

MVWS UPDATED GUIDE TO SCHOOL OPENING 2021-2022

This quick guide summarizes some key safety information and provides tips as we anticipate the start of the new school year. As of now, based upon guidance from the Long Beach Health and Human Services, students and staff are mandated to wear face masks while indoors on-campus. Additionally, due to our small yard here at Maple Village we are also requiring masks are worn outdoors on-campus. Children with special needs are able to wear an alternative face covering as per CDPH guidelines.

Everyone will be asked to check their health for COVID symptoms prior to arrival on campus. Employees are required to show proof of vaccination or submit to weekly, asymptomatic COVID testing. Any employee traveling by train or plane is also required to show a negative COVID test 3-5 days after travel, regardless of vaccination status. Due to privacy law, we cannot share information about our employees' vaccination status. You may ask your teacher directly, and it is their choice whether to share that information with you or not.

At this time there is no requirement for social distancing, but we will distance students 3 feet as space allows. During unmasked times (snack, lunch, flute, mask break, etc.) strict adherence to social distancing will be enforced.

We are committed to safety and deeply appreciate your support as we look forward with excitement to a safe and successful school year.

Warmly,



Andi Levine
Director of Operations



Lisa J. McCarthy
Dean of Education

Maple Village Waldorf School will continue to adhere to the most recent guidelines issued from the California Department of Public Health and Long Beach Health and Human Services.

Adults, if you plan to be on campus for any reason, please turn in proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test taken within 72 hours of arrival on campus to andi.levine@maplevillageschool.org

COVID-19 Prevention Strategies

- Masks: staff and students are required to wear face coverings indoors & outdoors on-campus
- Physical distancing to the extent possible in each class
- Optimizing ventilation
- Air Scrubbers
- Ensuring that staff and students stay home when sick with symptoms consistent with COVID-19
- Temperature taking upon entry
- Cleaning throughout the day and again in the evenings
- Hand hygiene throughout the day
- Vaccination verification and/or asymptomatic testing
- Case reporting, contact tracing and quarantine for staff or students

Self-Screening at Home

Please monitor these potential symptoms daily and keep children (or staff) home from school if experiencing any of the following:

- Fever of 100.4°F or higher
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Congestion
- Runny nose
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Chills
- Muscle or body aches
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

If students or staff are experiencing any COVID symptoms, stay home and see a healthcare professional and/or get tested, **regardless of vaccination status.**

Students and staff with symptoms of COVID-19 infection may not return for in-person instruction until they have met the following CDPH criteria:

- At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication; and
- Other symptoms have improved; and
- They have a negative test OR a healthcare providers provided documentation that the symptoms are typical of their underlying chronic condition (e.g., allergies or asthma) OR a healthcare provider has confirmed an alternative named diagnosis, OR at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset.

Screening at School

All students, employees and volunteers/visitors will have their temperature checked before entering campus.

- Fever of 100.4°F or higher will be sent home
- Parents must stay at drop off until their student is cleared to enter

Indoor Air Quality

The Centers for Disease Control recommends increasing air filtration as high as possible (target MERV 13) without diminishing air flow and enforcing the existing or revised indoor air quality plan. MERV is an abbreviation for Minimum Efficiency Reporting Values.

Last year, we purchased hospital-grade air scrubbers; these remain in the classrooms. The preschool room attached to the preschool courtyard is an outdoor experience, with the windows, sliding door, and class door fully open. In this case, the air scrubber would only scrub the outside air. Here is information regarding our Carrier OptiClean Dial Mode Air Scrubber and Negative Air Machines:

This particular filter uses 99.97% efficient, long-life (~40,000 hours) HEPA filters to remove particles as small as 0.3 microns, then discharge cleaner air back into the room. These filters last approximately 4-5 years. The second filter in this particular machine is a MERV 7 (or higher). That filter will be replaced every 3-4 months. Above is a Harvard study on Portable Air Cleaners (PAC) as well as a link to the product itself. Upon review, you will find that this PAC meets and exceeds the recommendations in the Harvard study.

COVID Case Response and Reporting

Students found to have COVID-19 symptoms during the school day will be sent to the sick bay. A staff member will contact the parent/guardian to come pick up the student right away.

MVWS has designated employees to support COVID protocols and management.

The protocol for managing COVID exposure includes complete contact tracing of all in close contact, which the California Department of Public Health defines as less than six feet of spacing for more than 15 minutes in a 24-hour period. All close contacts are to be notified of possible exposure to COVID within 24 hours.

Home Quarantine

Current home quarantine recommendations for unvaccinated close contacts, or for unvaccinated students who have not had any symptoms:

Quarantine can end after day 10 from the date of the last exposure without testing, or after day 7 if tested after day 5 from the date of the last exposure, and the test is negative.

If your child needs to quarantine or is unable to attend school temporarily for health reasons, your teacher will work with you to meet your child's educational needs. For grades, this may look like zooming into main lesson and/or practice lessons, home packets, and teacher check-ins. We are in conversations regarding specialty lessons, which may include pre-recorded videos from specialty teachers.

If the whole class (K-8) needs to quarantine, the class will move to remote learning during the time of quarantine.

K-12 SCHOOLS COVID-19 FLOWCHART

