



The Hybrid Model

Overview, July 23, 2020

The Goal

The Hybrid Model allows Sunstone to mitigate the risks of COVID while providing a quality Montessori education that includes bringing children physically into the classroom.

The Value of a Physical Presence

Bringing elementary students together physically has the following benefits:

- Sunstone's prepared environment promotes social cohesion
- Class time allows students to maintain a personal connection with their Guide and peers
- Being physically present increases opportunities for collaboration, mentorship, and work presentation/sharing with peers

Building Academic Progress

The Hybrid Model supports students and Guides with a clear path for individualized learning plans, academic progress, and student accountability.

The Hybrid Model will include:

- Bi-weekly, in-person lessons and check-ins between students and Guides.
- Individually tailored assignments and lesson follow-ups sent home with each child, with any materials necessary, and a clear expectations of what is to be completed upon return to the classroom.

The Weekly Schedule, Part 1

- For each class, students will be divided into two groups.
- Each group will be in the physical classroom twice a week and at home three days a week.
- For all students, all days, the school day will run from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM.
- Working on aftercare option from 3:15-5:00 PM.
- For on campus school days, drop-off will be between 8:00-8:30 AM.

The Weekly Schedule, Part 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A	Group B	All Home	Group A	Group B

Each group has a day in their classroom on campus in both the first half and the second half of the week.

This particular hybrid schedule allows for the fewest school days at home between in-person check-ins with the Guide, which best supports the independence of the child when home and the student/Guide accountability cycle.

What Happens in the Classroom

- Lessons with Guide (fewer children means more lessons that children can follow up on during their time at home)
- Check-ins with Guide: work assignments (current and due), nurture Guide/student accountability cycle, planning, interests, etc.
- Work time in class with peers (within the bounds of necessary distancing arrangements)
- Lunch
- Outside Time - at least one hour a day
- Afternoon gathering

What Happens at Home

Much like with the Home Learning program, days in which a student is at home are still school days with a structured schedule from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM.

- Virtual morning gathering with Assistant, and end of the day read aloud.
- Morning work period via Zoom, overseen by the Assistant who will support children with their assignments and individualized learning plans and provide breakout rooms for social cohesion and work time.
- Defined outdoor and lunch time (at least one hour)
- Afternoon work period with the Assistant available for check-ins.

Supporting Home Learning

Sunstone will provide the following to support students when they are learning at home:

- Extensive Material Resource Library built in Google Classroom
- School supplies and materials
 - Initial starter kit
 - Supplemented as needed throughout the year based on each child's individual learning plan
- *Chromebooks or equivalent hardware with school-managed accounts to maintain privacy and put internet protections in place

*Procuring hardware is proving challenging

The Role of the Assistant

- The Assistant will be in the classroom but monitoring and managing the at home group via Zoom.
- Assistants will offer help and support with assignments and provide breakout rooms for peer collaboration and work.
- Guides and Assistants will debrief daily so that the Guide is aware of the progress made and/or challenges students may have at home.

Wednesdays

- Wednesday is a school day. The daily schedule is the same as any at-home day.
- Guides will not give lessons on Wednesdays, but will be available to students via email.
- Guides will have office hours for which parents can sign up.
- Guides and assistants will use Wednesdays to update individual learning plans and strategize lessons and activities for the physical classrooms.
- Classroom will be thoroughly cleaned on Wednesdays according to Sunstone's COVID protocols. (Classrooms are cleaned everyday M-F.)

Orientation Period (first weeks of school)

During the start of the school year, Guides will focus on showing students how the Hybrid Model will work, including:

- Work expectations in class and at home
- The daily schedule for home days
- Ingredients for a work environment at home and expectations for using it
- Procedures and protocols for assignments
- Hardware training/ Technology training (Zoom, Google Classroom)
- Building a relationship with the Assistant to support online needs when at home
- Provide at-home material packets

How Student Groups Will be Created

We will structure groups that best support the academic, social, and emotional education of each child, accounting for:

- Structure of the rooms
- Number of enrolled students
- Number of children in each year within a classroom
- The learning scenario that best supports the developmental age of child
- Existing peer relationships
- Social networking (peer work/collaboration/mentoring)
- Siblings
- Lesson planning

Health and Safety Protocol/ Policies

The pandemic is driving this model. Coping with COVID-19 requires stringent health and safety protocols.

Sunstone's COVID policies are contained in the *Covid-19 Parent Handbook*.

Due to the nature of the pandemic, **changes are inevitable and we will continue to update this handbook** to follow the most current guidance from OHA, ODE, CDC, ELD, and Governor Brown.

Sunstone will provide clear communication in a timely manner regarding any changes to policy or protocols. Sunstone won't do less than guidelines mandate, but may do more.

Enrollment Deadline and Withdrawal

- July 31, 2020
- Tuition Insurance
 - Applicable after child has attended 14 consecutive calendar days.
 - Once you withdraw you cannot return for the remainder of the school year.
 - Tuition insurance brochure outlines details and can be downloaded from the Tuition and Fees page of website (under Admissions).

