



## COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN 2021-22

### 1. Mask Requirements

According to the California Department of Public Health, masks are one of the most effective and simplest safety mitigation layers to prevent in-school transmission of COVID-19 infections and to support full time in-person instruction in schools. Per state requirements, all K -12 students are required to use face coverings while indoors, irrespective of vaccination status. For the safety of our staff and students, masks will be required indoors **and** outdoors.

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 as per CDPH. Schools are required to provide students alternatives if they do not have a medical exemption from wearing a face covering under CDPH guidelines. Medical exemption forms must be completed and signed by a licensed physician.

REACH will have face coverings available for students who inadvertently fail to bring one to school to prevent unnecessary exclusions. As we saw last school year, our students/families were understanding of the community need to wear a mask as a mitigation measure against the virus, and we anticipate the same supportive response this year as part of ongoing safety measures for return to public school with the focus on remaining in school.

REACH offers alternative educational opportunities (Independent Study) for students who are not comfortable returning to in-person learning.

### 2. Physical Distancing

CDPH and CDC agree that in-person instruction can occur safely without physical distancing requirements when other essential mitigation strategies are implemented; safety measures such as universal masking in schools, classroom ventilation, and daily self-screening promote both safety and in-person learning by reducing the need for physical distancing both indoors and outdoors. Students and Staff will exercise “polite distancing” (no physical contact) at all times and will maintain a distance of 3-6 feet when eating and drinking.

### 3. Ventilation

Indoor environments such as classrooms, offices and multiuse facilities will continue to be sufficiently ventilated for the health and safety of students and staff. In June 2021, REACH acquired 8 Air Scrubber units which use hospital-grade,



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high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters to further improve the air quality in schools. Air filters are checked and replaced regularly to ensure optimal air quality.

Fans will be placed in each room to further promote air circulation. Doors and windows will remain open, as weather permits.

### 4. Health screening / Symptom monitoring / Sick protocol

#### SELF-SCREENING

Staying home when ill is an essential safety layer to protect one another and prevent the spread of infections in schools. Students who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as influenza (flu) or COVID-19, should stay home and be referred to their healthcare provider for evaluation, possible testing and care.

REACH employees and students are required to continue the self-screening process, asking questions related to COVID-19 symptoms and exposure, before reporting to campus. If the results direct an individual to remain home, he/she/they will be asked to complete a contact tracing survey to help identify close contacts.

REACH will provide excused absences for students who are sick and remain home.

#### CAMPUS SCREENING

Reach will institute temperature screenings upon arrival, based on CDPH and County guidelines and local positivity and vaccination rates. Students with fevers of over 100 degrees or exhibiting other symptoms of COVID-19 (runny nose, sore throat, cough, etc) will be excluded from campus and should refer to the isolation guidelines in Section 6. Staff will undergo surveillance testing regardless of vaccination status.

#### SYMPTOMS

If a student begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, the following process will occur:

1. Teacher or staff excuses students from classroom or area within the school and alerts the Director or designee.
2. The school's Director or designee takes the student to an isolated room or area and ensures the student is properly supervised. The child's parent/support provider is called, and arrangements are made for the student to either go home or seek emergency medical attention
3. The student's parent/support provider picks up the child from school and contacts their healthcare provider for evaluation and possible COVID-19 testing
4. The areas that the ill student had occupied are cleaned and disinfected immediately.



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Students who are [showing symptoms consistent of COVID-19](#) are encouraged to get tested; results may help with rapid contact tracing as well as prevent possible spread at school and a safe return to in-person learning.

Students with symptoms of COVID-19 should not return for in-person instruction until they have met the following requirements:

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 not contagious, and the student may return to school (e.g., allergies, asthma, strep throat), **OR** at least 10 days have passed since symptoms started.

### 5. Contract Tracing, Reporting & Communication

REACH will continue to track and document COVID-19 cases throughout the district and is required to report all positive cases to Sonoma County Public Health . The Director or designee will serve as the district’s liaison when assisting the local health department with contact tracing and investigation.

#### COMMUNICATION

Identified close contacts (within 0-6 feet indoors for more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period) of a confirmed case of COVID-19 will be notified by the Director or designee. Individual cases will be reported to [Sonoma County Public Health](#) only. Families will be notified by REACH if a COVID-19 outbreak should occur. An outbreak involves at least three probable or confirmed COVID-19 cases within a 14-day period in individuals from different households.

### 6. Quarantine & Isolation

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommends a symptom-based strategy to determine the duration of isolation/quarantine for people with COVID-19 who are symptomatic, meaning they have symptoms, or asymptomatic, meaning they have no symptoms.

#### VACCINATED EXPOSURES:



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Who is fully vaccinated? For the purposes of this guidance, people are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 if it's been two weeks or more after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer or Moderna), or two weeks or more after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson) in accordance with [CDPH guidelines](#).

Fully vaccinated students and employees should adhere to the following [quarantine guidance](#) set forth by CDPH:

### *If asymptomatic:*

Students/employees who are fully vaccinated do not need to quarantine if exposed to COVID-19 if asymptomatic (meaning no symptoms are present). Students/employees who begin to show COVID-19 symptoms will stay home to quarantine and will be encouraged to get tested for the virus.

### *If symptomatic:*

Students/employees who begin to show COVID-19 symptoms will stay home to quarantine and will be encouraged to get tested for the virus.

### UNVACCINATED EXPOSURES:

If students/staff were masked at the time of exposure, unvaccinated students/staff who are identified as a close contact may choose to undergo a modified 10-day quarantine as follows:

### *If asymptomatic:*

An unvaccinated student/staff who has been exposed to COVID-19 may continue to attend in-person instruction for the duration of their 10-day quarantine **if and only if:**

1. The student/staff is asymptomatic;
2. The student/staff continues to wear a mask (as required);
3. The student/staff undergoes at least twice weekly COVID-19 testing during their 10-day quarantine\*; and
4. The student/staff continues to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school, including sports and activities within the community setting

\*COVID-19 tests are not provided for students. If a student is unable to acquire COVID-19 testing at least twice weekly as outlined, the student will be ineligible to attend in-person instruction and must complete their quarantine at home.

**Whether masked or unmasked at time of exposure, quarantine can end for asymptomatic students when the following is true:**

A quarantine can end after Day 10 from the date of last exposure without testing, as long as the student/staff continues to self-monitor for symptoms daily through Day 14 from last known exposure and follows all required mitigation measures in place (wearing a mask, handwashing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure



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*Or*

A quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen is collected after Day 5 from the date of last exposure and tests negative, as long as the student continues to self-monitor for symptoms daily through Day 14 from last known exposure and follows all required mitigation measures in place (wearing a mask, handwashing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure (not applicable to students/staff who were exposed to COVID-19 in their household).

Unvaccinated students/staff who have been exposed to COVID-19 and do not meet the above criteria must remain home for the duration of their 10-day quarantine.

### *If asymptomatic, tests positive:*

Any student/staff who is asymptomatic but tests positive for COVID-19 must self-isolate at home until the following is true:

1. At least 10 days have passed since the date of the first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test. If the student/staff develops symptoms during this 10-day period, they should follow the isolation guidelines for symptomatic individuals listed in the CDPH Guidance on Isolation and Quarantine for COVID-19.

### *If symptomatic:*

If an unvaccinated student/staff who is an identified close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case begins to develop symptoms at any point during their quarantine, they must self-isolate at home until they have met the requirements to return to school.

## 7. Cleaning, Disinfection & Hygiene

The Charter School will incorporate the CDPH and CDC Guidance for Cleaning, Disinfection and Ventilation as appropriate to maintain a high level of cleanliness throughout the year and reduce the risk of exposure to and spread of COVID-19 at the school site.

- Custodial staff will perform thorough cleaning when students are not present. When cleaning, the space will be aired out before children arrive.
- The Charter School will ensure proper ventilation during cleaning and disinfecting. Staff are encouraged to introduce fresh outdoor air as much as possible, by opening windows where practicable.
- All frequently touched surfaces in the workplace, such as chairs, desks, tables, keyboards, telephones, handrails, light switches, sink handles, bathroom surfaces and door handles, will be routinely disinfected.



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- The Charter School will utilize COVID-19 approved germicidal cleaning solutions at the end of each day by a cleaning company educated in COVID mitigation. All surfaces and high touch items will be disinfected.

### HEALTHY HYGIENE

All REACH staff will teach and reinforce healthy hygiene practices including hand washing, avoiding touching one's face, and covering one's mouth when sneezing or coughing.

Hand washing is promoted throughout the day, especially before and after eating, after using the restroom, and after handling garbage.

REACH office staff will ensure that adequate supplies are readily available including face coverings, soap, tissues, no-touch trash cans, and hand sanitizers with at least 60% ethyl alcohol.

## 7. Visitors

REACH will continue to limit nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations with people who are not fully vaccinated, particularly if there is an increase in COVID-19 case rates in Sonoma County

REACH will not limit access for direct service providers but will ensure compliance with all school visitor policies.

In 2020, REACH developed alternative learning options for families with extenuating circumstances or for those who simply elected a fully online or independent option as part of our COVID-19 Safety Plan.

Virtual Independent Study is a standards-based curriculum coupled with a flexible, fully online learning environment while fulfilling the integral need for independent study while remote.

REACH's Independent Study program fulfills the requirements outlined in [California State Assembly Bill 130](#), which are as follows:

- School districts must offer an independent study program/alternative learning model for students whose health would be put at risk by in-person instruction, as determined by the student's parent/support provider
- A district's Independent Study program/alternative learning model must provide instruction based on state-adopted, grade level standards
- Independent Study/alternative learning model courses must be taught by certificated educator



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### 8. Consultation

**A.** Labor organization(s) and date(s) consulted:

(If no labor organization represents staff at the school, please describe the process for consultation with school staff)

The COVID Safety Plan was distributed to all staff via email. Contents and feedback was discussed at an all team meeting on August 10th, 2021.

**B.** Parent / Community Organization(s) and date(s) consulted:

The COVID Safety Plan was distributed to all REACH families via Parent Square on August 5th, 2021. Private comments were enabled to gain feedback.

**C.** Staff and families may contact the Director via email, phone or Parent Square with concerns about the CSP or how it's being implemented. Feedback should be given freely, without fear of reprisal.