

## **COVID-19/CORONAVIRUS HEALTH AND SAFETY RESPONSE PLAN**

**At Ka Hana Pono we share your priorities for quality, safe, nurturing care. Thank you for everything that you're doing to keep our community safe and healthy. We remain committed to providing safe and healthy childcare for you.**

Ka Hana Pono will be continuously monitoring and following the directives of state and county officials, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH), the Hawaii Department of Human Services, and other relevant governmental agencies.

Our small class and group sizes, large shaded and fenced in playground allowing for lots of outside time, ability to stagger play, activity and nap times, plus small-group snack and lunch cycles already fit the CDC and State's recommendations of how schools can safely operate at this time. Governor Ige has said that state public schools are looking to adopt many of these practices that licensed centers and providers already have in place, including measures like the cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and daily wellness checks of enrolled children and staff that include temperature taking.

Due to the dynamic and fluid nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, guidance from officials and agencies could change at a moment's notice, and we will quickly abide by any necessary changes and communicate that with our enrolled families.

Thank you for understanding that we may need to rapidly adapt our procedures as agencies direct us too, including temporary closure if directed. We will also close on a temporary case by case basis if any situation arises in which services cannot be safely rendered. As with any illness, natural disasters, severe weather cancellations, etc.. there would be no makeup days or refunds for any days missed.

**Our utmost priority is the safety and well-being of all the children in our care, their families, our staff, and our community.**

**We appreciate your consideration and cooperation with our collective efforts. We are committed to providing the essential service of safe, reliable childcare so that parents/families can continue to work and fulfill all of their important obligations. Mahalo!**

## Effective immediately and until further notice:

### In an effort to avoid the spread of COVID-19, our policies and procedures for health and safety include:

- **Mask Wearing:** A mask is required to be worn when indoors for all adults and children age two and older who are able to do so - except for when eating, drinking, or napping. A mask is also required to be worn by all parents/guardians when dropping off, picking up, visiting or otherwise in any of our school buildings.
- **Hand washing** or the supervised use of hand sanitizer upon arrival to the school
- **Social distancing:** modify drop-off and pickup routines, limit the mixing of children, as much space as possible between children at nap-time, teachers sign in/out students, limiting the amount of new people coming into the classrooms
- **Daily Wellness Checks:** parents wearing masks at drop-off and pickup, temperature checks and checking in with the parent/guardian on how the child is feeling each morning
- **Illness policy advising when to stay home :** People with symptoms of infectious diseases, including COVID-19, influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and gastrointestinal infections should stay home. Staying home when sick can lower the risk of spreading infectious diseases, including the virus that causes COVID-19, to other people. People are allowed to return to after 24 hours only if they are symptom free and without the aid of any medication.
- **Daily sanitization** of frequently touched surfaces, toys, tables after each use, diaper changing tables and toilets after each use, other materials and equipment. After hours, every evening, the school undergoes additional cleaning and disinfecting of bathrooms, floors, carpets, and other common areas.
  - Children's blankets, pillows, any stuffed animals / comfort items, and extra clothes will all remain in your child's backpack until needed and put back into your child's backpack when done. These items and the children's water bottles will need to be taken home each day for cleaning.
- **There will be no food preparation done at school.**
  - The school will still have snacks available, they will be individually wrapped / prepackaged snacks such as: applesauce, string cheese, oranges, bananas, animal crackers, fig & granola bars. Milk and water will always be available. We will incorporate as much whole foods, fresh fruit and vegetables as possible.
  - Parents are to take the children's water bottles home each day for cleaning.

- [Parents will provide a lunch and two snacks from home, recommended to be in accordance with USDA guidelines.](#)

### **Reasons for all enrolled students, parents, staff and visitors not to attend school:**

- Anyone who has felt unwell or displayed symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home until they've been symptom-free without medication for at least 24 hours. The center will only be open to teachers and students who are well.

### **In accordance with the CDC recommendations, we encourage everyone to help prevent the spread of respiratory illness (including the flu), by following a few of these preventive actions:**

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, when coming inside from the playground, before eating, and after going to the bathroom
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home when sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe

At the recommendation of the Center for Disease Control, during the COVID-19 pandemic the following additional health and safety preventative measures should be taken into consideration:

- 1 Implementing social distancing strategies
- 2 Intensifying cleaning and disinfection efforts
- 3 Modifying drop off and pick up procedures
- 4 Implementing wellness screening procedures up arrival
- 5 Practicing frequent, healthy, hand-washing

### **1. Social Distancing Strategies + Group Size:**

The preschool versions of "Social Distancing" are being discussed, with teaching and learning about staying safe from germs being practiced as much as possible throughout the day & especially during meal & nap times.

- Teachers will come outside the facility to welcome each child as they arrive. At pickup, teachers will walk each child outside to meet their parents on the front deck or at their cars. This CDC recommendation is to limit transmission / the spread of illness by reducing the number of persons entering the classrooms.

- Teachers will be adhering to social distancing recommendations when interacting with parents & all adults. The CDC recommends limiting direct contact between parents / adults and school staff members and adhering to social distancing recommendations of staying 6ft apart.
- There will be as much outdoor learning, activities and play as possible each day.
- As much as possible classes will include the same group of children and providers each day.
- We have cancelled or postponed special events such as our graduation ceremony, holiday events, and special performances where large groups may gather.
- Limiting transmission/ the spread of any illness will be taken into consideration regarding all of our daily activities. For example we will be:
  - Ensuring that children's nap time mats are spaced out as much as possible, ideally 6 feet apart. When possible, placing children head to toe in order to further reduce the potential for viral spread will be done.
- No non essential visitors or volunteers. New families can tour by appointment only and must wear masks inside our school buildings and on the playground.
- Our administrative staff, such as our Executive Director, are teleworking from home.

#### Group Size Guidance:

- It is important to note that the CDC describes how schools and childcare centers can safely continue to operate and those guidelines are not the same as for what the CDC calls "mass gatherings" and events.
- The CDC has not stated a cap or maximum for school or childcare group sizes. However, our small class sizes and low ratios are in compliance with both national accreditation and local licensing safety group and class size ratios. Ka Hana Pono is licensed for 18 students per day. The CDC and the State are no longer limiting group sizes to ten.
- Here is a link to the CDC's guidance: [CDC and COVID19 - Information for Schools and Childcare Programs](#)

## **2. Cleaning and Disinfecting:**

- Surfaces and objects that are frequently touched, especially toys and games – are cleaned, sanitized and/or disinfected hourly and as needed. This includes cleaning objects/surfaces such as doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops, nap pads, toilet training potties, desks, chairs, cubbies, and playground structures.
- All cleaning products are used according to the directions on the label.
- [Here is a link to a list of products that are EPA-approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19](#)
- When surfaces are dirty, they are cleaned using soap and water prior to disinfection.
- All cleaning materials are kept secure and out of reach of children.
- Cleaning products are not to be used near children, and staff will ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using these products.
- Outdoor areas are sanitized daily (or more often if necessary)

### Cleaning and Sanitizing Toys

- Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized are not being used.
- Toys that children have placed in their mouths or that are otherwise contaminated by body secretions or excretions are set aside until they are cleaned by hand by a person wearing gloves. These items are cleaned with water and detergent, rinsed, sanitized with an EPA-registered disinfectant, rinsed again, and air-dried.
- Cloth toys are not being used at all.
- Toys that need to be cleaned are set aside in a container with soapy water.
- Children’s books, like other paper-based materials such as mail or envelopes, are not considered a high risk for transmission and do not need additional cleaning or disinfection procedures.

### Cleaning and Disinfecting Blankets, Stuffed Animals, etc...

- Parents are to take home any blankets, pillows or comfort items each day for washing. When not in use those items will be stored in each child’s individual cubby box.
- Cots are labeled for each child.

### **3. Parent Drop-off and Pick-Up:**

- Teachers will be adhering to social distancing recommendations of staying 6ft apart when interacting with parents as much as possible.
- Teachers will come outside the facility to pick up the children as they arrive.
- No shoes inside the classroom, children will take their shoes off and leave them outside the front door of the school. Teachers will take the shoes to the back playground area.
- Hand hygiene stations are set up at the entrance of the facility, so that children can clean their hands before they enter.
  - If a sink with soap & water is not available, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol will be provided. Hand sanitizer is kept out of children’s reach and use is supervised.

- Teachers will be signing in and signing out each student.
- If more than one family arrives at the school at the same time, we ask that parents wait in their car(s) so that Teachers can do daily wellness checks and sign each child in – one at a time.
- Teachers will come outside the facility at the end of the day to walk children to their cars.
- Ideally, the same parent or designated person should drop off and pick up the child every day. If possible, older people such as elderly grandparents or those with serious underlying medical conditions should not dropoff or pick up children, due to being more at risk for [severe illness from COVID-19](#).

#### **4. Wellness Checks Upon Arrival:**

- Persons who have a fever of 100.40 or above or are showing other signs of illness will not be admitted to the facility. Parents are encouraged to be on the alert for signs of illness in their children and to keep them home when they are sick.
- Screening of children upon arrival:
  - The most protective methods incorporate social distancing (maintaining a distance of 6 feet between adults)
  - Parents will be asked to take their child’s temperature either before coming to the facility or upon arrival at the facility using the schools infrared no touch thermometer.
  - Upon a families arrival, teachers will do their best to stand 6 feet away from the parent/guardian and child until the temperature results are given or test taken.
  - Temperatures at dropoff will be recorded.
  - The parent/guardian will be asked to confirm that the child does not have a fever, shortness of breath or cough, and that the child has not taken any medication within the last 24 hours.
  - Teachers will make a visual inspection of the child for signs of illness which could include flushed cheeks, red eyes, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue, or extreme fussiness.
  - Personal protective equipment (PPE) is not needed during wellness checks
  - Thermometers will be sanitized after each use.

#### **5. Healthy Hand Hygiene Behavior:**

All children, staff, and volunteers should engage in hand hygiene at the following times:

- Arrival to the facility and after breaks
- Before and after preparing food or drinks
- Before and after eating or handling food, or feeding children
- Before and after administering medication or medical ointment
- Before and after diapering
- After using the toilet or helping a child use the bathroom

- After coming in contact with bodily fluid
- After handling animals or cleaning up animal waste
- After playing outdoors or in sand
- After handling garbage

Hands are washed with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

If hands are not visibly dirty, alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol will be used if soap and water are not readily available.

Children are supervised when they use hand sanitizer to prevent ingestion.

Children are assisted with hand-washing. After assisting children with hand-washing, staff should also wash their hands.

[Click here to sign up for public state-health notifications.](#)

CDC guidelines which state parameters for continued safe operation of schools can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/considerations-for-school-closure.pdf> and here <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools.html>

[Handwashing Superheroes](#)

[Masks Required by All Visitors](#)

## COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY RESPONSE PLAN

### PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of Ka Hana Pono's COVID-19 Health and Safety Response Plan.

I have read and understood the contents of this plan and will act in accordance with these policies and procedures as a condition of being a community member and enrolled family of Ka Hana Pono Daycare and Preschool.

I understand and agree that:

I will keep my child home if they are feeling unwell or displaying symptoms of COVID-19 until they've been symptom-free without medication for at least 24 hours.

Classrooms will only be open to teachers and students who are well.

I will participate in all required health-screening activities (questions, on-site temperature check, training, etc.) as required. I will answer all questions truthfully, completely, and to the best of my knowledge.

Ka Hana Pono may need to rapidly adapt including temporary closures on a case by case basis if any situation arises in which services cannot be safely rendered. As with natural disasters, severe weather cancellations, illness and etc.. there would be no makeup days or refunds for any days missed.

This plan replaces any and all prior verbal and written communications regarding Ka Hana Pono's working conditions, policies, and procedures regarding COVID-19. The working conditions, policies, and procedures described in the plan are based on Federal and State agency information and may be subject to change as the pandemic response evolves and these agencies post updated information. If/when the plan changes, I will receive a notification and copy of the update.

I understand that if I have questions or concerns at any time about the plan, I will consult the Director or Health Consultant for clarification.

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Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian (Please Print Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child(ren): \_\_\_\_\_