

# America's Finest Charter School Safe Reopening Plan

## Introduction - Phase Four

Phase Four of our Safe Opening Plan will include having all students on campus full time for instruction. The purpose of this document is to have our safety plan prepared in accordance with state and county health agencies. This plan is based on recommendations from the local health authorities and will be carried out to its full extent to prevent infection at both of our campuses.

Our plan was developed in collaboration with teachers, staff and administration of both the elementary school and the high school. This plan is intended to be an extension of the school's Student/Family Handbook during these unprecedented times.

America's Finest Charter School will endeavor to communicate with all stakeholders on a regular basis as adjustments need to be made.

## GENERAL MEASURES

1. The school will follow health and safety guidelines established by the Centers of Disease Control, the California Department of Public Health with final guidance by the San Diego County Department of Public Health.
2. Staff and students should use the following symptom check at home to make sure they are fit to come to school.

### Symptoms

If a staff member or student has any of the following symptoms, that indicates a possible illness that may decrease the student's ability to learn or the staff member's ability to do their job and also put them at risk for spreading illness to others. Please check for these symptoms:

- Temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth.
- Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain.

### Close Contact/Potential Exposure and Quarantine Guidelines

- Quarantine requirements for students testing positive or exhibiting symptoms remain the same.
- **Positive:** 10 day quarantine: returning on the 11th day after the positive test date.

- **Symptoms:** 10 day quarantine: returning on the 11th day unless cleared to return by a medical professional OR 24 hours after symptoms resolve with a negative test.
  - Quarantine Requirements have changed for Close contacts to include a suspended quarantine which allows students to continue attending school with the following requirements:
    - Student must be asymptomatic
    - Student must continue to wear their mask indoors
    - Student must be tested 2 times per week for 2 weeks (4 tests total).
    - Student must quarantine from all other extra-curricular activities.
3. The school will provide all stakeholders with clear and timely communications, policies and procedures regarding health and safety guidelines that are consistent to all school sites and central office facilities for the circumstances.
  4. The annual Student Packet will contain a Medical questionnaire that includes a detailed explanation of the medical needs of their child. If necessary, a Zoom meeting will be scheduled or in person meeting to review additional concerns.
  5. The Administrative team will meet weekly to monitor and update any new COVID-19 guidance.
  6. The school will supply Personal Protective Equipment necessary to complete their work assignment. These items will include face masks and face shields. This also includes physical barriers, when necessary, and cleaning supplies in the workplace.
  7. The use of masks sufficient to cover the mouth, nose and chin is required.
  8. To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, no visitors will be permitted on the school site or in a central office facility unless they are considered an essential visitor.

## **HEALTH SCREENINGS**

1. Health screenings shall be performed daily for anyone entering a school site or central office.
2. The health screening will include a temperature check, a symptom check and to make sure all students have a mask.

3. Staff and students who do not pass the health screenings shall be denied entry and sent home.
4. Staff and students who do not pass the health screening or begin to display symptoms consistent with COVID-19 during the school day or workday will be sent home or sent to an isolation room on site pending travel home.

## **Healthy Hygiene Practices**

1. Hand Sanitization will be available throughout the school building.
2. Every room with a sink shall be stocked with soap, hand sanitizer, and paper towels.
3. Every classroom shall be provided with hand sanitizer.
4. Non-classroom workspaces shall be provided with hand sanitizer.
5. Classrooms, restrooms and all high touch areas will be cleaned and sanitized throughout the day.
6. Proper ventilation in all indoor spaces will be provided and the filters changed on a regular basis.

## **STAFF**

1. All staff will monitor their own personal health while away from campus by erring on the side of caution if experiencing COVID-like symptoms.
2. All staff will report to the office and have their temperatures taken each day.
3. All staff will be provided with sanitizing wipes, hand disinfectant and a shield around their desk areas.
4. All staff will wear a mask throughout the day while indoors.
5. All staff will work together to keep surfaces clean throughout the day in their classrooms.
6. Staff may use a face shield instead of a mask during instruction.
7. Office staff will follow up on a daily basis with students who are not in attendance. Office staff need to communicate with administration about students who may need other assistance to be in attendance at school.
8. All meetings involving school staff members that include parents, shall be in an online setting. Professional Development opportunities will be held in person on campus.

## **STUDENTS**

1. Students should monitor their own health away from campus by erring on the side of staying home if they have a fever or abdominal pain.
2. All students will be screened for a fever each day when they enter the building.
3. Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of being ill will be kept in a safe area until they can go home.
4. The school will use the county approved decision tree when making decisions on attendance for students at school.

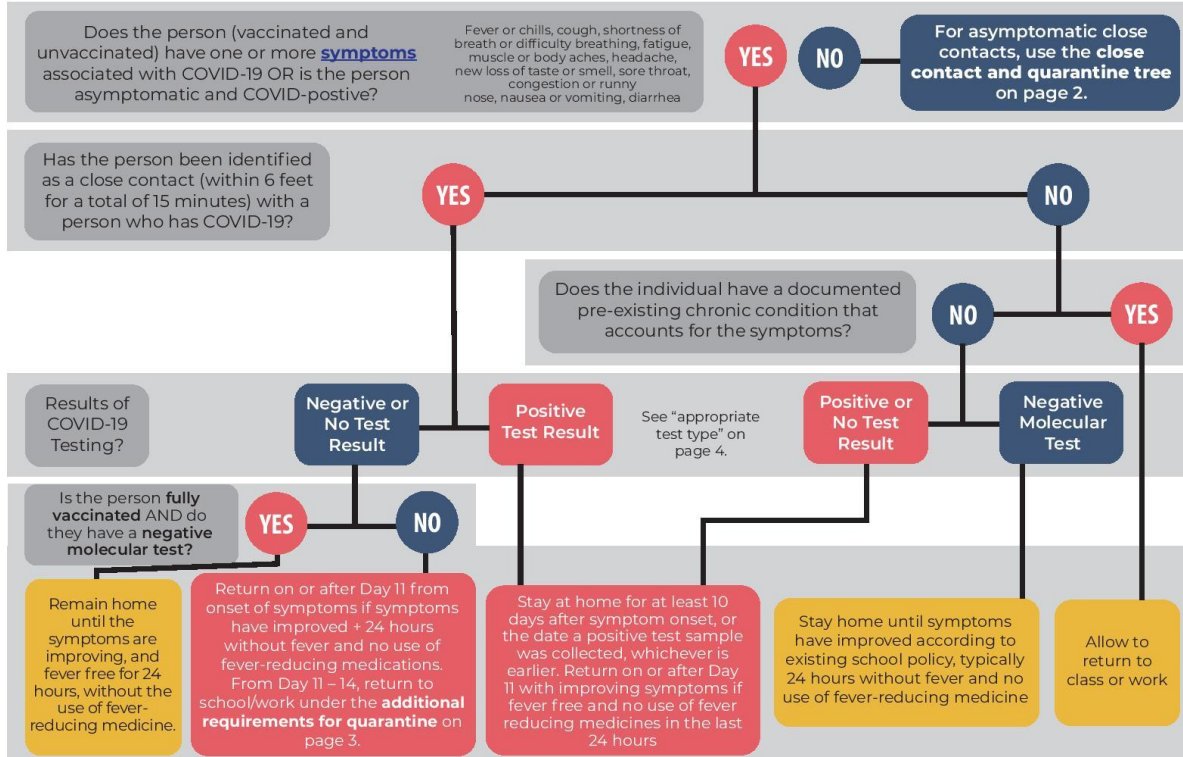
# COVID-19 K-12 Decision Trees

Updated on August 12, 2021

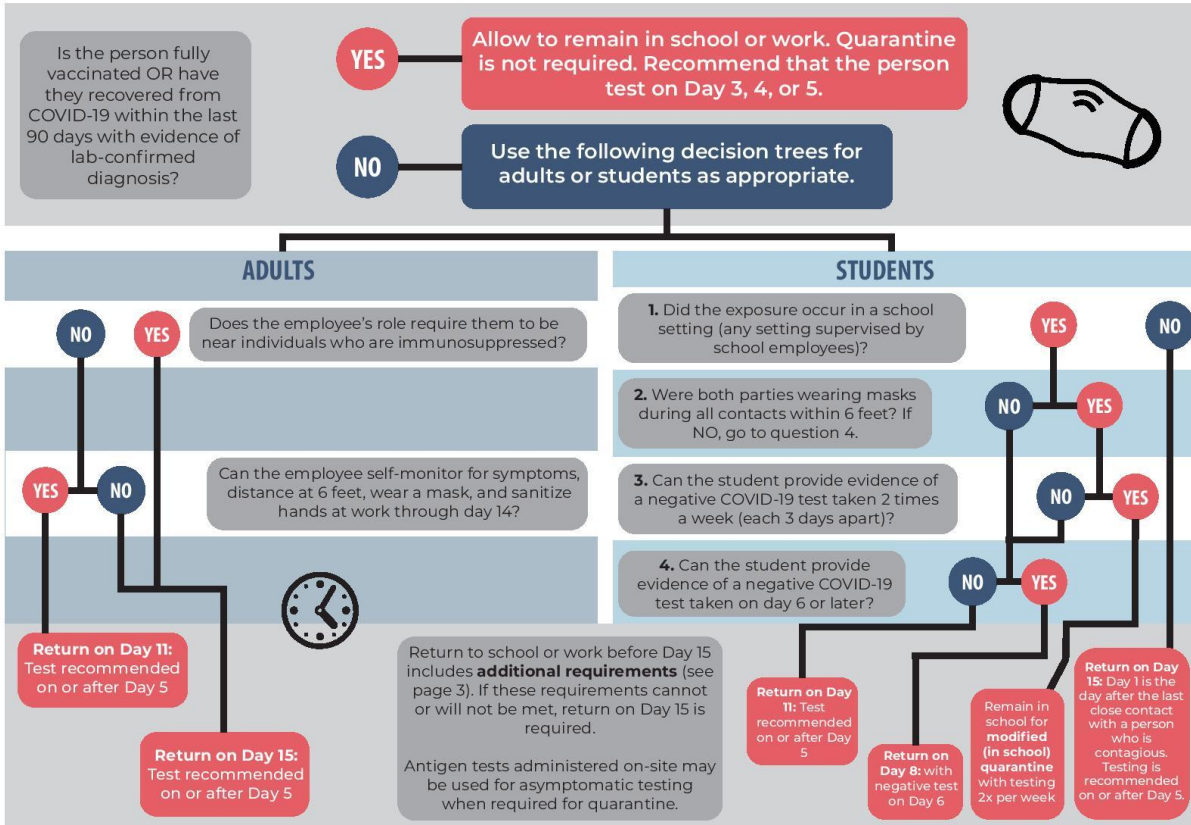


## Symptom and Isolation Tree

When a school becomes aware of a positive case on campus, the district/school liaison must contact public health at 619-950-9905 to report the case. For questions on exposures, symptoms, or other related questions, call the Epidemiology School Line at 619-692-8636 and leave a message.



# Close Contact and Quarantine Tree



# Addendum on Quarantine



## Quarantine or isolation: What's the difference?

- Quarantine keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others.
- Isolation keeps someone who is infected with the virus away from others, even in their home.

## Who needs to quarantine?

- People who have been in **close contact** with someone who has COVID-19 — excluding people who have had COVID-19 within the past three months or **who are fully vaccinated**.
- People who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past three months and recovered do not have to quarantine or get tested again as long as they do not develop new symptoms.
  - People who develop symptoms again within three months of their first bout of COVID-19 should follow their doctor's advice on testing.
- People who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if they have been **fully vaccinated** against the disease and show no symptoms.

## What counts as close contact?

- Being within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period
- Providing care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
- Having direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
- Sharing eating or drinking utensils
- Being sneezed on, coughed on, or somehow getting respiratory droplets on you from someone with COVID-19

## Additional Requirements for return to school or work before completing 14 days of quarantine:

- If these requirements cannot or will not be met, 14-day quarantine is required.
- The number of days required for quarantine is counted from the day after the person's last close contact with a person who has COVID-19. People are contagious from 2 days before symptoms begin or positive test result, whichever is earlier, until 10 days after.
- If symptoms occur, the individual should immediately self-isolate and contact their health care provider or San Diego County Public Health Services and seek testing.

### ADULTS

**Return on Day 15:** No additional requirements.

**Return on Day 11:** May return if the individual is able to abide by the additional requirements described below.

**Additional Requirements:** In addition, for return before Day 14, the employee must agree to self monitor for symptoms, maintain 6 feet of physical distancing at all times, and wear a face covering over their nose and mouth as required. Staff members who would be near others who have severe immunosuppressive disorder (e.g., bone marrow or solid organ transplant, chemotherapy) must quarantine for 14 days.

**\*NOTE:** Cal/OSHA's emergency temporary standards restrict the use of the 7-day quarantine option to specific employment settings. School are not authorized to use the 7-day option.

### STUDENTS

**Return on Day 15:** No additional requirements. Testing on or after Day 5 is recommended.

**All of the following options for students** are limited to close contacts that occurred in a school setting (any setting supervised by school staff).

**Return on Day 11:** Testing on or after Day 5 is recommended but not required.

**Return on Day 8:** Provide evidence that a diagnostic specimen collected on or after Day 6 (from the date of last exposure) is negative.

**Modified Quarantine (remain in school):** Must undergo twice weekly testing (each test at least 3 days apart) and not participate in any program or activity outside of the regular school day, on campus or in a community setting, through Day 10.

**Additional Requirements for the three options listed above:** The student must continue daily self-monitoring for symptoms, AND follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing a mask indoors, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure. Mask use outdoors is also encouraged.



## Addendum on Test Types

### Appropriate Test Types:

#### Molecular Tests

- Lab-based PCR
- Rapid molecular tests (PCR-like)



#### Antigen On-Site (or at home as part of a state pilot)

- If symptomatic, a negative antigen test requires molecular test (PCR, LAMP, NAAT) confirmation and individuals should isolate until test results are available.
- If asymptomatic, a positive test requires a confirmation with a molecular test (PCR, LAMP, NAAT) and individuals should isolate until confirmatory test results are available.

#### Onsite Rapid Tests

- When a point of care test (school administered antigen test or rapid molecular test like the Cue) is used for a **person in quarantine who develops symptoms**, the results must be confirmed with a laboratory-based PCR test.

### Populations Tested:

- Staff or students with symptoms, regardless of vaccination status
- Unvaccinated students who are close contacts to remain in school for a modified quarantine as described in **CDPH K-12 Guidance**.

5. The emotional and mental health of students is critical during this time. The following guidance from the County Office of Education will be helpful in guiding decisions involving students and what can be most helpful to them during a crisis.

According to Mental Health America, the mental health effects of COVID-19 are as important to address as are the physical health effects. This is especially true for the one in five who already have mental health conditions – or the one in two who are at risk of developing them.

During this time, it's important to create a safe physical and emotional environment by practicing the 3 R's: Reassurance, Routines, and Regulation.

1. Reassure children about their safety and the safety of loved ones, and tell them that it is adults' job to ensure their safety.



2. Adults should maintain routines to provide children with a sense of safety and predictability (e.g., regular bedtimes and meals, daily schedules for learning and play).
3. Adults should support children's development of regulation.

When children are stressed, their bodies respond by activating their stress response systems. To help them manage these reactions, it is important to both validate their feelings (e.g., "I know that this might feel scary or overwhelming") and encourage them to engage in activities that help them self-regulate (e.g., exercise, deep breathing, mindfulness or meditation activities, regular routines for sleeping and eating). In addition, it is essential to both children's emotional and physical well-being to ensure that families can meet their basic needs (e.g., food, shelter, clothing). [Adapted from Child Trends.org](https://www.childtrends.org/).

## **VISITORS**

1. All visitors must call ahead and are not to enter the building unless there is an emergency.
2. All visitors at the K-8 will enter the office, one family at a time. If there is more than one family in need of help, other families will wait outside in the designated area.
3. All visitors coming on campus must wear a mask and have their temperature taken before entering campus.

## **BUS DRIVERS and AIDES**

1. Students will line up three feet apart on the sidewalk waiting to enter the bus.
2. All students will have their temperature taken before they enter the bus.
3. All students will have a symptom check before entering the bus.
4. Students may sit next to one another on the bus but must wear a mask.
5. Students will exit the bus one row at a time.
6. An aide will be making sure students are three feet apart while waiting for the bus.
7. With the exception of students whose disability or medical condition prevents them from being able to wear a facial covering, as documented by a doctor's note, all students will be required to wear a facial covering over their nose and mouth when when waiting for a district vehicle, entering a district vehicle, during the entire duration of the route, and when exiting a district vehicle

8. Drivers will be required to wear a facial covering over their nose and mouth anytime a student is on board the bus or when students are entering and exiting
9. Windows will be opened to mitigate the use of air conditioning to allow for continued volumes of fresh air to circulate within the vehicle as feasible per vehicle
10. Cleaning/Sanitizing- After the last student is dropped off in the AM and PM, drivers will use disinfectant spray to clean high touch areas throughout the bus.

## **FOOD SERVICES**

1. Students will receive free breakfast and lunch this year.
  - a. During lunch, students will be seated outside with their classmates. Students will not wear masks while eating.
  - b. During recess, students will not be required to wear masks.
2. Students are not to bring equipment back and forth as chromebooks will be provided at both sites.
3. Students will only eat outside in shaded areas.
4. All areas that students use will be sanitized after each use.

Approved by the Board on 08/31/2021



Gary Rubin - Board President

## America's Finest Charter School Reopening Plan - August, 2021

As we prepare for the start of a new school year, our reopening team has been working hard to ensure that the latest version of our reopening plan aligns closely with current public health guidelines. Here are some important highlights of the new version:

### Masks

- Masks and face coverings are no longer required outdoors for students, staff, and the community. ● Students, staff, and community members will be required to wear a mask while indoors. **Symptoms and**

### Temperature Checks

- Staff members will still check to ensure students are not exhibiting symptoms related to COVID-19. ● We will continue to perform temperature checks at the beginning of each day.

### Quarantine Guidelines

- Quarantine requirements for students testing positive or exhibiting symptoms remain the same. ● **Positive:** 10 day quarantine: returning on the 11th day after the positive test date. ● **Symptoms:** 10 day quarantine: returning on the 11th day unless cleared to return by a medical professional OR 24 hours after symptoms resolve with a negative test.
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  - Student must quarantine from all other extra-curricular activities.

### Arrival and Dismissal

- Parents may walk their student to the main gate but are still unable to enter campus.

### Campus Guests, Parent Volunteers and Meetings

- Campus guests and parent volunteers will continue to be limited until further notice. ● Parents may meet with teachers or administration in-person on a limited basis, by appointment. ● IEP, Student Study Team and 504 meetings will continue to be held virtually.

### Lunch, Recess and P.E.

- Lunch and Recess will return to their normal schedules.
- Students will have assigned lunch tables by classroom and be expected to stay at their assigned table while eating.
- During playtime, students will be allowed to mix cohorts but will be encouraged to maintain distance from other students as much as possible.
- Physical Education will resume.

We will continue to closely monitor all safety protocols that are shared with us through the San Diego County Health Department.