



DANIEL ISLAND ACADEMY

# COVID-19 UPDATE

Now, more than ever, high quality childcare is extremely important. We know that many families are understandably concerned with the health and safety of their children, especially when they are away from home and in a school. As parents, not only do you require the highest level of safety protocols to be followed at your child's school, but you also want your child to continue to receive a high level of developmental experiences. We promise that at Daniel Island Academy, your child will have both.

During this complex time, our high-quality curriculum and exceptional levels of instruction have not been compromised. We continue to maintain NAEYC standards and our curriculum is comprised of several different key components to ensure each child's development and learning needs are always being met. Though the COVID restrictions do require modifications, children will continue to receive the tools they need to succeed through all our learning components.

Creative Curriculum, Teaching Strategies, Conscious Discipline, Baby Doll Circle, Mighty Minutes, Get Set for School, Letterland, STEAM and more will continue as essential elements of our preschool program. Our in-house Related Arts programs will continue to include Physical Education, Music/Literacy & Spanish. We believe that these all play an important role in all areas of children's development and are vital pieces of our curriculum and will continue for all classes. Newly purchased equipment and technology will enable Miss Lina, Mr. Jonathan, and Miss Brianna to provide interactive instruction for your child's class. In addition, our teaching staff will continue to have planning periods and breaks. Our Curriculum Team will continue classroom observation utilizing sophisticated audio and video equipment to ensure that our high standards are maintained and our teachers are supported.

Reference Point will continue to provide all classrooms with individual developmental and classroom activities that support the students' interests, strengths, and needs. Our Reference Point Coordinator, Jenni, will continue to work with teaching staff and will conduct in-person student readiness checks using Brigance and Denver Screening tools. This will begin August 17th and will be sequenced to allow for proper distancing to prevent the spread of the COVID virus.



We are fully committed to keeping Daniel Island Academy a safe and healthy place for our students, families and staff and want to let you know about some of the additional steps we are taking. **We exceed all standard COVID-19 protocols to keep our families safe.**

- We have a micro aerosol spray machine that disinfects the ENTIRE building EVERY night.
- Masks are always worn by all adults.
- Hospital-grade disinfectant spray is utilized throughout the day for high touch areas. We have a large team of staff members who share these responsibilities to ensure this is done.
- All our classrooms are programmed as “bubbles” to minimize the spread of COVID-19 so that in the event we have a positive case, we may not have to shut the entire school down.
- We have changed school hours to 7:30-5:30 to maximize staff ratios.
- We have eliminated ALL entry into classrooms, giving access only to the students in that class and their teachers.
- Playground schedules have been modified to permit only one class on each playground at a time.
- Playground equipment is disinfected after EACH use with a hospital-grade product using a pump sprayer.
- Temperature checks MUST be done by ALL individuals entering prior to entering the building EACH DAY. This is our first line of defense and is mandatory. Entry is not allowed for temperatures above 100.4.
- ONLY ONE family member is permitted beyond the lobby area. We ask that families refrain from bringing siblings and relatives into the building.
- Strict social distancing protocols are used throughout the school. One example is how we have converted our multipurpose rooms into a large space that allows staff members to take breaks while maintaining at least a 6-foot separation.
- Provide paid COVID leave time for staff and encourage staff to stay home when symptomatic to help reduce transmission.



The high standards that Daniel Island Academy has always set for ourselves has now been extended to accommodate the necessary protocols and changes due to COVID-19. Despite the changes that we have had to make, we are convinced that we will not just survive the adaptations, we will thrive. **We are #DIAStrong.**

We would love to tell you more about what our 2020/2021 school year will look like. If you are interested in joining our DIA family this year, please give our front desk a call at 843.971.5961 or schedule a tour at [danielislandacademy.com/contact-us](https://danielislandacademy.com/contact-us)