



Gan Ami Early Childhood Education

The following are addendums to the Gan Ami Family Handbook and Policy Guide:

Our Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7am- 6pm; Fridays 7am – 5:30pm

1. Pre-screening Staff and Children:

- Parents should observe children at home each day for signs of illness.
- Any child or staff exhibiting fever of 100.4 degrees or higher or any other COVID-19 symptoms will not be admitted to our Early Childhood Center that day and may not return for a minimum of seven days after symptom onset, and 48 hours after their symptoms resolve without the use of medication, and a COVID-19 test may be required.
- Any child or staff who display other visible symptoms of illness will not be accepted into school that day.
 - This includes but is not limited to: coughing, sneezing, eyes that are pink and goopy, runny nose and congestion, rash, and lethargy. We ask that you err on the side of caution and be especially sensitive to all families and staff and the possibility of contagion.

2. Illness Policy

- If a child develops COVID-19 related symptoms (fever 100.4 or greater, shortness of breath, a new cough or rash, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, nausea, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, and/or vomiting) during the day, the child will be immediately removed from the classroom and moved to the designated, staffed isolation room. The parent will be notified by the educators; if parent is not available immediately, emergency contacts will be used. Fever reducing medication will not be administered by staff. Other medication still requires a physician's note to dispense and must come in the original packaging with dosage amount. They will also need the state required medication authorization form on file, in order for us to administer any medication.
- If a staff member develops COVID-19 related symptoms (with any of the same symptoms listed above), they will be sent home.
- Anyone (staff member or child) with a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or any symptoms listed above must be isolated for a minimum of seven days after symptom onset and 72 hours after their fever resolves without fever-reducing medication if they test positive for COVID-19. For example, if the fever and symptoms resolve on day 7, the staff member or child can return on day 10. Staff with household contacts with adults or children with COVID-19 must be quarantined for 14 days after their last household exposure. For most, this will be 14 days after the household contact with COVID-19 is released from isolation. Vaccination status could affect this timing and we will work with the Health Department to determine return date.
- We understand that all children become sick at one time or another, especially in a school environment. Our goal is to keep the children well and to diminish the possibility of spreading communicable diseases. We appreciate parental assistance in determining the wellness of your child. Please do not send your child to school if he/she exhibits COVID-19 related symptoms or those of other communicable disease: fever, vomiting, diarrhea, sore throat, viral blisters, or rashes. We ask that you communicate all illness with the school office.

- If your child arrives showing signs of being ill, they will not be permitted to attend the program. If your child becomes ill during the day, someone must be able to pick up your child in case of an emergency. For this reason, it is necessary for the JCC to be informed immediately about job changes, phone number changes, schedule changes and changes in authorized pickup contact information.
- Children with diagnosed illnesses (e.g., norovirus, strep throat, influenza) or any other symptoms for which we would exclude (some examples, but not limited to: diarrhea, vomiting, rash, pink eye) must stay home and be fever and symptom free for 48 hours un-medicated before returning to school. We will require a Dr.'s notes as to the diagnosed illness.

Exclusion example for **non-COVID-like illness**: If your child was ill on Monday, they may return Wednesday after being symptom free for 48 hours.

If your child was ill on Tuesday, they may return Thursday after being symptom free for 48 hours.

If your child was ill on Wednesday, they may return Friday after being symptom free for 48 hours.

If your child was ill on Thursday, they may return Monday after being symptom free for 48 hours.

3. Positive Case of coronavirus

- If a staff member, Gan Ami child or Gan Ami family member encounters someone who is positive for COVID-19, that person is required to notify Gan Ami immediately and may be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days and to consult with healthcare professionals. Vaccination status may lessen potential quarantine. If a Gan Ami family member is exposed, the child attending Gan Ami must remain out of school for 14 days.
- If either a staff member or a child who has been present in Gan Ami tests positive for COVID-19, we will immediately inform the Department of Children and Families and contact the North Shore Health Department for further guidance. We will communicate the information regarding any positive case to all staff and families.

4. Drop Off and Pick up Procedures:

- We are still asking you to maintain social distancing and not to enter the classrooms. Please stand 6 feet from the classroom door and from anyone in front of you, using the distance dots on the floor as your guide, until you are greeted by your child's teacher.
- Please limit your time in the building and do not stop for any length of conversation at the door. If you need to have a longer conversation with your child's teacher, please set up an appointment to connect by phone or Remini.
- Please leave the building as quickly as possible to leave space for others to drop off or pick up their children. We know the hallways are so much fun for our children, but they are not for lingering during this time of community health issues. We need to keep all our children and staff safe and limit the use of shared indoor spaces as much as possible, due to the fact our children are a completely unvaccinated population. It is important in our commitment to healthy and safe practices.
- Please limit adults in the building to one per family. This will help us eliminate congestion in the hallways. If it is helpful to drop off/ pick up faster, it is ok to have one adult per child.

- A reminder that school closes at 6:00 PM, Monday-Thursday and 5:30 PM on Fridays, therefore, you should be exiting the building **before** those times to avoid a late fee.

5. Hand Washing:

- We require children and staff to sanitize their hands as they enter our facility in the morning, and then wash their hands once they arrive in the classroom. In addition, children will wash their hands many times throughout the day, including when entering their classroom, returning from the playground, before and after eating, and using the bathroom.
- Handwashing has been, and will continue to be, a regular routine practice throughout our day.
- When we cannot access water immediately, we will use hand sanitizer which contains at least 60% alcohol as recommended by the CDC.

6. Protective equipment:

- Face Coverings - All faculty serving children will wear face coverings, which cover their nose and mouth when inside the building including but not limited to drop off, pick up, in classrooms, in hallways, or any other areas outside the classroom and while handling any food preparation, feeding, and diapering or bathroom assistance. They are required to always wear face coverings in the classroom; except when eating or drinking. Masks will be required outside when social distancing is not possible.
- The K4 classroom in Whitefish Bay and the K3/K4 Classroom in Mequon will currently continue to have their children masked while indoors.
- Gloves - We will continue to follow normal DCF requirements regarding the wearing of non-porous gloves including when in any contact with bodily fluids, feeding children and diaper changing or toileting.
- Protective Clothing - Infant and toddler teachers will wear scrubs. This allows for the ability to change should their clothing become soiled with bodily fluids. All teachers will be encouraged to have changes of clothing available.
- *Note: Children that are in infant rooms, toddler rooms, two-year-old rooms and three-year-old rooms are not required to wear face coverings. In addition, according to the CDC, face coverings should NOT be put on babies and children under age two due to the danger of suffocation.

7. Class Size:

- We will maintain group size and teacher to child ratio requirements for all children under 5 years old.

8. Lunches:

- A “kosher style” nut-free lunch should be sent from home daily.
- Full lunch service is suspended until further notice.
- Birthday treats may be sent in if they are prepackaged, kosher, and nut-free. Good examples are Oreo cookies, many types of frozen treats if they have a Kosher label and are nut-free.

9. Water - Cups, Water Fountains:

- For health and safety, the water fountains in the preschool will be closed and not available for use.
- Children may continue to send in a LABELED water bottle for drinking use throughout the day – these water bottles will remain at school and washed daily by the classroom.

10. Bedding:

- Bedding must be limited to a crib sheet and small blanket for all children who nap.
- Bedding will be individually sealed in large Ziploc bags daily for all children who sleep on cots/mats.

11. Large/Whole School Gatherings:

- The same high-quality play-based school day will continue for children.
- All special activities **will continue, and, at times, may be held via zoom**
- Playground time will continue as well, however, we will limit the playground to smaller groups.

12. Classroom/Facility Cleaning & Disinfecting:

- The rooms will continue to maintain the additional cleaning procedures during the day and each night. We will be using US EPA registered broad-spectrum disinfectants that are safe to use in schools.

**Please note, these precautions are in place to provide every effort to keep every child, family, and staff member safe; however, this does not provide a guarantee of any kind. If you are uncomfortable with sending your child to school with these precautions in place, we understand and respect your decision.*

We have worked closely with the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and the WI Department for Children and Families and North Shore Health Department to develop our policies and procedures.