**Updates to Avalon Academy COVID-19 Policies**

Per Judge Lina Hidalgo's mask mandate for all schools and daycares in Harris County, and in accordance with CDC recommendations, starting Monday, August 16, Avalon will require children in the following classrooms to wear a mask indoors except while eating or sleeping: Leap Frogs, Caterpillars, Lighting Bugs and Doodle Bugs. Parents are also encouraged to send masks for any child age 2 and older who is not in these classrooms listed.  We recommend that parents label any non-disposable masks with their child’s name and send multiple masks each day.

Starting Monday, August 16, parents will no longer be allowed inside the building for pick up and drop off. Parents will enter thru the front gate, where a staff member will meet them at the entrance to the building to escort child(ren) directly to the classrooms. Please remember to check your child's temperature prior to arriving at Avalon, as we will also resume logging temperatures each upon arrival.

Parents are required to wear a mask during pick up and drop off.

**If there is a positive case of COVID-19 in a Classroom (student or staff):**

The classroom will be closed for up to 14 days, based on the date of last exposure and current CDC guidelines. Children in the affected classroom will not be allowed to attend Avalon during the quarantine period.

The parents of all children in the affected classroom will receive a phone call from Avalon staff notifying them of the positive case and quarantine requirements.

All Avalon families will receive an email notification that there has been a positive case in the Avalon Community.

**If a child is exposed to COVID-19 (e.g. if a parent tests positive):**

The child(ren) will be required to quarantine and not allowed to attend Avalon during the quarantine period. We ask that child(ren) are tested per CDC guidance, and that families notify Avalon if the child(ren) test positive at any time during the quarantine.

Avalon will not quarantine the classroom nor notify parents unless the child(ren) tests positive.

The same policy applies to staff exposures outside of Avalon.

We know that school closures are disruptive and often difficult to manage, so we thank you for your continued commitment to protecting the Avalon community by following the recommended safety practices both inside and outside of Avalon.