

2021-22

Chrysalis COVID-19 Health and Safety Policies

The start of the 2021-22 school year brings many learnings from last year, vaccinations for many, and an updated set of guidance from CDPH. These policies will be updated as needed during the school year. As a school it is our responsibility to protect our students and staff in the best way possible while ensuring a year (or more!) of growth for our students. Last year taught us that we can ensure a safe place for our students to learn by following certain protocols.

Masking:

Masks are one of the most effective and simplest safety mitigation layers to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Due to the widespread transmission of the Delta variant in the country, state and county, ***all persons on campus are required to wear a mask indoors when sharing spaces with students*** regardless of vaccination status. Persons with a medical exemption¹ for masking must wear a face shield indoors. By requiring the use of masks by all individuals it protects all from the virus without the potential detrimental effects of differential mask policies including potential stigma, bullying and isolation of individuals on campus.

- Masks are optional outdoors.
- Unvaccinated persons should continue to wear masks or stay at least 6 feet away from others at all times when indoors on the school site and not sharing spaces with students.
- Masks will be provided for anyone who needs a mask.

Hygiene

- Students will be taught and reinforce hand washing, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose and mouth and covering coughs and sneezes.
- Handwashing will be encouraged throughout the day, especially before and after eating, after recess, after using the bathroom and after handling garbage.

Testing

Employees who are not fully vaccinated with a vaccination status on file will need to undergo weekly COVID testing under current CDPH orders. Rapid testing is available on the school site.

¹ *Individuals exempted from face covering requirements include: (1) anyone who has trouble breathing, is exercising, or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the covering without assistance (2) students with special needs who are unable to tolerate a face covering or with developmental, behavioral or medical contraindications and (3) staff that require respiratory protection according to Cal/OSHA standards. **If a student or staff member falls into one of these three categories they can provide written documentation to be kept on file in the office.***

Visitors:

- All persons volunteering indoors will need to undergo a rapid COVID test at the office prior to entering the building(s) daily. All volunteers must follow all masking requirements.
- Nonessential visitors and volunteers may take part in *outdoor* activities and programs with social distancing (6 ft) from the students and staff.
- Everyone should stay home when sick or have symptoms of infectious illness.

Facilities:

- Air filters will be replaced and a greater intake of fresh air will be used in the ventilation system.
- Air purifiers will continue to be used in classrooms and offices
- Water fountains will be flushed to flush out drinking water systems that have been left idle.
- Classrooms will be cleaned once per day and fully disinfected if a space was occupied by a person sick with COVID-19 within the last 24 hours.

Transportation:

- Bus driver will conduct visual health checks for students as they enter the bus.
- Students will sanitize hands upon entering the bus.
- Face coverings will be worn by the bus driver and students. The driver will ensure the bus is equipped with extra unused face coverings on school buses for students who may have inadvertently failed to bring one

In Case of Illness:

- Staff and students who are sick must stay home. Testing and rapid contact tracing will help to prevent the possible spread at schools.
- Staff members and students with symptoms of COVID-19 infection may not return for in-person instruction until they have met CDPH criteria to return to school for those with symptoms:
 - At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and
 - Other symptoms have improved; and
 - They have a negative test for SARS-CoV-2, OR a healthcare provider has provided documentation that the symptoms are typical of their underlying chronic condition (e.g., allergies or asthma) OR a healthcare provider has confirmed an alternative named diagnosis (e.g., Streptococcal pharyngitis, Coxsackie virus), OR at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset.

Quarantine Protocols:

- Quarantine recommendations for vaccinated close contacts:

- For those who are fully vaccinated, they do not need to quarantine if they are asymptomatic.
- Should get tested if they experience any COVID-19 symptoms
- Quarantine recommendations for unvaccinated persons when both parties **were wearing a mask in the indoor classroom setting** as required in K-12 indoor settings:
 - Close contacts (more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period within 0-6 feet indoors) **may undergo a modified 10-day quarantine** as follows. They may continue to attend school for in-person instruction if they:
 - Are asymptomatic;
 - Continue to appropriately mask, as required;
 - **Undergo at least twice weekly testing during the 10-day quarantine;** and
 - Continue to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school, including sports, and activities within the community setting.
- Quarantine recommendations for unvaccinated close contacts who were not wearing masks or for whom the infected individual was not wearing a mask during the indoor exposure:
 - For these contacts, those who remain asymptomatic, meaning they have NOT had any symptoms, may discontinue self-quarantine under the following conditions:
 - Quarantine can end after Day 10 from the date of last exposure without testing; OR
 - Quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen is collected after Day 5 from the date of last exposure and tests negative.
 - To discontinue quarantine before 14 days following last known exposure, asymptomatic close contacts must:
 - Continue daily self-monitoring for symptoms through Day 14 from last known exposure; AND
 - Follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing a mask when around others, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure.
 - If any symptoms develop during this 14-day period, the exposed person must immediately isolate, get tested and contact their healthcare provider with any questions regarding their care.
- Staff at Chrysalis will continue to work with the Public Health Department and individuals who test positive to perform contact tracing.