



2022-23 Westerly School Health & Safety Protocols
To ensure a culture of health, safety, and shared responsibility

Overview & Rationale

Westerly School has prepared this document to outline our practices and protocols to facilitate the safety, health, and wellness of the students, families, faculty, and staff participating in on-campus school for the 2022-23 school year. As health experts continue to learn more about COVID-19, this document will be amended accordingly.

Westerly's practices and protocols highlighted in this document are based upon the following rationale:

- Decrease transmission of COVID-19
- Create a culture of safety through partnership with families to protect their child(ren), other children, families, and faculty/staff
- Community Core Values: Responsibility, Kindness, Respect, Honesty, Adaptability

Staggered School Hours

Kindergarten-3rd grade: 8:10am-2:50pm
Drop-off for Kinder-3rd grade: 7:55-8:05am
Pick-up for Kinder-3rd grade: 2:55-3:05pm
Kindergarten-3rd grade Friday Pick-up: 1:25-1:35pm

4th-8th grade: 8:20am-3:05pm
Drop-off for 4th-8th grade: 8:05-8:15
Pick-up for 4th-8th grade: 3:10-3:25pm
4th-8th grade Friday Pick-up: 1:40-1:55pm

Early Drop-off Available: 7:40-8:05am

Virtual Observation Access

It is Westerly School's priority to offer a full time on-campus in-person educational experience for the 2021-22 school year. However, Westerly will work with families to ensure that a student who needs to isolate for COVID-related circumstances, students will be able to zoom into the classroom to **observe** lessons, and not be considered absent. This adapted Virtual Observation model will enable students to solely observe academic lessons. Simultaneously, assignments and class-related work will be posted on Westerly's Learning Management Platforms: Google Classroom (3-8th grade) and SeeSaw (Kinder-2nd grade).



Should COVID circumstances worsen, and in-person learning no longer becomes a class/school-wide option, we will plan to adapt to Mobile Learning.

Drop-off Procedures

- By signing the Westerly Family Handbook, parents/guardians are attesting that their child(ren) exhibits no signs of illness or symptoms of COVID prior to morning drop-off
 - If your child displays any signs of illness or COVID symptoms, please keep them at home and inform the school.
- Drop-off will be by valet or front-door drop-off in the front parking lot of Westerly School.

Pick-up

- Pick-up will be by valet ONLY in the front parking lot of Westerly School
- **Drivers must pull up to the designated signage** and students will be directed to their driver's vehicle by Westerly personnel

Snack & Lunch

- Please pack a healthy snack for your child to eat during recess each day.
- You may pack a lunch for your child OR order a school lunch through the lunch program
- All volunteers for school lunch distribution will wear face coverings and gloves while distributing lunch
- No outside vendor food deliveries to the campus will be allowed.
- Pizza Fridays will continue for the 2022-23 school year:
 - Leadership students taking pizza orders will wear gloves and face coverings while handling cash and checks
 - Leadership students and staff distributing lunch will wear gloves and face coverings
 - Physical distancing?
- Lunch times will be staggered for Kinder-4th Grade and 5th-8th Grade
- Lunch will take place outside, unless it is a rainy day in which case students will be physically distanced indoors

Overview of Logistical Campus Safety Plans

- Signage for reminders of safety and hygiene precautions
- No access to self-service drinking fountain stations (water bottle refill stations will be available)
- Sanitation stations, including portable hand washing stations and hand sanitizing stations, throughout the campus
- Isolation areas for sick students/faculty
- Frequent school [facilities sanitization](#)
- Increased ventilation by opening the classrooms' nano doors, added HEPA filters to classroom spaces, ongoing air exchanges with Merv-13 filtration system in classroom spaces
- Removed hand dryers in restrooms
- Continue to Implement ongoing training of all faculty/staff and provide education for families regarding:
 - COVID vaccination
 - Enhanced sanitization practices
 - Use of face-coverings
 - Screening practices
- Continue to implement face coverings (as directed by Public Health Guidance), hand hygiene, and screening protocols for all faculty and staff on campus

On-campus Practices and Protocols for Face Coverings and Hand Hygiene

- Face coverings are optional on the Westerly campus
 - Cloth/disposable non-valved face mask are mandatory for students/faculty/staff in classrooms and indoor spaces for 10 days after a confirmed exposure
 - Masks should not depict images that may be perceived as violent or scary, and be in compliance with school policies
 - Face shield also optional WITH cloth/surgical non-valved face masks for students
- Hand Washing/sanitizing protocol
 - Hands washed for a minimum of 20 seconds at regular intervals
 - Hand sanitizer provided to students and teachers throughout the campus
 - 3 mL of hand sanitizer used per application
 - Mandated hand washing/sanitizing for students and teachers before entering campus

- Mandatory use of hand sanitizer for students and teachers before and after touching shared objects
- Mandated hand washing after restroom usage
- Mandated hand washing/sanitizing upon each entry/exit from classroom
- Mandated hand washing/sanitizing before and after food consumption
- Mandated hand washing/sanitizing before and after mask wear/removal
- Signage posted for reminders of best practices for hand hygiene

Practices and Protocols for Sanitization of Facilities

- Sanitization of the entire campus through surface cleaning with disinfectant wipes before, during, and after the school day
- Use of sanitization fogger for restroom cleaning, shared spaces, and as needed
- Bathroom sanitization multiple times day
- High touch areas, including door handles and push bar, sanitization three times/day
- Signage with sanitization protocols posted in every classroom
- All sanitizing products utilized are on the EPA approved list of disinfectant cleansers for COVID-19

COVID Testing

- Baseline Rapid Antigen COVID testing recommended for **all** persons coming onto campus (regardless of vaccination status) prior to the start of school and return from extended breaks
- Required Rapid Antigen COVID testing for:
 - Any student displaying signs of illness or symptoms of COVID (two consecutive negative tests, taken 24 hours apart, before returning to school)
 - Any student who has a household member/sibling displaying signs of illness or symptoms of COVID (two consecutive negative tests, taken 24 hours apart, before returning to school)
- PCR Testing:
 - Recommended for any class/set of students exposed to a COVID positive individual ~5 days after confirmed exposure (facilitated by Westerly School)

The standard return-to-school guidelines are as follows:

- If anyone in my household, including my child/children, have experienced any symptoms of illness or COVID-19:
 - Child with Symptoms of Illness or COVID-19
 - Your child/children must have two consecutive negative Rapid antigen tests taken 24 hours apart before returning to school or any school-related activity.
 - Your child/children must wear mask for a minimum of 10 days, and then until symptoms resolve
- If my child/children are exposed to COVID-19:
 - They are recommended to wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days and get tested 5-7 days after last exposure.
- If my child/children test positive for COVID-19:
 - Child with Symptoms of Illness or COVID-19
 - Contact the school as soon as possible
 - Your child/children must isolate at home for a minimum of 5 days.
 - Your child/children may leave isolation and return to school any time after 5 days as long as they have been fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever reducing medicines) AND they either have no symptoms or their symptoms are mild and improving.
 - A negative COVID-19 test is not required to leave isolation between Day 6-10 but it is strongly recommended that individuals test negative prior to leaving isolation between Day 6-10.
 - Students must wear a well-fitting mask around others through Day 10. They may discontinue wearing a mask around others between Day 6-Day 10 if they have had two sequential negative COVID-19 tests taken at least one day apart.
 - Asymptomatic siblings
 - Siblings should wear a well-fitting mask indoors around others and monitor their health through Day 10
 - Siblings are recommended to test as soon as possible after exposure, and inform the school should the test confirm a positive result.

At-home Safety Practices

- Highly Recommend up-to-date vaccinations of all eligible persons within the household
- Health Screening & Hand Hygiene Practices
 - Screen your child/household members for signs of illness or symptoms of COVID
 - Keep your child home if they display any signs of illness
 - Practice Hand Hygiene at home

- Ongoing Education
 - Review any symptoms requiring attention of teachers/staff
 - Inform Westerly School of any signs of illness or symptoms of COVID within the household

References

- [American Academy of Pediatrics: COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Return to In-person Education in Schools](#)
- [California Department of Education: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools](#)
- [California Department of Public Health: COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2021-22 School Year](#)
- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention: Vaccines for COVID-19](#)
- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention: Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)
- [EPA Guidance for Cleaners/Disinfectants](#)
- [Long Beach Department of Health](#)