



**HIGHLAND ACADEMY**

# In-Person Instruction Safety Plan

Updated May 10, 2022

## **Purpose of this plan**

Highland Academy Charter School is committed to providing all our staff, students, parents, and visitors a safe and healthy environment when they are on our campus. We have developed this plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and our desire to have students be able to attend school in-person as much as personal and communal circumstances will allow. Highland Academy administration is responsible for the implementation of this plan and any questions or concerns should be directed to them.

Our goal is to mitigate the potential of the COVID-19 virus in our school community and only through a cooperative team effort will we be able to reach this goal.

## **Developing this plan**

We strive to implement the most current directives and recommended practices for the prevention of the spread of this disease. This plan was developed using the requirements and recommendations outlined in public health orders and guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), California Occupational Safety and Health Agency (Cal/OSHA), California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and Riverside University Health System Public Health (RUHSPH).

Links to all the resources and documents we have used in the creation of this plan can be found on our website under "[COVID-19 Resources](#)"

## **Changes to this plan**

In accordance with California Department of Public Health's most recent TK-12 School Guidance, our COVID Safety Plan outlines Highland Academy's current safety measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our school's safety plan is adaptable and is based on the most current directives and guidelines that we have at this time. It will be revised if new guidelines are issued and Highland Academy families will be notified in a timely manner of the changes.

## **Mitigation Measures:**

- Testing:
  - There are many local testing sites throughout our community. However due to the decreased need of COVID-19 testing, various COVID-19 testing sites across the District have been closed. If your student is in need of a COVID-19 test, please contact your school site administrators. Free at-home test kits are available upon request for students and staff.

- Masking:
  - As of March 12, 2022 masks are no longer required indoors for students or staff in TK-12 schools, however they are still strongly recommended by the California Department of Public Health.
  - Highland Academy will continue to provide masks for those who choose to continue masking. Whether to wear a mask or not is a family decision. We ask that parents remind their children to be kind and respectful to those who may not share the same decision as them.
- PPE:
  - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided to staff and students upon request:
  - Face masks will be available to students and staff.
  - Teachers and identified staff members can request a reusable face shield with a reusable drape.
  - Gowns, gloves, and face shields will be made available to staff upon request.
- Cleaning and Disinfecting
  - Indoor spaces will be disinfected when students and staff are not present.
    - Indoor spaces are cleaned daily.
    - High contact food service areas will be cleaned between uses.
  - Staff will clean frequently-touched surfaces in offices, schools, and classrooms.
  - Custodial staff and any other staff will be provided appropriate cleaning materials to support cleaning of frequently touched surfaces during the day, and will be provided with proper personal protective equipment upon request.
  - Frequently touched surfaces include, but are not limited to:
    - Sink handles
    - Shared tables or desks
    - Door handles
    - Light switches
    - Egress Bars
    - Handrails
    - Shared technology and supplies
  - If used, outdoor playgrounds/natural play areas only need routine maintenance.

### **Protocols:**

- General Prevention:
  - According to Center for Disease Control (CDC) COVID-19 Prevention everyone should:
    - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you've been in a public space, after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

- If soap and water are not regularly available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
    - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
    - Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover.
  - Screening at Home:
    - Families are recommended to take temperatures daily before going to school. Anyone with a fever of 100° F or higher should not go to a school site. Personal illness, quarantine, and COVID-19 illness or symptom related absences will be excused.
    - Parents/students and staff will self screen for respiratory symptoms, cough, shortness of breath, new loss of smell/taste, sore throat, fatigue, headache, stomach ache, nasal congestion/runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea, or poor eating/appetite prior to coming to school each day. Students and staff experiencing those symptoms should stay home.
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    - Highland Academy will continue to provide masks for those who choose to continue masking. Whether to wear a mask or not is a family decision. We ask that parents remind their children to be kind and respectful to those who may not share the same decision as them.
- Managing Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 Cases:
  - Students or Staff that present symptoms while at school please refer to the [CDPH Interactive Quarantine Decision Tree](#).
  - Students who may have been exposed to a positive case of COVID-19, regardless of their vaccination status, may continue to participate in school, including sports and extracurricular activities, unless they develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19. Exposed students should get tested for COVID-19 within 3-5 days after their last exposure. It is strongly recommended that exposed students wear a well-fitting mask indoors around others for at least 10 days following the date of last exposure, if not already doing so.
  - Note: Parents should be prepared to pick up their student(s) immediately in the instance they develop COVID-19 symptoms while at school. Please be sure to have updated emergency contacts on file.
- COVID-19 Positive Case Protocol:
  - When Highland Academy receives confirmation of a positive COVID-19 case, the following protocols will be followed:

- Notify Public Health
- A group exposure notice will be sent to staff and students where exposure occurred with information that an individual tested positive for COVID-19.
- Desks, furniture, surfaces, restrooms, classrooms, conference rooms, etc. will be disinfected.
- COVID-19 Exposure Protocol:
  - If your student was exposed to a positive case of COVID-19, please read below to determine if they need to stay home and quarantine or if they can attend school:
  
  - *Are they symptomatic?*
  - **If No:**
    - If the student receives a group-tracing notice, they can remain at school as long as they remain asymptomatic. Testing is strongly recommended.
    - If exposed at home, testing is recommended, however students may continue to attend school unless they become symptomatic.
  - **If Yes:**
    - Must home quarantine for a minimum of 5 days. May return on day 6 if all of the following are met:
      - Negative test taken on day 5 (antigen recommended)
      - Symptoms improved
      - Fever free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medication.
    - If no test, quarantine at home for 10 days.