

HILLSIDE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



COVID-19 Guidelines for 2022-2023 School Year

GENERAL

COVID-19 is here to stay, but we have learned methods and gained tools to decrease its impact on our health and well-being. California will continue to provide resources – including COVID-19 tests and personal protective equipment – to support these goals and prevent broad disruption to in-person learning.

Additionally, many of the strategies used to address COVID-19 can protect school communities from other diseases and support healthy learning environments. In alignment with the CDC, California schools should consider the approaches described below as potential methods to also safeguard students and staff from other airborne pathogens, allergens, and pollutants (e.g., wildfire smoke).

COMMUNICATION & GUIDANCE

The guidance is effective July 1, 2022, unless otherwise stated, and will continue to be reviewed regularly by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

HCA will regularly review guidance from State and local authorities to determine current disease levels and control measures in our community. The HCA Principal and Office Staff receive regular updates from the local and state public health offices and the CDC.

HCA will communicate to students, parents, staff, and broader school community about the measures in place to safeguard health and well-being. This can include direct dissemination of safety plans via email, providing information for students to take home to their families, and /or posting plans on school's website.

CONTACTS

The following documents and links to state and local health department contacts are listed below for reference:

San Mateo County Health Department- S.M. County Health Officer, Scott Morrow (650)363-4000
San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE)- (650)802-5300 info@smcoe.org

HCA Principal- Helen Yoo-Lee (650) 588-6860 Helen.yoo-lee@hillsidechristian.com

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

In-Person Learning

Full-time in-person learning will take place for grades TK-6 with these **recommended** actions:

- Air filtration strategies that do not rely on outdoor air sources (e.g., portable air cleaner)
- Unless otherwise directed by local health departments or local educational agencies, students and staff should follow CDPH masking guidance for the general public, as well as

masking guidance for specific situations referenced below (e.g., when having symptoms, being infected, or exposed).

- All common materials (including playground equipment and supplies) will be disinfected
- Teach and reinforce covering coughs and sneezes to help keep individuals from getting and spreading infectious disease, including COVID-19.

Maintaining Clean Hands:

- Hand hygiene can prevent the spread of infectious diseases, including COVID-19. HCA will reinforce proper handwashing to lower the risk of spreading viruses, including the virus that causes COVID-19.
- We will ensure adequate supplies to support hand hygiene behaviors, including soap, tissues, and hand sanitizers with at least 60 percent alcohol for staff and students who can safely use hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizers will be stored up, away, and out of sight of younger children and should be used only with adult supervision for children ages 5 years and younger.

Students

- HCA are encouraged to develop standard criteria for managing students who develop symptoms of infectious diseases, including COVID-19. In most situations, any students who develops new, unexplained symptoms should not return to campus until it is clear that symptoms are mild and improving or are due to a non-infectious cause (e.g., allergies). This includes waiting until 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- If symptoms are concerning for COVID-19, it is strongly recommended that students wear a mask and get tested immediately.

Cleaning and Maintenance

Classrooms

- All classrooms will be equipped with disinfectant and paper towels.
- Teachers and the custodian will be responsible for cleaning common contact surfaces, such as desks and tables/counters, door handles, light switches, playground equipment at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Teachers will also create age-appropriate procedures where students will clean their own desks.
- All common use items will be disinfected between uses.
- After an illness, limit access to areas used by sick person until cleaned and disinfected.
- Increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors, unless doing so would pose a health or safety risk to individuals using the facility.

Managing Students with Symptoms:

Recommended Actions:

Any student who develops new, unexplained

HCA staff will aid in identifying whether individuals are wearing face coverings, sufficient physical distancing is taking place in high-traffic areas and detects signs of fever of individuals as they enter buildings and move throughout the campus.

- Proper protocols will be followed in the event of positive cases in school or administrative buildings.
- Individuals with any COVID-19 symptoms should stay home until at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever (temperature of 100.0 or higher) or signs of a fever (chills, feeling very warm, flushed appearance, or sweating) without the use of fever-reducing medicine (e.g., Tylenol).
- Symptom screening to be encouraged at home by families and can be helpful to determine if a student or staff member:
 1. Currently has an infectious illness that could impair their ability to learn, or
 2. Is at risk of transmitting an infectious illness to other students or to school staff.

Isolation Area

HCA campus will provide a designated isolation area which is our library, for individuals exhibiting cold/flu like symptoms. Individuals will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms in the library to remove them from other faculty and staff. This area will be monitored by an adult while the individual is in isolation and until the individual has departed the campus.

School Staff Surveillance Testing

Once schools are re-opened to at least some in-person instruction, it is recommended that surveillance testing be implemented based on the local disease trends. If epidemiological data indicates concern for increasing community transmission, schools should increase testing of staff to detect potential cases as lab testing capacity allows.

COVID-19 Testing & Reporting

- HCA should refer to California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 17, [2500](#) and [2508](#) for reporting requirements. Note that 17, [2500](#) has been temporarily modified by the [State Public Health Officer Order of February 10th, 2022](#).
- HCA are subject to COVID-10 workplace outbreak reporting requirements stipulated in [AB 685](#) and [Cal/OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards](#).

Managing Students Diagnosed with COVID-19

Recommended Action:

- Students diagnosed with COVID-19 should follow recommendations to stay home for at least 5 days after start of symptoms (or after date of first positive test if no symptoms).
- Isolation can end after Day 5 if symptoms are not present or are resolving and a diagnostic specimen collected on Day 5 or later tests negative.
- If unable to test, choosing not to test, or testing positive on Day 5 (or later), isolation can end after Day 10 if fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- If fever is present, isolation should be continued until 24 hours after fever resolves. If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving, continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after Day 10. If symptoms are severe, or if the infected person is at high risk of serious disease, or if they have questions concerning care, infected persons should contact their healthcare provider for available treatments.

Managing Students Exposed to COVID -19

Recommended Actions:

- It is recommended that families notify HCA if their child has COVID-19 and was on school grounds during their infectious period, and that HCA in turn notify students who spent more than a cumulative total of 15 minutes (within a 24-hour time period) in a shared indoor airspace (e.g., classroom) with someone with COVID-19 during their infectious period.
- In lieu of individual exposure notifications, HCA should consider providing a general notification to the entire school community during times of elevated community transmission of COVID-19.
- Everyone, regardless of vaccination status test within 3-5 days after last exposure.
- Students infected within the prior 90 days do not need to be tested, quarantined, or excluded from any activities unless symptoms develop.

Managing COVID-19 Outbreaks:

CDPH will continue to support local health and education officials in [managing suspected or confirmed outbreaks](#) of COVID-19.

Recommended Actions:

- Broad disruptions to in-person learning, such as temporary school or classroom closures, due to COVID-19 should remain a last resort and considered only after all available resources have been exhausted, and only after conferring with local health officials.
- Local public health officials are encouraged to [contact CDPH](#) to learn more about consultation, testing and vaccination resources to support management of COVID-19 outbreaks.