

A message from WA State Coronavirus Response:

At DPM we are asking parents without hesitation to commit to the following in order to keep our school open and operating and above all—keep our children and staff safe.

Commit to fewer, shorter, smaller social gatherings

We must prevent runaway spread of COVID-19 in Washington state. Read about [our state's new restrictions as we move into winter](#).

Our individual actions make a difference. **Fewer, shorter and safer interactions are crucial.** Shrinking your social circle and skipping indoor gatherings are both important right now. Reducing close contact with others is paramount.

Staying home is still safest. If you do go out, keep it quick, keep your distance and [wear a face covering](#). Recreate and do business locally to avoid spreading the virus across county lines. Limit the number of people outside your household that you gather with every week. If you [feel symptoms](#) of COVID-19, get [tested](#). Gathering in groups—even with people we know—may spread COVID-19. The more people we interact with at a gathering and the longer that interaction lasts, the higher the risk of becoming infected. The safest action, especially if you're in a high-risk category, is to avoid gatherings and find different ways to celebrate. [This site](#) includes ideas for how to gather virtually as well as suggestions on how to gather safely.

*****If DPM families must travel or mingle in a large group, we ask that families get a rapid test done with a negative result to return to school. This will also be the case after breaks, Thanksgiving break, Winter break, President's Week break, etc. There are many drive through options with one of them being done at Valley medical as well as other options around Renton (Renton HealthPoint 206-477-3977).**

Please refer to the following site to check on current WA state restrictions and guidance:
<https://www.kingcounty.gov/elected/executive/constantine/covid-response/current-guidance.aspx>

Screenings, Temperature Checks

DPM is taking guidance from the WA State Department of Health's K-12 Fall 2020-2021 reopening guide. You may find this resource on the Department of Health's website.

We will continue checking temperatures at drop-off and before pick-up times.

DPM families must screen themselves and their children for COVID-19 symptoms each and every morning before making the conscious decision of coming to school.

Screening questions:

Every day, ask staff, parents, guardians, and older students to review the following questions.

1. Do you have any of the following symptoms within the last day that are not caused by another condition?
 - Fever (100.4°F) or chills.
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - Recent loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
2. Have you been in close contact with anyone with confirmed COVID-19?
3. Have you had a positive COVID-19 test for active virus in the past 10 days?
4. Within the past 14 days, has a public health or medical professional told you to self-monitor, self-isolate, or self-quarantine because of concerns about COVID19 infection?
5. **Staff or students who answer 'yes' to any questions should stay home or be sent home**

Carline

We implore our families to have their child ready to exit the vehicle upon arrival.

This looks like:

- Unbuckled
- Shoes/boots ON when you pull up
- Children are not finishing their breakfasts because they **have their masks on their sweet faces upon pulling up to the school**
- Backpacks packed and in their lap along with coats, other accessories either packed in their bags or already on their person upon pulling up to the school.

We have about a 10 second window for each car for drop off in order to execute our Covid strategies (temp checks, recording, sanitizing & Hand washing upon arrival, etc.) Please help our wonderful teachers get back into their classrooms on time, and we must ensure we are maintaining the street clear of back-ups.

Hand Washing & Sanitizing

We are having children and staff wash hands and sanitize upon entry of any building, before and after snack and meals, after restroom use.

We are sanitizing materials and classrooms with proper cleaning solution in addition to using UV lights after children have left the buildings.

We have given each child their own pencil case of school supplies to keep in their own cubbies to eliminate sharing of pencils, crayons, scissors, glue, etc.

DPM is professionally cleaned every Saturday.

Please practice thorough handwashing at home with your child

- 1) wet hands 2) turn off water 3) get soap 4) rub hands together while singing the ABC song 4) turn warm water back on to rinse thoroughly

Ventilation & Outdoor School

At Dancing Pines, we strive to have as much outdoor school time with the children as possible **especially** during the pandemic.

We need your help in order to make this outside learning experience successful for your children and teachers.

Children must come to school with the following each and every day:

- A weather appropriate change of clothing
 - many of the Ziplock bags of clothing that were brought at the start of the year are for warmer days. If you don't remember packing your child a winter appropriate change of clothing, please be sure to put one in their backpack, all pieces of clothing must be labeled with your child's name.
- **Water bottles, Labeled with your child's name**
- Waterproof coats and pants
 - Some tried and true brands include Polarn O. Pyret, Oaki, Biddle & Bop, I've also had luck on Amazon.
- Insulated Boots
 - Bogs, Snow boots
 - During warmer weather non-insulated rain boots are good
- Wool Socks
 - Smartwool, REI
- Hats, neck warmers, or balaclavas
 - REI, Amazon
- Mittens
 - **Please sew mittens into the sleeves of your child's coat so they do not lose them. The property is 7 acres and chances of finding a lost mitten are slim.**
 - There are also mitten and glove clips to attach gloves to coats
 - Attaching a shoelace to each glove and stringing it through the arms of your child's coat is another option

Please note the following information/guidelines that we are adhering to from the King County Public Health Department, CDC, and State Dept. of Health. At DPM we are achieving the following by increasing outside time,

using HEPA air filters, medical grade air purifiers, maintaining windows open in all classrooms, reminding children to have masks on in the restrooms and shut the lid before blushing (please practice this at home too).

"The main goal in reducing airborne transmission of viruses is to decrease the number of viral particles that accumulate in indoor air, by increasing the intake of outdoor air as much as possible and/or through effective air filtration. However, ventilation and air filtration are not effective alone – they are tools that must be used along with other measures such as health screenings, physical distancing, reducing building occupancy, frequent hand washing, wearing face coverings, and implementing appropriate cleaning and disinfection protocols."

- Open windows and doors if it is safe and weather allows, and include more outside time during the day.
- Reduce occupancy in areas where outdoor ventilation cannot be increased to the optimal amount.
- Use fans to increase the effectiveness of open windows. Position fans securely and carefully in or near windows so as not to induce potentially contaminated airflow directly from one person over another (strategic window fan placement in exhaust mode (e.g., blowing out of the window) can help draw fresh air into room via other open windows and doors without generating strong room air currents).
- Ventilate building or room 2 hours before and after occupancy.
- Use of fans for cooling is acceptable. They should blow away from people.