home for at least **24-hours** without fever or symptoms in the absence of fever reducing medication, before returning to school.
- In the event of non-COVID-19 illness, please reference the [Tara Redwood School Illness Policy - Parent Handbook](#)

## Household and Sibling Sick Policy

- Due to the asymptomatic nature of COVID-19 presentation in young children, we will be requesting any enrolled sibling of a child with symptoms to remain home with their sibling until:
  - The symptomatic child has received a negative COVID-19 test; or
  - completed their 10-day quarantine; **and/or**
  - received a doctor's note for a diagnosable illness (e.g. influenza, streptococcal pharyngitis), permitting them to return to school.
- If a sibling tests positive for COVID-19, all children within the household are required to follow the criteria outlined in the COVID-19 policy before returning to school. ● Children may return to campus:
  - After providing a negative PCR Test; **AND**
  - they have been symptom-free for **24-hours in the absence of medication**; or
  - 10-days after symptoms develop if they have not taken a PCR Test and they are symptom free for **24-hours in the absence of medication.**

## COVID-19 Close Contact

- Please notify us immediately if your child has been in “close contact” with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19.
  - CDPH defines a “close contact” as being closer than six-feet for 15-minutes or longer over a period of 24-hours (with or without a face covering), within 48-hours prior to that person feeling sick or testing positive.
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- Informing us of your child being a “close contact” will allow us to more accurately and swiftly monitor for COVID-19 symptoms in our community.



## COVID Testing Sites:

- Cabrillo College in Aptos, Parking Lot K
  - Mon-Fri 9-5 p.m. | Sat 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- PVUSD District Office, Parking Lot
  - Mon and Wed | 1 p.m to 5 p.m.
- COE Annex, 399 Encinal St, Santa Cruz
  - Mon-Fri 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Sat 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## COVID-19: Positive Test Result

- CDPH recommends a symptom-based strategy for determining the [duration of isolation](#) for people with COVID-19 who are symptomatic, meaning they have symptoms of the disease, as described in guidance from the CDC. Under this recommendation, persons with COVID-19 who have symptoms and were instructed to care for themselves at home may [discontinue self-isolation](#) under the following conditions:
  - At least **10 Days** have passed since symptom onset; **AND**
  - At least **24-hours** have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medication; **AND**
  - Other symptoms have improved
- For persons with COVID-19 who are asymptomatic, meaning they have NOT had any symptoms, CDPH recommends that these persons be instructed to care for themselves at home. Under this recommendation, they may discontinue self-isolation under the following conditions:
  - At least 10 days have passed since the date of the first positive COVID-19 diagnostic (federally approved Emergency Use Authorized molecular assay) test. If they develop symptoms, then the strategies for discontinuing self-isolation for symptomatic persons (see above) should be used.

## Travel Policy

- At this time, there are no travel restrictions in the state of California
- However, in order to keep our community as safe as possible, please consider following the CDC recommendations for Safe Travel:
  - **Vaccinated Individuals:**
    - After travel: Self-monitor for COVID Symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms
  - **Unvaccinated Individuals:**
    - **After travel:**
      - Get tested with a PCR Test **3-5 days** after travel; **AND** self-quarantine for **7 days** after travel (even if symptom free)
      - If you choose not to get a PCR test, self-quarantine for **10 days**



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## Drop Off and Pickup:

- We will have “Wait Spots” 6 feet apart and we request parents to wait on a spot with your child until it is your turn to move forward to the next spot and eventually to the teacher who will be greeting you and have the sign in and out form. If there is no available spot, please wait in your car until one opens up.
- A teacher will be at the gate each day to greet the children.
- **Teachers, parents, and children 2 and older, please, wear masks upon arrival.**

## Rainbow Class

- Please enter the Preschool grounds through the gate to the left.
- Proceed to the hooks where your child can hang their backpack and jacket. ● Your child can put their lunch box in their cubby and their snack and water bottle on the tray on top of the cubbies.
- Sign in with a sterilized pen and place it in the ‘used’ pen container
- Your child’s teacher will ask you about your child’s health and possible close contacts.
- Most importantly, please complete a health screening before leaving home. ● Parents leave through the same gate they entered from.

## Mandala Class

- A teacher will be on the steps to the deck waiting to check in with you regarding your child and everyone in the household.
- You sign in and out here. We will have a sterilized pen for each person. ● Parents, please, leave your child at the gate where a teacher will receive them. ● Parents cannot enter the deck nor classroom at that time, and children need to leave toys at home.
- Leave your child’s backpack with their lunch, water bottle, diapers, change of clothes and special blanket in a bag on the step. Please be sure to label all items with your child's first name or initials.
- You will pick up at the same place with the same routine.



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### **Element Explorers Class**

- Enter through the side gate (the far left gate) and stand on a designated wait spot. ● The last wait spot is in front of the double gate to allow proper distancing as the family in front of you exits. Once it is your turn, approach the entrance to the Little Playground where a teacher will be waiting for you at the gate to check in with you regarding your child and everyone in the household. You will sign in and out here.
- As you pass your child's cubby, please place their snack on the tray on top of the cubbies and give their lunch to the teacher that is checking them in. Hang their backpack and jackets on a hook. Please be sure to label all items with your child's first name or initials.
- Parents leave your child at the gate and exit via the double gate at the front of the building. Parents cannot enter the classroom at that time, and children need to leave toys at home.

### **Global Citizens Class**

- Enter through the side gate and stand on a wait spot. As you pass your child's cubby, please place their food containers in the cubby and hang their backpack on a hook. Please be sure to label all items with your child's first name or initials.
- Proceed to the double doors in the front of the building. The teacher will be at the door waiting for you and you will sign in and out here.
- Parents leave your child at the door and exit via the double gate at the front of the school.

**Message of Gratitude:** Thank you for prioritizing the health and well being of the community by doing your best to follow these protocols. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we do our best to serve our students and families. It is likely that over the course of this school year the above guidelines will change. We will keep families apprised of changes as they occur and will continue to update this document to reflect best practice for community safety.

**Agreement:** I hereby agree to follow all the safety protocols as outlined in this document.

**Waiver and Release:** You hereby release and forever discharge and hold harmless Tara Redwood School from any and all liability, claims and demands of whatever kind or nature, either in law or in equity, which arise or may hereafter arise from your child's return to campus



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and/or participation in activities associated with Tara Redwood School. You understand that this release discharges Tara Redwood School from any liability or claim that you may have against the school with respect to any bodily injury, personal injury, illness, or other issue that may result from your child's return and/or participation.

**Assumption of Risk:** You further understand that your child's return and/or participation may expose him/her and others to unavoidable COVID-19 community spread. As such, you hereby expressly and specifically assume the risk of injury or other harm, and also expressly release Tara Redwood School from all liability for injury, illness, or other issue resulting from or in any way related to your child's return or participation.

BY EXECUTING BELOW, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE HAVING READ AND UNDERSTOOD ALL OF THE ABOVE-TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

Your Child's Printed Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Your Printed Full

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Signing \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2021

This document was last updated February 2022 and is subject to change.