



Re: Health & Safety Policy changes

Dear Parents and Families,

While the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) crisis continues to evolve, we have been making continuous adjustments to our school schedules and policies to ensure the health and safety of our children, staff, and our entire Kawaiaha'o Church School 'ohana. We sincerely appreciate your patience, grace, and understanding throughout this time.

The changes we are making to our program, daily routine, and classroom sizes are all based on recommendations/requirements from the Center for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC), State Department of Health, and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHS)- which oversees the licensing of all schools. These recommendations and changes are in place to protect the health and safety for all.

With that being said, while we aim to stop the spread of germs, we will be sharing lots of aloha, as always. Furthermore, we want to note that these changes are temporary, and we will be adjusting when possible and when recommended.

We know the drop offs and pick ups will look different for some children and we are sad to temporarily suspend our schoolwide events and field trips, but the familiarity of their friends, teachers, learning routines, playground and gym time, will still essentially be the same. We know it has been an adjustment for our keiki to wear masks when they arrive to school each day, but our keiki have been very resilient and have grown accustomed to this new way of life when we are out in public

We have reduced our class sizes for the 2020-21 school year to allow for appropriate social distancing within each classroom. We will fill any available seats on a first-come, first-serve basis, giving our returning students priority (or those with siblings) who complete their enrollment and pay their dues online and in a timely manner, as well as sign the agreement attached to the end of the Health and Safety policy changes noting the parent/guardian has read and understand the temporary changes to our program.

We also started the school year 2 weeks earlier than originally scheduled. The first day of school was on Monday, August 10, 2020. This provided an additional 2 weeks of educational time in the event that the school needs to close mid-month, or if your child may have to stay home due to unforeseen circumstances like an illness, or a household needs to remain under quarantine. Although starting 2 weeks earlier will not impact the annual tuition, we are adding on these 2 weeks of additional learning time to encourage all of our families to be very diligent and keep your keiki at home if they are experiencing any flu-like symptoms or illnesses. In order for our school to be able to continue to operate safely and efficiently, we need everyone's kōkua, as we are in this together.

Please see the pages attached to read about the changes to our policies and procedures effective immediately, and into the foreseeable future. If the situation or information below should change, we will notify you immediately. Mahalo again for your kokua, understanding, and grace throughout these ever-changing times. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you should have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Mahalo,

Deanna Manabe

Interim Director

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Health & Safety Policy Changes

Updated February 26, 2021

CLEANING AND SANITIZING

The following link provides guidance for cleaning and disinfecting in schools and child care programs, and will be the guidelines that we follow. This guidance is based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations for schools, workplaces, and community locations:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>

In addition to our already stringent cleaning routines already in place, which include professional janitorial services daily during evening hours when the school program is closed, we are also committing to the following cleaning methods and schedule to ensure additional cleaning and disinfection of highly touched surfaces throughout the day:

- Classrooms, classroom furniture, high touch areas, and office spaces will be professionally sanitized with EPA approved methods and equipment.
- Classrooms and high touch surfaces (e.g., desks, equipment, toys, outdoor play structure, light switches, door handles, etc.) will be cleaned and sanitized restrooms on a schedule, frequently throughout the day.
- Clean and sanitize restrooms and diaper changing areas regularly based on frequency of use (e.g., throughout the day).
- Monthly professional COVID disinfecting and sanitization.
- Wipe down and disinfect tables between staggered snack and meal times.
- Make hand sanitizer readily available to adults throughout the facility.
- Securely store hand sanitizer and disinfectants out of reach of children.
- Ensure frequent hand washing. We are fortunate to have many hand washing sinks available to our children, both indoors and outdoors, but we will provide hand sanitizer if the children are in an area where there is not easy access to water
- Avoid use of shared items that are not easily cleaned, sanitized or disinfected (plush toys, sand table, water table). Playdoh and similar materials should be kept in separate bags labeled for each child's use.
- Children can bring a favorite animal or favorite blanket from to keep in their cubbies for naptime, but all items need to be washed before coming to school
- Children will store their personal belongings in their designated cubbies. All sleep materials will continue to be sent home weekly, or more frequently, for cleaning.
- Facemasks need to be washed everyday at home. The child should wear a clean mask to school each day.
- There will be bins located in the classrooms to hold toys that need to be disinfected before the next use.
- All supplies and high-touched materials, such as art supplies, should be assigned to each individual child or a group of children at a time to be sanitized for the next group to use.
- The program will ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep them away from children at all times.
- Close off areas used by any person exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms and do not use them until they have been cleaned and disinfected. Wait at least 24 hours before cleaning to reduce risk to individuals cleaning the area.

FACILITY SAFETY

- Visitors are being significantly reduced in order to reduce exposure to our children and staff.
- If a visitor is required to perform professional service or function (e.g., speech therapists, health providers, social service or licensing workers), they will be required to wear a face mask and asked to practice six-foot distancing, if not required to provide direct services to children in care.
- All visitors (including parents) will be logged and their temperature will be checked, as required by the state for contact tracing
- We will be utilizing our ACs and fans, and keeping the classrooms as well ventilated as possible in order to increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors
- Have trained back-up staff in order to maintain sufficient staffing levels or reduce the number of children in care if there is insufficient staffing, when necessary.
- Notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of any possible child, visitor or staff case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

STAFF HEALTH & WELLNESS

- Staff will receive additional training on infection control and workplace disinfection.
- All employees will be trained on COVID-19 symptom detection, common modes of COVID-19 transmission (e.g., close exposure to a person infected, respiratory droplets, touching contaminated surfaces and then touching face), and how to prevent COVID-19.
- Staff will check their temperature at the beginning of each shift and notify their supervisor if >99.9 as well as self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and notify their supervisor if any develop (fever or respiratory symptoms).
- Staff will wash their hands immediately upon entering the program and immediately prior to leaving.
- All employees must wear facemasks (unless a medical condition requires the use of a face shield) throughout the day.
- Staff will not be allowed to work if they are feeling ill or experiencing respiratory symptoms.
- We will communicate with employees regularly and seek employee feedback on an ongoing basis.
- We will solicit feedback and provide ongoing methods of additional training to reinforce messaging and changes to policies and procedures
- Our designated staff person to be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns will be Hau'oli Hoopii.
- We will ensure our staff have adequate sanitizing supplies and PPE equipment, which includes disposable gloves and disposable masks.
- Keep a daily checklist of cleaning and sanitizing responsibilities to be used by employees.
- Train all employees on leave benefit options and policies.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

- We are making auto-line mandatory for drop-off and pick-up to reduce the amount of exposure for our children on campus.
- We are continuing curbside auto line between 7:00-8:00am in the morning. We ask all of our keiki to come to school by 8am. We will be monitoring the flow of traffic and effectiveness of the drop-off and pick-up procedures, and adjust if needed. We also welcome your feedback at anytime.

- At auto-line, a staff member will greet and help your child out of the vehicle along with their school belongings.
- We ask that you please remain in your vehicle to ensure we can keep auto line flowing efficiently.
- We ask that, whenever possible, the pickup and drop off person are the same person. We strongly recommend that the designated pickup/drop off person be a family member that is not in the immune-compromised category in case there is any exposure to COVID-19 or other viruses. However, we know in some cases this cannot be avoided and we will leave this up to each individual family to decide.
- If you are walking your child to school, you may drop them off at the designated auto-line area.
- We ask that parent/guardians wear facemasks when they are participating in auto line whether they are in a vehicle or walking, and to practice 6-foot social distancing with non-family/household members.
- We ask all children to wear a facemask during auto line.

*****PLEASE NOTE THE PROGRAM YOUR CHILD IS IN BELOW, AND FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES FOR OUR STAGGERED DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP*****

2-3 yr. old classes; Papa Lilinoe and Papa Ulu

- **Special drop-off between 7:00am and 8:00am** you may utilize the staff parking lot and a staff member will be waiting in the back door of our school gym to assist our toddler children to their classes. Please help your child with his/ her belongings and walk them to the gym back door/gate. Siblings of our toddler families are also welcome to enter through the gym back door/gate.
- **Pick up 2:00-2:30 pm** all of our 2-3 year old Papa Lilinoe and Papa Ulu child will be picked up in our school parking lot so that parents/guardians can more easily assist with buckling your child into his/her seat. After naptime, the child will come into the gym (remaining with their respective groups) and have a snack while waiting to be picked up

Primary, Kindergarten, and Elementary Programs:

- **Drop off 7:00-8:00am, Mission Lane loading zone**- in partnership with parent/guardian, a staff/teacher can assist your child out of the car and with his/her school belongings.
- **Pick up anytime between 2:00-2:30pm**, Mission Lane curbside loading zone. Parents/guardians need to buckle their children into their carseats.

LATE ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

- Because of the new requirements, it is important that children come to school by 8am. This will help the entire flow of auto line and classroom learning environment. But we also know that unexpected situations occur occasionally, so if you happen to miss the 8am curbside drop off, you may call the school office and a member of our staff will meet you in the school parking lot at the back door of the gym. The staff member will have your child use the gym bathroom to wash/his her hands and walk him/her to class. Older children (kindergarten and up) will unfortunately have to get a tardy pass (not during summer months, but during the school year) before going to class. Please see our late arrival policies in the school handbook.

- Any late arrivals after 8:00am (i.e., doctor's appointment, etc.) will need to be prearranged with the school office and teacher, so we can help bring your child to class.

SCREENING UPON ARRIVAL

- Prior to coming to school, parents will need to take their child's temperature at home daily.
- Parents and/or designated drop off individuals may be asked to confirm that the child is not ill, does not have a fever and does not have a cough.
Faculty and staff will make a visual inspection of the child for signs of illness, which include flushed cheeks, rapid or difficulty breathing (without recent fatigue), extreme fussiness, extreme fatigue, coughing or running nose.
- We will conduct daily temperature checks and visual well checks for all children, staff and any required visitors upon entrance to the facility. We are required to keep a log of temperature checks.
When children arrive to school, they will be asked to use hand sanitizer or wash their hands before entering their classrooms.

MAINTAINING A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

- The groups of children will include the same children each day with the same staff in the classroom, referred to as 'ohana bubbles. If outside staff needs to come into the ohana bubble, they will practice social distancing, mask wearing, and minimize social interactions as much as possible.
- We will not share equipment and will clean equipment between uses.
- There will be a staggered schedule for time spent on the playground, gym, and for any communal spaces.
- If there are two groups per classroom, they will switch between indoor and outdoor learning areas.
- During naptime, all children in the group will be distanced as much as possible, and space out the mats (head-to-toe positioning) to six feet apart, whenever possible.
- We will perform classroom-wide sanitization in the beginning and end of every school day, as well as sanitization in high touch areas throughout the day.
- Staff will have access to anti-bacterial hand sanitizers and disposable gloves and use them as needed.
- Staff will wash/scrub their hands and children's hands a minimum of hourly (noted by the CDC as the most effective preventive measure), as well as before any mealtimes.
- We will review with employees and children (as appropriate for their age) on the importance of frequent hand washing, proper sneezing/cough etiquette, the use of hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol content, and give clear instructions to avoid touching hands to face.
- We will organize routine hand washing breaks and always wash hands before and after meals, indoor play, and outdoor play, and after using the restroom.
- No in-person program tours will be given during regular school hours, to reduce the number of visitors in the classrooms.
- Require employees, parents, and children to not enter the facility and quarantine per Hawai'i public health guidelines if exposed to COVID-19.
- Update sick policy to include COVID-19 and have each parent sign off that they understand the amended sick policy prior to their child starting school.

MEAL PREPARATION & SERVICE

- All surfaces will be disinfected before meal preparation and feedings using CDC- or EPA-approved products.
- All staff will wash hands before and after meal preparation and feeding.
- Each child will need to bring home lunch, or participate in Keiki Lunchbox, and will be served in his/her own containers (to lessen the transferring and unnecessary touching of food).
- Each child will eat with his/her respective 'ohana bubble either inside or outside of the classroom.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

- Staff will receive training/education on COVID-19 symptoms as well as preventive measures.
- Masks will be required at all times, even during outdoor play. Per CDC guidelines, any children with trouble breathing should not wear a cloth face covering, but will be required to wear a face shield.
- Children will not wear masks or shield when they are sleeping or eating, but the children will be appropriately distanced during this time.

ILLNESS

Please continue to notify the school office if your child will be absent due to illness. **PLEASE, KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME,** if your child shows signs of illness listed below:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath/or trouble breathing
- Congestion
- Nasal discharge of eyes or nose (even if the nasal discharge of eyes or nose is caused by allergies, we will ask to keep your keiki to stay home if it inhibits proper use of mask and makes it difficult to contain the spread of germs)
- Runny bowel movements/Diarrhea
- Sneezing and or runny nose
- Listlessness
- Headaches
- Vomiting
- Unable to contain the spread of germs
- If your child becomes ill while at school, you will be asked to pick-up your child within one hour of the school contacting you. Please have plans in place to ensure you or your designated emergency contact person is available if this should occur.
- We will also send home your child's belongings (cubby bedding, clothes, etc.) so you may take it home to sanitize.
- Children who start to experience symptoms of respiratory illness, including a fever of >99.9 while at school, will be asked to stay with a staff member in a designated area right outside of the school office, away from other children until they can be picked up.
- If other members in the household are diagnosed with COVID-19, your child will need to do a 14-day quarantine as well, and need a doctors note to return to school.
- Notify the school immediately of any changes in health or diagnosis from their doctor, particularly COVID-19.

TRAVEL

Please notify the school if your child or household member is traveling outside of the state, or if someone from out-of-state will be traveling to your household.

TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

- We are requiring a 10-day quarantine after travel outside the state of Hawaii
- If you would like your child to bypass the 10-day quarantine and return to school sooner, then all travelers in the household (over the age of 5) need to get a post-travel test 72 hours after travel, and your child can return to school upon showing the negative test results within his/her household
- Special note: if a parent/guardian in the household is required to travel outside the state of Hawaii, or have a visitor from out-of-state in your household, then the traveler must get a post-travel test 72 hours after travel. The child must present the adult's post-travel negative COVID test before returning to school.

TRAVEL WITHIN THE STATE OF HAWAII

- Because all counties are requiring pre-travel tests at this time, we will not require a post-travel test or quarantine at this time, if traveling within the state of Hawaii. This is consistent with travel requirements in the state, and will be updated, as necessary.

TUITION

- Because we are accepting a smaller number of students at this time, there are no unpaid vacation weeks will be allowed to be used by families during this time period.
- As long as school is open, tuition will be due in full. This includes if we are only open for a portion of a week and need to close for the remainder of the week.
- Timely tuition is required to retain your child's spot.
- If your employment status changes, please let us know as soon as possible. We cannot refund a partial month tuition, if school is in session, but we can suspend future payments for the following month with appropriate notification.
- If you choose to pull your child out and not pay, there is no guaranteed spot upon a request to return.
- At this time, if the state forces a closure for an extended period of time, distance learning will be provided in lieu of in-person class.

COMMUNICATION

- Please review your enrollment information to ensure we have your current contact information as well as emergency contact information.
- We will have signs posted throughout the facility for employees, children and parents on shared responsibilities (including proper hygiene and sanitization, face coverings, physical distancing, and information for reporting concerns)
- If you, or anyone in your household had contact with COVID-19 patients, are being monitored for COVID-19, or have been diagnosed with COVID-19, we ask that you notify the school office immediately
- We will be making resources available to families to address social-emotional and other needs, during these challenging times
- If the current situation changes and it becomes necessary to update our procedures or close our program temporarily, we will notify you as soon as possible.

We know this is a lot of information to digest. We humbly thank you for your understanding and patience as we work to implement these new procedures prior to the start of school. Our goal is to minimize disruption while at the same time keeping you, your family and our staff healthy and well. Please contact me (Aunty Dee) at the school office (808)585-0622, or via email at dmanabe@kawaiiahaoschool.org, if you have any questions, concerns, or feedback. Please contact Aunty Mahi in Admissions at (808) 585-0622 or admissions@kawaiiahaoschool.org if you have any questions on your admissions status or any TADS related questions.

Please print, complete, and sign the below form- and email to admissions@kawaiiahaoschool.org. This form will need to be turned in when your child returns to school on Tuesday, January 5, 2020. You can send the signed form with your child to school or email it to the admissions email above.



I have read and understand the updated Health and Safety policy changes and will comply with these changes:

Student(s) Name:

Classroom: _____

Parent/Guardian Name:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date:
