

COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

The LAB @ SMWV

The safety of our learners, staff, and educators is important, thus we have compiled a COVID-19 mitigation strategy for The LAB @ SMWV. At any given time, COVID mitigation measures may be adjusted as deemed necessary from the CDC and the Virginia Department of Health.

SMWV Staff Training

- COVID-19 Mitigation training will be required of all SMWV staff.
- Staff Training will include safe practices, such as social distancing and mask wearing, recognizing COVID symptoms, how to properly clean surfaces and interactive items, reporting personal or student symptoms, general COVID-related policies and procedures, etc.

Symptom Monitoring

- Educators and other staff members will be required to check their temperatures and complete a self-screen for symptoms.
- Student temperatures will be taken using a touchless thermometer during the drop off process.
- Should a student's temperature be above 100.4 degrees, the student will not be allowed to attend The LAB for 24 hours, until cleared by a medical professional or no longer exhibiting worrisome symptoms.
- Parents of students returning after the 24-hour period must sign a document ensuring their child does not exhibit any other probable symptoms or has been seen and cleared by a medical professional.

Limiting Exposure

- The museum will be closed to the public Monday-Friday while The LAB programming is in operation.
- The use of pods, or cohort classes, will eliminate cross exposure, as educators and students will be assigned only 1 pod (10-15 students). Each pod will have a defined classroom.
- Student cohorts will not interact with other pods in common spaces, such as the museum floor.
- Educators will maintain social distancing from all other educators and will, to the best of their ability, avoid interacting with non-education staff and spaces (the Main Office as an example).
- Other educator workspaces will be created to assure office space is available that allows for effective social distancing
- Visitor Services staff may have some interaction with students for specific needs like walking late children to their classroom, dropping off forgotten snacks and lunches to a classroom, or escorting an early departure student to their parents.
 - This interaction will stay as limited as possible.
- Drinking fountains will only be used to refill water bottles and will be cleaned routinely.
- Student drop-off and pick-up will be facilitated outside of the building. Students will exit their vehicle and be met by an SMWV staff member who will perform a daily health screen. During dismissal, students will be escorted to their parent/guardians vehicle in the drop off/pick up line.

PPE & Hygiene

- Hand sanitizer stations will be placed outside of each classroom and virtual learning space, throughout the museum floor, and in all staff work areas.
- Classrooms and virtual learning spaces will also have hand sanitizer placed throughout desk clusters.
- Educators and students will be required to follow proper hand hygiene each time they enter and exit a room.
- Educators will be instructed to do a lesson for their respective students on the rules for hand hygiene in the museum.
- **All SMWV staff will be required to wear a mask.** Students in cohorts for 3rd grade and up will be required to wear face masks.
- Disposable masks will be supplied when necessary, although we encourage students to bring their own.

Cleaning

- An extensive and routine cleaning process will be used for all areas of the museum, including each classroom space.
- Each classroom will be stocked with certified disinfectants and cleaning materials.

Response to Confirmed Case

- Should a staff member report that someone they have had contact with has a confirmed case of COVID-19, they will be asked to remain home for 14-days, unless testing can be completed to ensure a negative diagnosis. Parents of students in that cohort will be notified immediately both of the contact with a confirmed positive and of the educators test results.
- Should a student report that someone they have had contact with has a confirmed case of COVID-19, they will be asked to remain home until such time that a negative COVID test result can be produced. If a student is unable to, or chooses not to be tested, they will be required to remain home for 14 days following exposure to the confirmed positive individual. Parents of students in that cohort will be notified immediately both of the contact with a confirmed positive and of the students test results (where applicable).
- Should an educator become ill with a confirmed case of COVID-19, they will be put on sick leave for 14 days and must produce two consecutive negative test results.
 - All students and staff of the educator's respective cohort will be asked to stay home for 14-days unless testing can assure a negative diagnosis.
- Should a student become ill with a confirmed case of COVID-19, they will be asked to stay home until they are able to test negative.
 - All students and staff of the student's respective cohort will be asked to stay home for 14-days unless testing can assure a negative diagnosis.

For questions or concerns, please contact our COVID Response Coordinator, Mae Early Wilmer at mwilmer@smwv.org or 540.342.5718.
