



**Options For Youth**  
Public Charter Schools

Options for Youth - Duarte

# COVID-19 School Safety Plan

2022-2023

**COVID-19 Compliance Taskforce**

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## **COVID-19 Past & Present**

Options for Youth-Duarte transitioned to Distance Learning in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The School continued to offer technology, curriculum and school lunch services by appointment throughout the first phase of Distance Learning. All school sites opened their doors for students requiring specialized services February 2021. All school sites offered On-Site Learning in addition to Distance Learning throughout the second semester of the 2020/2021 school year. Due to high levels of local community transmission of COVID-19, the School continued to provide Distance Learning opportunities while increasing access to our On-Site School programs throughout the 2021/2022 school year.

Each school site underwent a facility assessment in order to develop a plan to ensure proper mitigation efforts were implemented prior to students returning to On-Site Learning. Use of health pre-screening and temperature checks upon entry, frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces, social distancing practices and use of face coverings are examples of these efforts.

Today, Options for Youth-Duarte continues to follow guidance provided by local and State Departments of Public Health to provide a safe and healthy school environment for all staff and students.

## **Current Mitigation Strategies**

The School currently utilizes the following mitigation measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on campus.

- Established a COVID-19 Compliance Taskforce who develop and enforce all COVID-19 safety protocols and ensured staff and students receive appropriate education about COVID-19.
- Designated a COVID-19 Compliance Officer who is the primary liaison the local department of public health and works to ensure proper protocols are being followed at all times
- Health pre-screening upon entry for all school occupants

- Advising staff and students to stay home when they are experiencing illness or have tested positive for COVID-19
- Access and opportunity for frequent handwashing for all occupants on campus
- Access to hand sanitizer at various locations throughout the school site
- Access to higher quality face coverings for all occupants who wish to wear one and those exposed to COVID-19
- Access to both on-site rapid antigen testing and over-the-counter for all staff and students
- Regular cleaning of high touch surfaces and daily, evening cleaning of the school site by janitorial staff.
- Improved air filtration strategies such as portable air purifiers.
- Screening testing of all staff and students prior to overnight field trips
- Verification of vaccination status of all workers of the School
- Encourage staff and students to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and remain up to date with vaccination/boosters.

### **Illness at School**

School staff should utilize the [Decision Pathway](#) tool when determining when a member of the school community should stay home or be sent home from school due to illness.

### **Positive COVID-19 Cases**

Staff and students who test positive for COVID-19 are asked to share this information with the School as soon as possible. The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will be notified of the positive case so that proper identification and notification of close contacts is being conducted within 24 hours. The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will track all positive student cases and any subsequent close contacts. All positive staff cases will be directed to Human Resources for tracking and return-to-work procedures. All school staff are bound by all Cal/OSHA emergency temporary standard requirements.

In order to return to school post COVID-19 infection, students must;

- Be fever-free for at least 24 hours and

- Have improvement of symptoms and
- Provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test result taken day 5 or later to return day 6 or
- Isolate for 10 days to return to school on day 11 (if no test result is provided)
  - Tests may be PCR, antigen or over-the-counter but must have FDA emergency use authorization
  - Students returning to school before day 11 post infection must wear a high quality face covering throughout day 10

The COVID-19 Compliance Officer will report to the local Department of Public Health whenever the School experiences any 3 or more linked cases.

### **Exposures & Close Contacts**

The School will notify all members of the school community whenever a positive case is identified on-site if they were potentially exposed to the positive case. Individuals who are identified as a close contact to the positive case will be notified within 24 hours via phone call or email.

Students who are identified as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case while at school may remain in their regularly scheduled school program as long as they:

- Remain asymptomatic
- Test negative for COVID-19 on day 3-5 of last exposure to the positive case
- Wear a high quality face covering while at school throughout day 10 of last exposure

Students who develop symptoms should stay home and test for COVID-19. Close contacts who develop symptoms should contact the School for further instructions.

### **COVID-19 Testing Program**

The School has partnered with (CDPH / Helena Health) to provide the school community access to free on-site or over-the-counter (OTC) COVID-19 testing. The School currently observes the following testing strategies\*

- Exposure Screening

- The School will offer on-site or OTC COVID-19 testing to staff/students who may have been exposed to COVID-19
- The School will offer on-site or OTC COVID-19 testing to staff/students who have been identified as close contacts to a positive COVID-19 case on campus
- Symptomatic Screening
  - The School will offer on-site or OTC COVID-19 testing to staff/students who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- Condition of Participation Screening
  - The School will offer on-site or OTC COVID-19 testing to staff/students who wish to participate in a school sponsored overnight field trip

*\*The School's testing strategies may be modified as required by law and/or health officer order. All individuals who participate in on-site testing must have proper consent on file. All staff who conduct testing have received the appropriate technical, clinical and HIPAA training as required by Primary Health & Heluna Health.*

## **References**

[CDPH K-12 School Guidance 22/23](#)

[Decision Pathway](#)

[LACDPH K-12 Schools Protocols](#)