



Laytonville Unified School District Safe Return to School for Parents and Staff 2021-2022 (As of August 12, 2021)

The school district will be using multiple prevention strategies to prevent Covid-19 from spreading at school. The following procedures are according to the most recent CDC, CDPH and local public health guidance.

Vaccinations

COVID-19 vaccination is strongly recommended for all eligible people in California, including teachers, staff, students, and adults sharing homes with these members of our K-12 communities. CDC recommends that everyone ages 12 years and older get vaccinated. Long Valley Health Center is providing free vaccinations every Tuesday and Friday between 10 and 12. All staff are required to show proof of vaccination or test weekly.

Masking

Universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students and visitors regardless of vaccination status is required. K-12 students are required to mask indoors, with exemptions per [CDPH face mask guidance](#). All are encouraged to wear face coverings from home, however the school will provide face coverings for all who inadvertently do not bring a face covering to school. Students who are not following the requirement to wear face masks will first be reminded, if student fails to comply he/she will be sent home. Students who refuse to wear masks on campus will be offered alternative educational opportunities. Most effective masks have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric, completely cover your nose and mouth, fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps, medical grade disposal masks, or those that have a nose wire to prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask. Gators and bandanas are not considered effective though in special circumstances may be allowable.

Physical Distancing.

Recent evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented. This is consistent with [CDC K-12 School Guidance](#). The school is encouraging at least three feet of physical distance when practicable. Layered with masking, cohorting, and improved ventilation, handwashing, covering coughs and sneezes, staying home when sick, and regular cleaning help to reduce transmission.

Screening Testing

Screening testing will be offered at least once a week using the BinaxNow rapid test. Students choosing to participate in athletics will have routine testing up to 24 hours before sporting, competition or extracurricular events. High risk sports and extracurricular activities may be canceled in areas of high community transmission unless all participants are fully vaccinated. The logistics of the screening testing are currently being developed in conjunction with CDPH and the local health center. Unvaccinated staff members are required to have weekly testing.

Ventilation

Ventilation indoors will be optimized by opening doors and windows when practicable. Air filtration systems have been installed and are in use in all buildings throughout the district.

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette:

The following strategies will be used throughout the school district:

- a. Teach and reinforce washing hands, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff.
- b. Promote hand washing throughout the day, especially before and after eating, after using the toilet, and after handling garbage, or removing gloves.
- c. Ensure adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, tissues, no-touch trashcans, face coverings, and hand sanitizers with at least 60 percent ethyl alcohol for staff and children who can safely use hand sanitizer.

Cleaning and Disinfection

All school facilities will have daily cleaning and an EPA approved disinfectant will be used when someone is sick within 24 hours of the sick person being on campus.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>

Food Service

Nutritious School Meals are free for all students regardless of their income for the 2021-2022 school year. Students who wish to bring their own lunch from home are welcome to do so. Free breakfast and lunch will be available to all who request it. Food Service Staff will wear masks at all times when indoors. Students are required to wear masks when in line and will maximize distancing while eating or drinking. The schools will use additional spaces to facilitate distancing such as outdoor seating. LES is staggering scheduling so that only two classes at a time will be in the cafeteria. Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned regularly and surfaces that come in contact with food will be washed, rinsed, and sanitized before and after meals.

Transportation

Buses will run their normal routes (pre Spring of 2019). Wearing masks is mandatory for students and staff while waiting for and being transported in any school vehicle (vans, cars or buses). Bus windows will be opened when weather permits and regular sanitizing and disinfecting will occur regularly.

Accommodations for students with special needs

The schools will carefully consider how to make reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities following all legal requirements related to a free appropriate public education. CDC guidance will be referenced.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html#anchor_1625662037558

Visitors

The schools will limit nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities that involve external groups or organizations.

Recess and PE

In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors (e.g., participating in outdoor play, recess, and physical education activities). CDC recommends people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people. Outdoor play structures/swings may be used under adult supervision and with masking required if multiple students will be using the structure at once and are in close proximity. Fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised. Universal masking is required during indoor physical education or recess.

Sports and Other Extracurricular Activities

This is continually evolving and is dependent on the case rates within the county. Some sports put players, coaches and trainers at increased risk for getting and spreading COVID-19. Close contact sports and indoor sports are particularly risky. We will need to regularly look at our ability to have athletic teams in terms of the number of cases in our county and with guidance from CDPH, Mendocino Public Health and CIF.

Daily at Home Screenings

All families must screen their children for COVID-19 symptoms before taking them to school. Any student or staff member who has COVID- 19 symptoms should stay home. Students may be asked to bring a daily screening document with them to school.

- **Visual wellness for COVID-19 symptoms:** look for flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue or extreme fussiness.
- **Temperature check:** Students and staff must remain home if their temperature is above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.
- **Ask individual about COVID-19 symptoms:** Fever or Chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste of smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.
- **Have you or your child been in close contact with anyone who is COVID-19 positive? You will need to quarantine per the Public Health guidelines.**

- You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes over a 24 hour period
 - You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
 - You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
 - You shared eating or drinking utensils
 - They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you
- **You have tested positive for COVID-19. You will need to isolate per the Public Health guidelines.**

When to Stay home

Please see separate document outlining protocols for more detailed responses to positive COVID-19 cases

When symptoms are consistent with COVID-19 infection, students and staff should stay home and go to a healthcare provider for testing and care regardless of vaccination status. This practice is essential for keeping infections out of school and preventing spread.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

Staff members and students with symptoms of COVID-19 infection should not return for in-person instruction until they have met CDPH criteria to return to school for those with symptoms:

- i. At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and
- ii. Other symptoms have improved; and
- iii. They 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 a healthcare provider has confirmed an alternative named diagnosis (e.g., Streptococcal pharyngitis, Coxsackie virus), OR at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset.

Case reporting and Contact Tracing

Schools are required to report COVID-19 cases to the local public health department and assist with contact tracing.

Independent Study Options (Distance Learning)

Distance Learning has primarily been replaced with in-person learning however, for the 2021-2022 school year schools are required to provide an Independent Study program for a student whose health as determined by the student's parent/guardian would be put at risk by in-person instruction. As of August 12, 2021, the district has been unable to secure an independent Study teacher for students in grades K-8 requesting this program. We are working with the Mendocino County Office of Education and the staff in developing ways to address this requirement. Independent Study may also be used if we have to have class or school closures and would likely

resemble the 2020-2021 Distance Learning program. The goal is to keep our students in school however we will address the situation as needs may change.

This document was created using information from *the US Dept of Education Return to School Roadmap*, the Center for Disease Control and the California Department of Public Health Safety Measures for K-12 schools.

https://sites.ed.gov/roadmap/healthsafety/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=#vaccination

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html#anchor_1625661984621

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/K-12-Guidance-2021-22-School-Year.aspx>