

May 11, 2022

Dear CentroNía Parents,

A couple of months ago, we shared with you some planned revisions to our COVID protocols. Enclosed, you'll find an updated summary of these changes. CentroNía has maintained its classroom masking policy despite the existing option to relax it based on guidance from our regulators, health departments, and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). We have wanted to be extra cautious given that a vaccine for children under 5 is not yet available. At the same time, given the low community levels of COVID, the high level (99%) of staff vaccinations, and the very low rate of infections in children under 5, we thought the time was right to make masks optional.

Unfortunately, the recent data suggests that COVID infections are rising once again. Just this week, Montgomery County raised its community level from low to moderate. We expect DC will do the same in the coming days. *Our plans to relax the mask mandate will have to be delayed until we see the impact of this latest wave of infections.*

I know parents have appreciated our slow and deliberate COVID protocols. I also know that there are mixed feelings about the masking requirement. But for the health and safety of our children and staff we will continue to enforce mask wearing for *everyone* entering our facilities. Some parents and staff might prefer we not apply the mask requirement to everyone but requiring it of just some people causes internal confusion. We will continue to monitor all pandemic-related developments in the hope we can relax our COVID protocols sooner than later. Please reach out to center staff if you have questions or concerns.

In addition, please consider this friendly reminder of CentroNía's illness policy: Any child presenting symptoms including runny nose, congestion, diarrhea, fever, excessive coughing and sneezing, vomiting, and malaise to a level which prevents them from participating comfortably throughout the day will be excluded from the classroom. If not COVID related, a child must be symptom-free without medicine for 24 hours and a doctor's note to return to class if out sick for more than 2 days.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work to return to a degree of normalcy for our children and staff.

Sincerely,



Myrna Peralta  
CentroNía President & CEO



# Updates to CentroNía Pandemic Protocol



**Masks:** required throughout all sites in DC and MD until further notice.



**Travel:** Unvaccinated people must test 3-5 days after returning and can return to the Center as soon as negative results received. PCR and rapid tests accepted (must provide proof of results). No restrictions for fully vaccinated people.

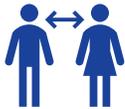


**Building Access:** Only 1 family member allowed to enter during the drop-off/pick-up period. Volunteers, observers, interns, vendors, etc. may enter the building (masks optional).

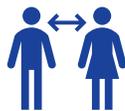


**Temperature checks:** No longer required before entering the building and no longer required for students in classrooms.

## Quarantine & Isolation: D.C.



- In cases of exposure, no quarantine for fully vaccinated if no symptoms present. 5-day quarantine for unvaccinated 2 years and older, should test on day 5 (PCR and rapid tests accepted) and 10-day quarantine for under 2 years old.
- Positive cases must isolate until consultation with healthcare provider.



## Quarantine and Isolation: Maryland

- When permitted by Montgomery County Dept. of Health, classroom closures and contact tracing will no longer be required in cases of exposure, and only symptomatic cases and confirmed positives will be excluded.
- Positive cases must isolate for 5 days and can return on day 6 if symptoms have improved.

### Visit the following sites for current COVID-19 Community Levels & updates

- Montgomery County: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/data/>
- District of Columbia: <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/key-metrics>