



## 2021-22 Westerly School Health & Safety Plan

*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 2021-22 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, and faculty/staff
- Community Core Values: Responsibility, Kindness, Respect, Honesty, Adaptability

### Staggered School Hours

- Kindergarten-2nd grade: 8:05am-2:50pm
  - Drop-off for Kinder-2nd grade: 7:50-8:00am
  - Pick-up for Kinder-2nd grade: 2:55-3:05pm
  - Kindergarten-2nd grade Friday Pick-up: 1:25-1:35pm
- 3rd-8th grade: 8:20am-3:05pm
  - Drop-off for 3rd-8th grade: 8:05-8:15
  - Pick-up for 3rd-8th grade: 3:10-3:20pm
  - 3rd-8th grade Friday Pick-up: 1:40-1:50pm
- Early Drop-off Available: 7:40-8:10am

### 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 who have unvaccinated children to ensure that should a student need to quarantine for COVID-related circumstances, including travel quarantine or possible COVID exposure, 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). Additional information will also be readily accessible to parents and students on each class' Google Site.

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

- Prior to morning drop-off, each family must attest that their child is well and does NOT have any of the following conditions:
  - fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
  - If your child displays any of these symptoms, please keep them at home and inform the school.
- Drop-off will be by valet ONLY in the front parking lot of Westerly School.
- **Drivers must remain in their car with masks on** or windows closed to promote physical distancing.
  - Drivers must attest via Westerly's Health App, that the student(s) are symptom free.
  - If testing is required prior to drop-off, be prepared to display the negative test (if rapid) at valet drop-off, or have the completed PCR test kit ready.
  - Students must exit the vehicle wearing their face covering/mask.

### Pick-up

- Pick-up will be by valet ONLY in the front parking lot of Westerly School
- **Drivers must remain in their car with masks on** or windows closed to promote physical distancing.
- 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 from [Choice Lunch](#).
- Choice Lunch has safety protocols in place that will enable families to order the main course and sides ahead of time.
- Systems will be in place to ensure physical distancing when students receive their Choice Lunch orders.
- No outside vendor food deliveries to the campus will be allowed.
- Pizza Fridays will resume in a safe, physically distanced manner.
  - Leadership students who handle money will wear gloves, face coverings, and practice physical distancing.
  - Pizza distribution will be done by vaccinated faculty/staff wearing gloves and face coverings, and practice physical distancing.
- Lunch times will be staggered by grade level and cohort.
- Lunch will take place across campus (beyond the regular lunch areas) to ensure proper physical distancing.

### Overview of Logistical Campus Safety Plans

- Restrict campus access to mainly students and employees
  - Limit visitor access to those individuals who are fully vaccinated or provide proof of negative test (PCR or rapid) taken within 24 hours.
- Separate campus ingress and egress plans
- Signage for reminders of safety 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](#)
- Non-essential shared objects (sporting equipment, class desktop computers, classroom materials) removed from shared spaces
- Increased ventilation by opening the classrooms' nana doors, added HEPA filters to every 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
  - Physical distancing guidelines and their importance
  - Use of face-coverings
  - Screening practices
  - COVID-19 specific symptom identification
- Continue to implement physical distancing, face coverings, hand hygiene, and screening protocols for all faculty and staff on campus

### **Vaccination Policy**

- All faculty and staff on-campus are required to be fully vaccinated (with booster) against COVID-19
- All eligible students 12 and over are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Students who are eligible are highly recommended to receive a booster vaccination.
  - Students who turn 12 during the school year, must be fully vaccinated within 8 weeks of their 12th birthday
  - Medical exemptions may be granted based on completion of the Westerly Medical Exemption Form by a licensed medical doctor or doctor of osteopathic medicine. The Medical Exemption Forms must be reviewed and approved by the Westerly Health & Safety Committee to be granted the exemption.
    - If a student is granted a medical exemption, they will have restrictions on field trips, and must follow all Health & Safety Protocols as specified for unvaccinated students.
    - Students granted medical exemptions may face limitations of access to certain events, spaces, roles, and activities.
- All eligible students ages 5-11 years old are highly recommended to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

### **On-campus Practices for Physical Distancing**

- Seating arranged for physical distancing in classrooms
  - Minimum of 3 feet between desks
  - Desks arranged to avoid students sitting face-to-face
  - For fully vaccinated 7th & 8th grade students, 3 feet of physical distancing and desk arrangement does not apply.
- Signage with physical distancing reminders posted in classrooms and shared spaces
- Stable cohorts by grade level
- Student movement reduced
- Maximum occupancy of identified shared spaces reduced (lunch areas, playgrounds)
- Maximum occupancy of spaces with higher risk of exposure reduced (bathrooms)
- One-way traffic patterns created in walking areas and other high-traffic areas (utilizing signage and visual cues)
- Closure/modified use of non-essential shared spaces
- Physical distancing in outdoor assemblies
- Additional team athletics protocols and information will be forthcoming
- Limitation of outside visitors, vendors, and student family members from entering campus
- Limit number of adults congregating in shared communal spaces

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

- Face coverings required and to be worn by all students, teachers, and anyone else on-campus.
  - Surgical/medical grade masks mandatory for faculty/staff on campus.
  - Surgical/medical grade masks recommended for Kinder-8th Grade students.
    - Masks should not depict images that may be perceived as violent or scary, and be in compliance with school policies
    - Cloth masks (non-valved) should be at least 3 layers of fabric with a filter inside, well-fitted surgical masks, or N-95 masks
  - Face shield also optional WITH cloth/surgical non-valved face masks for students
  - Face coverings required and to be worn by all unvaccinated students outdoors.
- 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 throughout the 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

- Weekly surveillance testing of unvaccinated students at this time, but subject to change
  - Based on COVID infection rates, additional testing for all individuals may be required.
- Baseline COVID testing for **all** persons coming onto campus (regardless of vaccination status) will be conducted prior to the start of school and return from extended breaks
- Require testing for unvaccinated and asymptomatic individuals who have had exposure to a symptomatic individual on campus in order to provide effective contact tracing partnership with the health department, maintain a healthy and safe campus, and provide appropriate quarantine guidance

### Practices and Protocols for Screening/COVID-related Health Safety

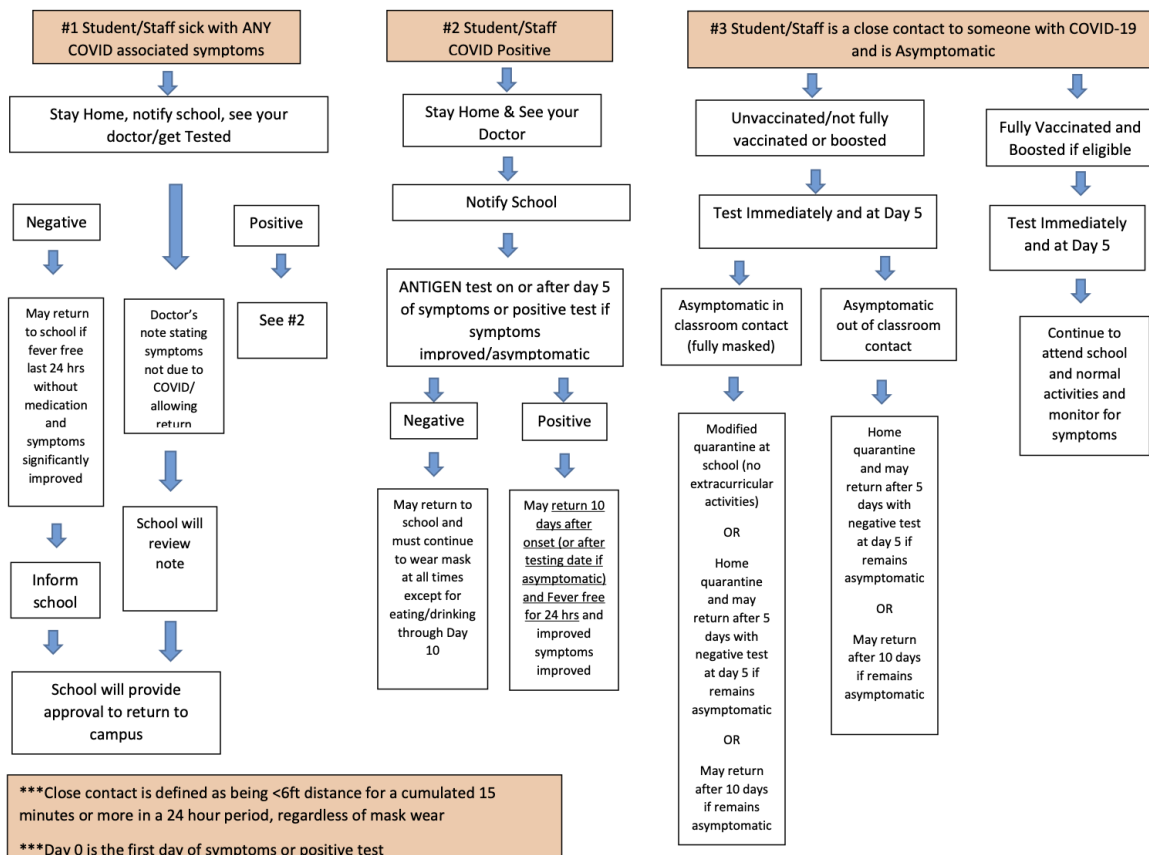
- Community education about, recommendation for, and documentation of COVID vaccinations for eligible Westerly students and faculty/staff
- Documentation of COVID vaccinations for all Westerly employees
- Community education about, recommendation for, and documentation of influenza vaccinations for Westerly students and faculty/staff and students 12 and older
- Community education and partnership to keep sick children at home and communicate to the school if a child has fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- School personnel will check for completion of the Westerly Health App Attestation approval before allowing entry of student(s) and approved adults on campus
- School personnel will screen for COVID-related symptoms via the Westerly Health App before allowing entry of school personnel on campus
  
- **Standard return guidelines following isolation or quarantine** (in alignment with LA County, Long Beach, and CA Departments of Public Health)
  - **Isolation** (testing positive for COVID-19)
    - Those who test positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, previous infection or lack of symptoms, will be required to self-isolate for at least five days.
    - Those who test positive also should notify close contacts (such as household members, intimate partners and caregivers) as well as anyone else they may have exposed. Being exposed is defined as being within six feet of someone for a cumulative 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period while they were symptomatic.
    - People may only end their self-isolation after day five of isolation if they are asymptomatic or fever-free and their symptoms are improving, AND they test negative on or after day five.
    - People in isolation are required to wear a mask around others, both indoors - such as at home if living with other people - and outdoors.
      - This applies both during isolation and for an additional five days

- afterward (10 days total).
  - Adults should wear a well-fitting medical grade mask (surgical or N95 respirator).
  - Children should wear a well-fitting, non-cloth, surgical style mask of multiple layers of non-woven material with a nose wire.
- If symptoms persist or a fever is present, isolation should continue until the fever resolves and symptoms improve.
- Anyone unable or unwilling to test may end isolation on day 10 if symptoms are not present or are resolving.
- **Exposed, Required to Quarantine**
  - Those who are unvaccinated, partially vaccinated, or fully vaccinated (2 doses received) and eligible for a booster but have not yet received their booster dose, who come in close contact with someone who has or is suspected to have COVID-19 must quarantine for at least five days after their last contact with the person.
  - People who are exposed should test immediately after contact and, if negative, must test again on day five after their last exposure to exit quarantine.
    - Further, they must wear a well-fitting medical grade mask (surgical or N95 respirator) while around others, indoors and outdoors, for 10 days after the exposure.
    - Children should wear a well-fitting non-cloth surgical style mask of multiple layers of non-woven material with a nose wire.
  - If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately isolate and test as soon as possible (do not wait until five days after exposure to retest if symptoms develop earlier) and, if positive, continue to self-isolate as described above.
  - People only may end their quarantine period after day five if they are asymptomatic and test negative on or after day five.
  - If unable or unwilling to test, and symptoms are not present, quarantine can end on day 10.
- **Exposed, Not Required to Quarantine if COVID Vaccines Up to Date**
  - Individuals who are fully vaccinated and have received their COVID-19 vaccine booster, if eligible, do not need to quarantine following a COVID-19 exposure.
    - They should test immediately, and if negative, should test again on day five after the last contact with the person who has COVID-19.
    - Further, they must wear a well-fitting medical grade mask (surgical or N95 respirator) while around others, indoors and outdoors, for 10 days after the exposure.
  - If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately isolate and test as soon as possible (do not wait until five days after exposure to retest if symptoms develop earlier) and, if positive, continue to self-isolate as described above.
- **Returning to school after air travel or travel out of California**
  - Families must advise the school of air travel or travel outside the State, as quarantine may be advised per State guidance.
- **Returning to school after displaying symptoms** (no known exposure)
  - If you or anyone in your household demonstrates symptoms, your

child(ren) will need to demonstrate a negative PCR test or alternative diagnosis from a doctor to return to campus.

### At-home Safety Practices

- Vaccinate all eligible persons within the household
- Morning Health screening (temperature/symptom check)
  - Keep child(ren) at home if they exhibit any symptoms of sickness including, fever 100.4°F/38°C or above, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Face Covering and Hand Hygiene Practices
  - Provide child(ren) with a clean face covering each day of school
  - Practice Hand Hygiene at home
- Ongoing Education
  - Review safety practices daily with your child(ren)
  - Remind child(ren) of physical distancing practices
  - Review any symptoms requiring attention of teachers/staff





## 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](#)