

# Desert Trails Preparatory Academy



Return to School Safety Plan

2021-2022

Board Approved 2-18-21

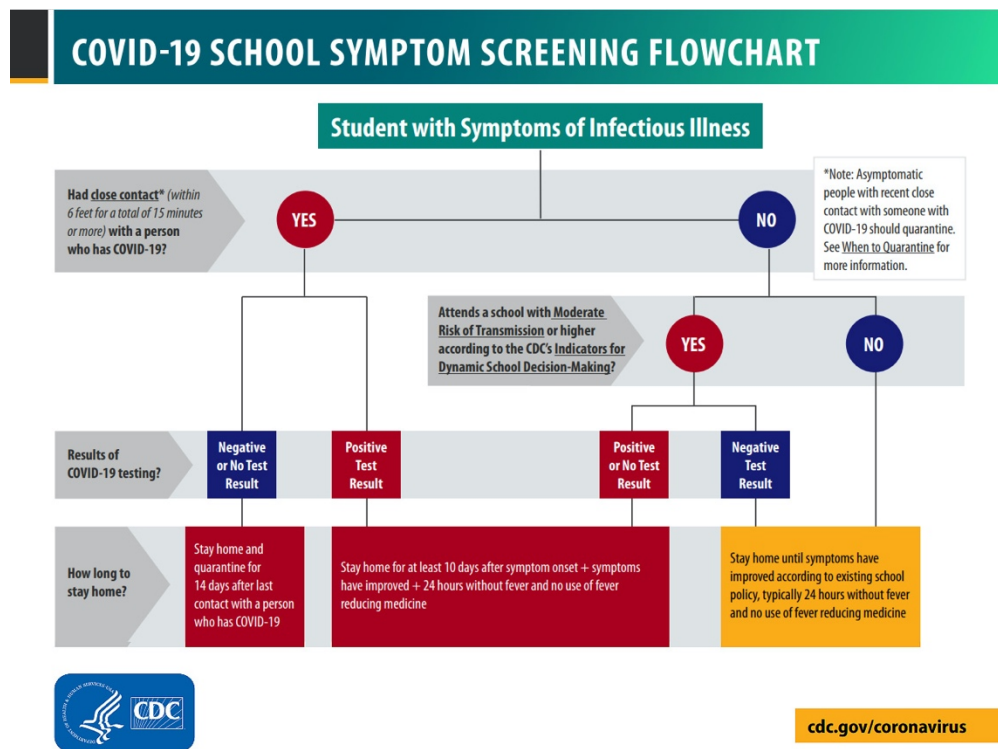
## AS SCHOLARS RETURN TO SCHOOL, IT WILL LOOK DIFFERENT

### Screening at Home:

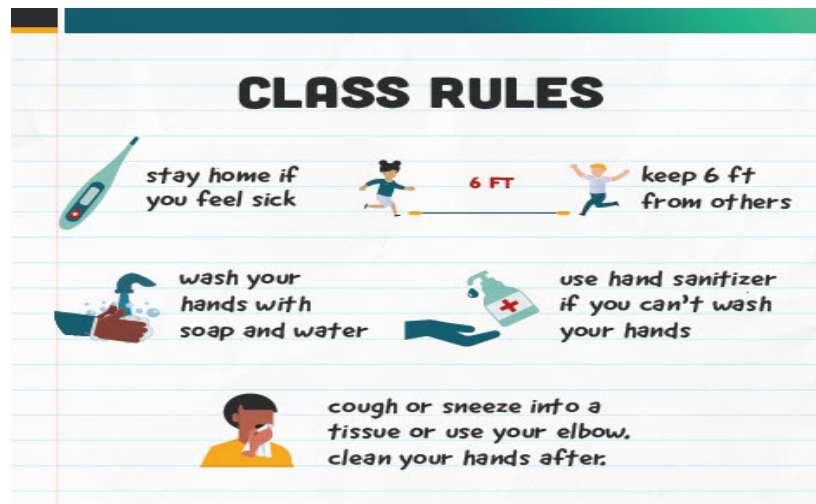
- Families will take their child's temperature each day before going to school. Any scholar with a fever of 100.4 F or higher may not be on campus. Personal illness, quarantine, and COVID-19 illness or symptoms related will be documented as an excused absence. A map will be attached in the appendix to guide parents on the next steps to take and whether the scholar may be on the school campus. The scholar should be fever free, without the use of fever reducing medication, for 24 hours prior to the return to school.
- Staff members are required to self-screen and complete a daily temperature check prior to coming to work. Any employee with a fever of 100.4 F or higher should not go to the school. If staff members are experiencing COVID-19 like symptoms, they should stay home and contact administration.
- Anyone who has been diagnosed as COVID-19 positive within the past 14 days should notify administration.

### Arriving at School:

- Scholar temperatures will be taken upon arrival to campus.
- Scholars and staff members will be required to wear face coverings.
- Parents and visitors will have limited access to be on the campus. Parents will not be able to walk their children to class nor volunteer on site.
- The school will designate routes for entry and exit in order to limit direct contact with others.
- The school will have signage throughout the campus to remind scholars and staff about social distancing, hand washing, and spreading germs.



## Health & Safety Protocols



### Supplies and Protective Equipment:

- Plexiglass office dividers
- Directional walkways
- Messaging signs and floor stickers
- Classroom thermometers
- Sneeze guards in classrooms
- Evacuation plans in classrooms and offices.

### Items available at school:

- Cloth and disposable masks for adults
- Cloth and disposable masks for children
- Gloves-medium and large
- Hand Sanitizer
- Face Shields
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Touchless Thermaguard
- Thermometers in each classroom



### Face covering and personal protective equipment (PPE)

In accordance with the California Department of Public Health's Guidance for Face Coverings:

### Scholars must utilize face coverings:

- While in the classroom.
- While waiting to enter campus.
- While on school grounds (except when eating and drinking).
- While leaving school.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided to staff and scholars, but it is highly encouraged for scholars to bring their own face-coverings.**

- Bandanas are not permitted.
- Masks or coverings with exhalation valves are not permitted.
- Teachers and identified staff members will receive a reusable face shield.
- Gloves are not recommended for use by scholars or staff, with the exception of those conducting cleaning, first aid, or food service.

**Other Safety Considerations:**

- All staff members will complete a mandated COVID-19 training.
- The school will follow guidelines developed by the CDPA for cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation of the campus.
- Common touch surfaces will be cleaned regularly.
- Staff and scholars will be expected to wash/sanitize their hands regularly.
- Common touch surfaces will be cleaned regularly (e.g., desks, door handles, chairs, restrooms).
- Classes will limit the share of supplies between scholars to the extent possible and encourage scholars to take home personal items for cleaning daily.
- Scholars will be encouraged to bring personal/refillable water bottles.
- Classroom spaces will be reconfigured to ensure 3 feet between staff and scholar desks and have sneeze guards placed upon every desk.
- Scholar temperature checks will be taken daily by teachers and other staff members.

**Additional Information about Facial Coverings and Face Shields:**

- Facial coverings are required for all scholars and staff. Only remove for drinking, snacks, and meals.
- Face shields may be used by teachers and other staff for specific lessons, programs, or services, as per CDPH guidelines.

**Accommodations for facial coverings for scholars:**

- Accommodations will be determined through the 504 and Individualized Education Plan (IEP) process. Parents or guardians should work with the SPED Director and CEO to discuss 504 and IEP accommodations. All scholars are required to wear face coverings at school, and all families may select the distance learning program as an option.
- CDPH requires all children ages 2 and up to wear masks to meet the standard of care for all scholars and staff.
- Wearing a mask is the most significant safety measure and standard of care for protecting our scholars and staff.

**Scholar discipline for not wearing facial coverings:**

- Scholars who have forgotten a mask will be given one by the school. If a scholar refuses to wear a mask the school will notify the parent to pick up the child. If the scholar returns the next day without wearing a mask, then the scholar would be reassigned to online learning for violating the school and safety policy.

PREVENTION OF  
**CORONAVIRUS**  
DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)



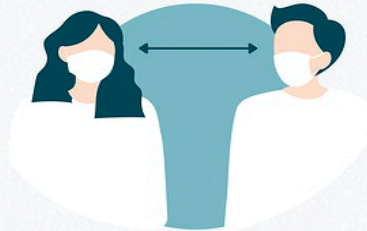
**USE FACE MASK**



**CLEAN & DISINFECT**



**WASH YOUR HANDS  
FREQUENTLY**



**KEEP DISTANCE  
FROM OTHERS**



**AVOID TOUCHING  
EYES, NOSE OR MOUTH**



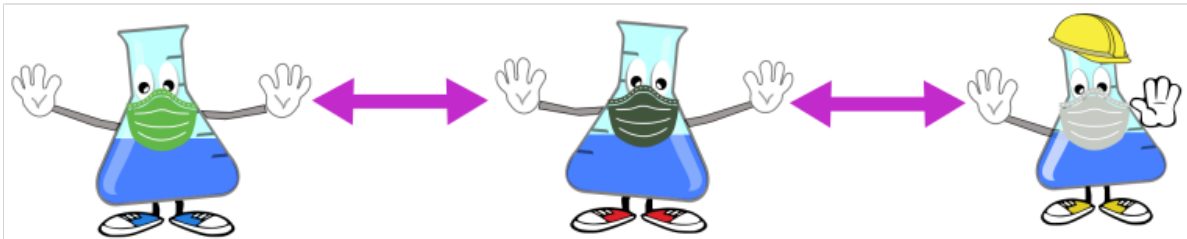
**STAY AT HOME  
WHEN YOU ARE SICK**

## Implementing Social Distancing-On Campus and in the Classroom

**Social distancing will limit the spread of the virus. Our school will adhere to the following strategies as much as possible:**

- Restrict non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving other groups and minimize contact between adults.
- Limit group activities wherever practicable (i.e., assemblies, award ceremonies)
- Arrange classroom space to remove non-essential furniture, allowing for maximum space for scholars and staff.
- Arrange scholar desks to face the same direction (rather than facing each other) and maintain 3 feet of social distancing.
- Minimize movement of scholars and teachers or staff as much as possible.
- Designate routes for entry and exit during transition times, as feasible.
- Staggered schedules for restroom break and handwashing.
- Meals will be provided to take home in the purple tier on the hybrid model. Once the school in a lower tier and we can increase hours and days, scholars will be provided meals outside with distance in the cafeteria. All meals will be individually packaged, and items will be served to scholars as they move through the line. "Grab and Go" meals will still be provided for families who remain on Independent Study.
- Recess will be in separate areas and classes will not intermingle with other classes.

Social distance, please



**Remain 6 feet Apart**

## COVID-19 Symptoms

### What are the symptoms?



Fever



Cough



Fatigue



Sore throat



Shortness of breath

### How to stop it spreading



Wash your hands regularly



Cover your coughs and sneezes



Stay home if you're unwell

### Symptoms:

- Fever 100.4 F or higher in the last 24 hours
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Chills/unexplained fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell

### CDPH COVID-19 Testing and Reporting:

- All Employees and families should report any incident of COVID-19 symptoms, close contact exposure, or positive testing results to the school administration.
- The administration will follow the protocol to contact the employee, parent/guardian.
- Positive cases of COVID-19 on campus will be reported to San Bernardino Health Department.
- The school will notify staff and parents of a COVID-19 case on the campus. The notification will not name the person positive for the coronavirus but will give information regarding the date of the incident and whether a person is at low-risk or a close contact.





## Facilities Cleaning and Sanitation Protocols

The safety of employees and scholars is the school's ***first priority***. Our school has been completely cleaned and disinfected, and we will continue to adhere to all necessary safety precautions. In addition to the deep cleaning of the office and school before employees and scholars return, the cleaning steps outlined below will be followed:

**CLEANING:** Physical removal of soil (dirt and debris) from surfaces which can include the use of water and detergent

**SANITITATION:** Treating a surface to effectively reduce microorganisms of public health significance. Cleaning before sanitizing is always recommended when time permits.

**DISINFECTING:** Destroy or inactivate microorganisms, including bacteria and viruses on surfaces.

### Sanitize the Following At Least Daily:

- Desks and chairs
- Keyboards, phones, headsets, copy machines.
- Door handles
- Handrails
- Light switches
- Restroom surfaces and sink handles.
- Public interface/interaction areas
- Kitchens and food preparations areas
- Isolation areas

### Handwashing:

Handwashing is strongly encouraged as one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of any biological pathogen, including COVID-19.

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Thoroughly dry hands

Handwashing stations will be provided to supplement existing areas to increase the amount of handwashing throughout the day. Additional hand sanitizer dispensers will be provided throughout the campus and hand sanitizer bottles will be provided in all classrooms.

### REUSEABLE WATER BOTTLES ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED

- All outdoor drinking fountains have been turned off to reduce sharing unless they are touchless.
- Scholars are encouraged to provide their own reusable water bottles to reduce sharing.

### INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Indoor air quality is essential to providing a safe and comfortable environment for schools and offices. Proper temperature and humidity levels can help slow down the reproduction of viruses and bacteria. Our school is ensuring proper preventive maintenance is being performed on all HVAC units and is changing filters on a regular basis and providing adequate air filters:

- The Center for Disease Control recommends increasing air filtration as high as possible (target MERV 13) without diminishing air flow and enforcing the existing or revised air quality plan.
- The school has replaced all air filtration systems with MERV 13 air filters.



## EDUCATION OPTIONS

Our educational model for our reopening plan continues to be robust, consistent, and inclusive of the vision and mission we pride ourselves in teaching our scholars. We will continue to provide successful instruction delivered in a traditional school setting along with our online settings.

Our school, as of July 19, 2021, has transitioned to a traditional school setting. Independent study, under the guidelines lines of Assembly Bill (AB) 130, is still an option for those parents electing to have their children home.



# APPENDIX

## **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION GUIDELINES**

### **Student or staff with COVID-19 Symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing):**

- Send home student or staff immediately, place in school site isolation room while awaiting pick-up.
- Recommend COVID-Testing
- School/classroom remain open.
- No communication sent to classroom or school community.

### **Student or staff with close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case:**

- Send home student or staff immediately, place in school site isolation room while awaiting pick-up.
- Quarantine for 10 days from last exposure
- Recommend COVID-testing
- School/classroom remain open.
- Consider school community notification of a known contact.

### **Staff or student with confirmed COVID-19 case infection:**

- Notify the local public health department.
- Isolate case and exclude from school for 10 days or more (since onset of symptoms, improved symptoms, and no fever in 24 hours, without fever reducing medication).
- Identify close contacts, quarantine and exclude exposed contacts; could be entire cohort for 10 days after the last date the case was present at school while infectious.
- Recommend testing of contacts, prioritize symptomatic contacts.
- Disinfection and cleaning of classroom and primary spaces where case spent significant time.
- School remains open.
- School or classroom community notification of a known case

### **Staff or student tests negative after symptoms:**

- Staff or student may return to school 3 days after symptoms resolve.

The California Department of Public Health recommends individual school closure based on the number of cases, the percentage of the teacher/student/staff that are positive for COVID-19 and following consultation with the Local Health Officer. Individual school closure may be appropriate when there are multiple cases in multiple cohorts at a school or when at least 5 percent of the total number of teacher/ student/staff cases are within a 14-day period, depending on the size and physical layout of the school. The Local Health Officer may also determine school closure is warranted for other reasons, including results from public health investigation or other local epidemiological data.

### **If a school is closed for in-person learning, when may it reopen?**

Schools may typically reopen after 14 days and the following has occurred:

- Cleaning and disinfection.
- Public health investigation

- Consultation with the local public health department

**What are the criteria for closing a school district?**

The California Department of Public Health recommends that a superintendent should close a school district if 25% or more of schools in a district have closed due to COVID-19 within 14 days, and in consultation with the local health department.

**If a school district is closed, when may it reopen?**

Districts may typically reopen after 14 days, in consultation with the local health department.

- These action guidelines may change in accordance with recommendations for CDPH and the local county health officer.

**CLOSE CONTACT:**

A close contact is considered being within six feet or less for a period of 15 minutes or more during a 24-hour period.

**COHORT:**

A cohort is a stable group with a fixed group that stays together for all courses and activities (e.g., lunch, recess, etc.) and avoids contact with other persons or cohorts to the greatest extent practicable.

## Safety Measures for K-12 Schools

### Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidance

#### 1. Masks

- a. K-12 students are required to mask indoors, with exemptions per [CDPH face mask guidance](#). Adults in K-12 school settings are required to mask when sharing indoor spaces with students.
- b. Persons exempted from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition, must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it.
- c. Schools must develop and implement local protocols to provide a face covering to students who inadvertently fail to bring a face covering to school to prevent unnecessary exclusions.
- d. Consistent with guidance from the 2020-21 school year, schools must develop and implement local protocols to enforce the mask requirements. Additionally, schools should offer alternative educational opportunities for students who are excluded from campus because they will not wear a face covering. Note: Public schools should be aware of the requirements in AB 130 to offer independent study programs for the 2021-22 school year.
- e. In limited situations where a face covering cannot be used for pedagogical or developmental reasons, (e.g., communicating or assisting young children or those with special needs) a face shield with a drape (per [CDPH guidelines](#)) can be used instead of a face covering while in the classroom as long as the wearer maintains physical distance from others. Staff must return to wearing a face covering outside of the classroom.

#### 2. Physical distancing

- a. Recent evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented. This is consistent with [CDC K-12 School Guidance](#).

#### 3. Ventilation recommendations:

- a. For indoor spaces, ventilation should be optimized, which can be done by following [CDPH Guidance on Ventilation of Indoor Environments and Ventilation and Filtration to Reduce Long-Range Airborne Transmission of COVID-19 and Other Respiratory Infections: Considerations for Reopened Schools](#).

#### 4. Recommendations for staying home when sick and getting tested:

- a. Follow the strategy for Staying Home when Sick and Getting Tested from the [CDC](#).
- b. Getting tested for COVID-19 when symptoms are [consistent with COVID-19](#) will help with rapid contact tracing and prevent possible spread at schools.
- c. Advise staff members and students with symptoms of COVID-19 infection not to return for in-person instruction until they have met CDPH criteria to return to school for those with symptoms:
  - i. At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and
  - ii. Other symptoms have improved; and
  - iii. 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.

5. Screening testing recommendations:

a. CDPH has a robust State- and Federally-funded school testing program and subject matter experts available to support school decision making, including free testing resources to support screening testing programs (software, test kits, shipping, testing, etc.).

i. Resources for schools interested in testing include: California's Testing Task Force [K-12 Schools Testing Program](#), [K-12 school-based COVID-19 testing strategies](#) and [Updated Testing Guidance](#); The Safe Schools for [All state technical assistance \(TA\)](#) portal; and the [CDC K-12 School Guidance](#) screening testing considerations (in Section 1.4 and Appendix 2) that are specific to the school setting.

6. Case reporting, contact tracing and investigation

a. Per AB 86 (2021) and California Code Title 17, section 2500, schools are required to report COVID-19 cases to the local public health department.

b. Schools or LEAs should have a COVID-19 liaison to assist the local health department with contact tracing and investigation.

7. Quarantine recommendations for vaccinated close contacts

a. For those who are vaccinated, follow the [CDPH Fully Vaccinated People Guidance](#) regarding quarantine.

8. Quarantine recommendations for unvaccinated students for exposures when both parties were wearing a mask, as required in K-12 indoor settings. These are adapted from the CDC K-12 guidance and CDC definition of a close contact.

a. When both parties were wearing a mask in any school setting in which students are supervised by school staff (including indoor or outdoor school settings and school buses, including on buses operated by public and private school systems), unvaccinated students who are close contacts (more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period within 0-6 feet) may undergo a modified quarantine as follows. They may continue to attend school for in-person instruction if they:

- i. Are asymptomatic;
- ii. Continue to appropriately mask, as required;
- iii. Undergo at least twice weekly testing during quarantine; and
- iv. Continue to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school, including sports, and activities within the community setting.

9. Quarantine duration recommendations for unvaccinated [close contacts](#) in:

- Standard quarantine (i.e., students who were not wearing masks or for whom the infected individual was not wearing a mask during the exposure); OR
- Modified quarantine (i.e., students as described in #8 above).

a. These contacts, if they remain asymptomatic (meaning they have NOT had any symptoms), may discontinue self-quarantine under the following conditions:

- i. Quarantine can end after Day 10 from the date of last exposure without testing; OR

- ii. Quarantine can end after Day 7 if a test specimen (i.e., antigen diagnostic test, PCR/molecular diagnostic test, or pooled PCR/molecular test) is collected on or after Day 5 from the date of last exposure and tests negative.
- b. To discontinue quarantine before 14 days following last known exposure, asymptomatic close contacts should:
  - i. Continue daily self-monitoring for symptoms through Day 14 from last known exposure; AND
  - ii. 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.
- c. 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.

#### 10. Isolation recommendations

- a. For both vaccinated and unvaccinated persons, follow the CDPH [Isolation Guidance](#) for those diagnosed with COVID-19.

#### 11. Hand hygiene recommendations

- a. Teach and reinforce washing hands, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff.
- b. Promote hand washing throughout the day, especially before and after eating, after using the toilet, and after handling garbage, or removing gloves.
- c. Ensure adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, tissues, no-touch trashcans, face coverings, and hand sanitizers with at least 60 percent ethyl alcohol for staff and children who can safely use hand sanitizer.

#### 12. Cleaning recommendations

- a. In general, cleaning once a day is usually enough to sufficiently remove potential virus that may be on surfaces. Disinfecting (using disinfectants on the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency COVID-19](#) list) removes any remaining germs on surfaces, which further reduces any risk of spreading infection.
- b. For more information on cleaning a facility regularly, when to clean more frequently or disinfect, cleaning a facility when someone is sick, safe storage of cleaning and disinfecting products, and considerations for protecting workers who clean facilities, see [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#).
- c. If a facility has had a sick person with COVID-19 within the last 24 hours, clean AND disinfect the spaces occupied by that person during that time.

#### 13. Food service recommendations

- a. Maximize physical distance as much as possible while eating (especially indoors). Using additional spaces outside of the cafeteria for mealtime seating such as classrooms or the gymnasium can help facilitate distancing. Arrange for eating outdoors as much as feasible.
- b. Clean frequently touched surfaces. Surfaces that come in contact with food should be washed, rinsed, and sanitized before and after meals.
- c. Given very low risk of transmission from surfaces and shared objects, there is no need to limit food service approaches to single use items and packaged meals.



#### 14. Vaccination verification considerations

a. To inform implementation of prevention strategies that vary by vaccination status (testing, contact tracing efforts, and quarantine and isolation practices), refer to the [CDPH vaccine verification recommendations](#).

#### 15. COVID-19 Safety Planning Transparency Recommendations

a. In order to build trust in the school community and support successful return to school, it is a [best practice](#) to provide transparency to the school community regarding the school's safety plans. It is recommended that at a minimum all local educational agencies (LEAs) post a safety plan, communicating the safety measures in place for 2021-22, on the LEA's website and at schools, and disseminate to families in advance of the start of the school year.

**Note:** With the approval of the federal American Rescue Plan, each local educational agency receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) funds is required to adopt a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan and review it at least every six months for possible revisions. The plan must describe how the local educational agency will maintain the health and safety of students, educators and other staff. Reference the Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund (ESSER III) [Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Local Educational Agency Plan Template](#).

#### 16. School-Based Extracurricular Activities

The requirements and recommendations in this guidance also apply to all extracurricular activities that are operated or supervised by schools, and all activities that occur on a school site, whether or not they occur during school hours, including, but not limited to, sports, band, chorus, and clubs. Masks are required for all persons while playing all indoor sports, unless wearing a mask during play has been determined to pose a choking hazard by a well-recognized health authority, such as the American Academy of Pediatrics.<sup>[1]</sup>

For (1) the playing of musical instruments that cannot be done with a face covering (e.g., wind instruments); or (2) when wearing a mask during play poses a choking hazard, at least one of the following options is required:

- a. Conduct these activities outdoors;
- b. Use modified face coverings and bell coverings when playing wind and brass instruments, and maintain 6 feet of physical distancing;
- c. Perform at least weekly screening testing with either PCR testing (1:1 or pooled PCR) or antigen testing of all individuals, including those who are fully vaccinated.

Schools must be in compliance with the required weekly testing no later than September 27, 2021.

**CDPH will continue to assess conditions on an ongoing basis, and will determine no later than November 1, 2021, whether to update mask requirements or recommendations.**

#### [Additional considerations or other populations](#)

##### 1. Disabilities or other health care needs recommendations

- a. When implementing this guidance, schools should carefully consider how to address the legal requirements related to provision of a free appropriate public education and requirements to reasonably accommodate disabilities, which continue to apply.
- b. Refer to the CDC K-12 guidance section on "[Disabilities or other health care needs](#)" for additional recommendations.

## 2. Visitor recommendations

- a. Schools should review their rules for visitors and family engagement activities.
- b. Schools should limit nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations with people who are not fully vaccinated, particularly in areas where there is moderate-to-high COVID-19 community transmission.
- c. Schools should not limit access for direct service providers, but can ensure compliance with school visitor policies.
- d. Schools should continue to emphasize the importance of staying home when sick. Anyone, including visitors, who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as flu or COVID-19, should stay home and seek testing and care.

## 3. Boarding schools may operate residential components under the following guidance:

- a. **COVID-19 vaccination is strongly recommended for all eligible people in California, including teachers, staff, students, and adults sharing homes with these members of our K-12 communities.** See [CDC recommendations](#) about how to promote vaccine access and uptake for schools. Additional California-specific vaccine access information is available on the [Safe Schools Hub](#).
- b. Strongly recommend policies and practices to ensure that all eligible students, faculty and staff have ample opportunity to become fully vaccinated.
- c. Strongly recommend that unvaccinated students and staff be offered regular COVID-19 screening testing.
- d. Consider students living in multi-student rooms as a "household cohort." Household cohort members, regardless of vaccination status, do not need to wear masks or physically distance when they are together without non-household cohort members nearby. If different "household cohorts" are using shared indoor space when together during the day or night, continue to monitor and enforce mask use, and healthy hygiene behaviors for everyone.

The non-residential components of boarding schools (e.g., in-person instruction for day students) are governed by the guidelines as other K-12 schools, as noted in this document.

Childcare settings and providers remain subject to [separate guidance](#).

[1] See [American Academy of Pediatrics, Interim Guidance: Return to Sports – When Masks should be Worn](#)

Updated 10/12/2021

**NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE UPDATED AS NEW INFORMATION IS MADE AVAILABLE.**

**DESERT TRAILS PREPARATORY ACADEMY**  
**Return to School Safety Plan 2021-2022**  
**AGREEMENT**

I have been given a copy and have read Desert Trails Preparatory Academy's 2021-2022 Return to School Safety Plan. I agree to abide by all policies set forth in this document.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scholar's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date