

# NCSA Updated Covid-19 Reopening Plan Summary

(8/23/21)

This summary document is designed to assist in a safer reopening for schools under the jurisdiction of the NCSA Charter Governance Council. We recognize the importance of returning students to Nevada City School of the Arts for in-person instruction, as well as the overarching need to protect the health and safety of our students, school staff, and broader community. The goal of this document is to provide accurate and concise information for Nevada City School of the Arts, its employees, students, families and community members to plan for and implement measures to reduce COVID-19 transmission in the school setting, while meeting the educational needs of all students.

## [FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS \(FAQ's\):](#)

### [What is the requirement for face coverings \(masks\) in school?](#)

All staff, students, and volunteers are required to wear face coverings while **inside & outside**, except while eating or drinking. Due to the significant increase in COVID cases in schools throughout the county and the state, NCSA has determined that face coverings are no longer optional outdoors. Face coverings are required at all times outdoors except when taking a mask break physically distanced from other students and staff. If a student/staff arrives at school without a mask, please come by the office and office staff will provide one. All school staff will wear a KN95 rated mask at school which the school will provide.

All staff will be educated and communicate with all families and students [the rationale and proper use of face coverings](#) (click link), the expectations for use of face coverings at school and [how to wash face coverings](#) (click link).

In limited situations, where a face covering cannot be used, a face shield with a drape can be used [as determined by a medical provider](#).

### [Is a doctor's note required to obtain a mask exemption? Is parental or self-attestation permitted to obtain a mask exemption?](#)

As per [CDPH Guidance on Face Coverings](#), "persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask" as well as "persons who are hearing impaired" are exempt from mask requirements.

Assessing for exemption due to a medical condition, mental health condition, disability that prevents wearing a mask, or hearing impairment is a medical determination and therefore must be made by a physician, nurse practitioner, or other licensed medical professional practicing under the license of a physician. Self-attestation and parental attestation for mask exemptions due to the aforementioned conditions do not constitute medical determinations.

Additionally, per [CDPH K-12 Guidance](#), "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." If your child is unable to wear the face shield with

a drape, your physician must provide written exemption to this face shield and drape mandate as well, including your child’s specific reason as to why they are unable to wear the face shield with attached drape.

What are the requirements when a student, staff member, or volunteer is exposed to someone with Covid-19 (more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period within 0-6 feet indoors)?

## Student COVID-19 Exposure

*If a student has close contact exposure as determined through contact tracing or reporting, follow CDPH K-12 guidance to determine need for and length of quarantine. Close contact: Indoors within 6' of a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 for a cumulative 15 minutes over a 24-hour period.*

<b>Vaccinated Regardless of Face Coverings</b>	<b>Unvaccinated Wearing Face Coverings</b>	<b>Unvaccinated Not Wearing Face Coverings <i>(either student, case or close contact without mask)</i></b>
No quarantine or testing unless symptoms develop	Attend school with face covering if no symptoms (exclude from sports, extracurricular, & school activities)	Quarantine (exclude from school) for 10 days from exposure date
If symptoms* develop, quarantine and COVID-19 test	Test student twice weekly during 10 days following exposure date	If test is negative after Day 5 from exposure date, may release from quarantine after Day 7
If positive test, isolate 10 days from symptom onset	If positive test OR symptomatic*, isolate 10 days from test date or symptom onset	If asymptomatic and no test is completed, release from quarantine after Day 10 from exposure date
If positive test, contact trace for additional exposure starting 2 days prior to symptom onset	If positive test, contact trace for additional exposure starting 2 days prior to symptom onset	Self-monitor symptoms* through Day 14 from exposure date AND wear face covering, wash hands, avoid crowds

*\*If COVID-19 symptoms develop, isolate for 10 days from symptom onset and test after Day 5 from exposure*

## Staff/Volunteer COVID-19 Exposure

*In the event of close contact exposure as determined through contact tracing, follow CAL/OSHA guidance to determine need for quarantine and exclusion from work. Close contact: Indoors within 6' of a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 for a cumulative 15 minutes over a 24-hour period.*

<b>Vaccinated Regardless of Face Covering</b>	<b>Unvaccinated Regardless of Face Covering</b>
No quarantine unless symptoms* develop	Quarantine for 10 days from exposure
If symptoms* develop, quarantine and get tested for COVID-19	Self-monitor for symptoms* for 10 days from exposure date
Recommend COVID-19 test after Day 5	Recommend COVID-19 test after Day 5
If positive test, isolate for 10 days from test date or symptom onset (if symptomatic)	If positive test, isolate for 10 days from test date or symptom onset (if symptomatic)
If positive test, contact trace for additional exposure starting 2 days prior to symptom onset	If positive test, contact trace for additional exposure starting 2 days prior to symptom onset

*\*If COVID-19 symptoms develop, isolate for 10 days from symptom onset and test after Day 5 from exposure*

[Are volunteers allowed at school?](#)

At this time NCSA is not allowing non-staff adults into the school buildings. Adults may volunteer for outdoor activities as long as they wear a mask while working with students.

### Are visitors allowed on campus?

Visitors are discouraged from coming on to the campus between 8:00am and 4:00pm. Permission from the administration is required for unique situations where a parent comes on campus.

### Is any special ventilation required?

For indoor spaces, ventilation should be optimized as needed, and air filters checked and cleaned regularly, and bipolar ionation filters are being used in all buildings..

### Is physical distancing/social distancing required under new guidelines?

No, physical distancing is not required, as long as masks are worn. Recent evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented.

### What measures should be taken to safely accommodate students to eat their lunch?

Students at NCSA will eat all meals outdoors. We have installed special tents for inclement weather.

### What are beneficial hygiene measures to prevent the spread of the Covid virus?

Use proper handwashing technique, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and proper techniques for covering coughs and sneezes. Use hand sanitizer between all transitions. For example, prior to leaving the classroom; after using the restroom; after playing outside and returning to the classroom; before and after eating; and after coughing or sneezing. Post signage in high visibility areas to remind students and staff of proper techniques for handwashing and covering of coughs and sneezes and other prevention measures. Ensure adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, tissues, no-touch trash-cans, face coverings and hand sanitizers (with at least 60 percent ethyl alcohol) for staff and students who can safely use hand sanitizer.

### What are the health screening requirements?

Signs will be posted at all entrances instructing students, staff, and visitors not to enter campus if they have any COVID-19 symptoms. COVID-19 symptoms include fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, recent loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. Staff and students' parents or guardians will conduct symptom screening at-home, prior to arrival. Students or staff with any identified COVID-19 symptoms and/or a temperature of 100.2 or higher must be sent home immediately until testing and/or medical evaluation has been conducted.

### What are the required cleaning and maintenance procedures for classrooms and areas of public gathering at the school?

At least daily, and more frequently if feasible, clean and disinfect frequently touched hard surfaces, drinking fountains, and playground equipment and shared objects (games, art supplies, books) pursuant to CDC guidance. Ensure proper ventilation during cleaning and disinfecting. Classrooms are sprayed every evening with a disinfectant specifically designed to disinfect large areas.

### Can students participate in sports and extracurricular activities?

Yes, students can participate in sports and extracurricular activities. In general, the risk of COVID-19 transmission is lower when playing outdoors than in indoor settings. Students who participate in indoor sports and other higher-risk activities should continue to wear masks and keep physical distance as much as possible. Screening testing for student athletes and adults (e.g., coaches, teachers, advisors) who are not fully vaccinated who participate in sports and extracurricular activities are good prevention strategies. NCSA sports protocols will evolve as needed.

Assemblies, and other gatherings will be permitted to the extent allowed under any applicable requirements for gatherings occurring in the community. Use a virtual platform when possible. Attendance at school events should be limited to students and staff or those participating in a presentation only.

### What are the requirements for when a student/staff member shows symptoms of Covid-19?

If any student or staff who exhibits Covid-19 symptoms they should stay home for 10 days since symptom onset, OR stay home until at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever and 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 has confirmed an alternative named diagnosis (e.g., Streptococcal pharyngitis, Coxsackie virus)

### What will be the school's response to a confirmed or suspected case of Covid-19?

School administrators will notify the Nevada County Public Health Department immediately of any positive COVID-19 case. Any students or staff with a confirmed or suspected case of Covid-19 will be required to wear a face covering and wait in an isolation area until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility, as soon as practicable. The school will notify all staff and families of any close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases while maintaining confidentiality as required by state and federal laws. Staff will close off areas used by any sick person and will not use them before cleaning and disinfection. Custodial staff will ensure a safe and correct application of disinfectants using personal protective equipment and ventilation. Utilize class seating rosters and consultation with teachers/staff to identify close contacts to the confirmed COVID-19 case in all classrooms and on-campus activities.

### Where can I get a Covid-19 test ?

Community Testing Sites - Testing is available for anyone, whether or not you have insurance. You must pre-register and schedule an appointment at <https://www.lhi.care/covidtesting> or call 1-888-634-1123.

For assistance scheduling a COVID-19 test, contact 211 Connecting Point at 1-833-DIAL211 to speak to a local call specialist.

Appointments are available Monday-Saturday, 7:00 am to 3:00 pm in Grass Valley and Monday Friday, 7:00am to 7:00pm in Truckee. Return time for results may vary and can be expected within 2-7 days.

Testing Locations - LHI - Western Nevada County 231 Colfax Avenue, Grass Valley, CA 95945 (formerly Summer Thymes)