

## **New Horizons School Reopening Guidelines during COVID-19 Pandemic**

In preparation to reopen to in-person learning, New Horizons School will practice and put COVID-19 safety measures in place to help limit the spread of the Corona Virus.

As we prepare to transition to in-person learning, our goal is to meet the needs of our NHS community by providing access to education for our students centered around a Workshop Way Education and building relationships.

### **School Campus**

- Students and staff will maintain social distancing while on campus
- There will be signage to denote social distancing expectations, hand washing, and prevention of germ spreading
- Clear screens or plexiglass installed in front office areas
- Face coverings will be required
- Specific routes designated for drop off and pick up with staggered times to promote social distancing
- Water bottle filling stations available; (common area drinking fountains will be unavailable)  
Designated entry/exit points
- Visitors and volunteers will have limited access to classrooms, buildings, and student areas.

### **Strategies to maintain smaller groups of students in shared spaces:**

- Students will remain in the same space and in groups as small and consistent as practicable.
- NHS will minimize the movement of students and staff throughout other spaces outside of their shared spaces as much as practicable.
- NHS will maximize space between seating and desks. Distance teacher and staff desks at least six feet away from student desks.
- NHS will serve meals in classrooms or outdoors instead of cafeterias.
- Students will use bagged meals as much as possible.
- Minimize congregate movement through common corridors as much as practicable.
- NHS will hold recess on staggered schedules separated by class or groups.
- NHS will avoid large gatherings such as assemblies and dances except on video conferencing platforms.
- Students will use an isolation room when not feeling well to minimize contact with others until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility.
- NHS will limit nonessential visitors inside classrooms / buildings.

### **Self-Screening for Symptoms**

**COVID-19 Symptoms (CDC COVID-19 Symptoms Infographic) - Anyone exhibiting the following**

**symptoms will not be allowed on our school campus: Cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, sore throat, muscle pain, headache, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion/runny nose, chills/shaking with chills, new loss of taste or smell.**

- Before students and staff come to school, they should conduct a self-screening for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Parents/guardians should assist younger children with the screening.

The following wellness screenings will be implemented:

Staff: Active wellness screening will be conducted prior to entering campus, which currently includes a visual and temperature check, based on current guidance.

Students: Visual wellness check upon entering campus. If a student presents symptoms of COVID-19, the student will go to a designated isolation area until they can be picked up by a parent/guardian

Parents: Should be prepared to pick up their student(s) immediately if they develop COVID19 symptoms while at school. Please be sure to have updated emergency contacts on file.

- Anyone who has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days or has COVID-19 symptoms must not attend school.
- NHS will monitor staff and students throughout the day for signs of illness; send home students and staff with a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, cough, or other COVID-19 symptoms.

### **General Safety Precautions**

- NHS will teach and reinforce washing hands, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff.
- Students and staff should wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application, and use paper towels (or single-use cloth towels) to dry hands thoroughly. Fragrance-free hand sanitizer with at least 60% ethyl alcohol should be used when handwashing is not practicable.
- Portable handwashing stations throughout site and near classrooms will be used to minimize movement and congregations in bathrooms to the extent practicable.
- We will limit use of supplies, materials, and playground equipment to one group of children at a time, with cleaning and disinfection between uses.

### **Face Coverings**

Required on campus in accordance with Public Health (CDPH) Guidance for Face Coverings and Directives from the State, anyone on school campus are required to wear face covering while on school grounds (except when eating or drinking) and while in the classroom (even if maintaining six feet social distance).

Face Coverings:

- Face coverings must cover mouth and nose
  - Face coverings provided, if needed
  - Anyone who refuses to wear a face covering could be sent home.
  - Face Shields: In limited situations when a face covering cannot be worn.
  - Instructional staff may use a face shield instead of a face mask.
  - No bandanas
  - No neck gaiters
  - No face coverings with vents or valves
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- All staff should use face coverings. Teachers and support staff can use face shields, if available, which enable younger students to see their teachers' faces and to avoid potential barriers to phonological instruction. Staff must return to wearing a face mask once completed with providing services and outside of the classroom.
  - Students will be encouraged to use cloth face coverings. Cloth face coverings are most essential in settings where physical distancing cannot easily be maintained or settings where space may be insufficient.
  - Students and staff should be frequently reminded not to touch their face covering and to wash their hands frequently.
  - As a frequent contact with the public, NHS front office will be required to use gloves and facial coverings.

### **Student COVID-19 Reporting Procedures**

Notification:

Employees and/or students who may have had close contact will be identified and given guidance on current recommendations for quarantine and options for leave by school liaison.

After a positive COVID-19 test or potential exposure, a parent should inform teacher, office, or principal. Teacher or staff should inform school principal, maintain confidentiality, identify student's attendance within last 48 hours, and identify classroom seating chart.

If Close Contact:

Student/Staff will be asked to quarantine for 14 days from date of exposure and monitor for symptoms. If no symptoms develop, student/staff may return to school after 14 days. If symptoms develop, family asked to call a health care professional and consider testing.

Students may return to school when all of the following conditions are met:

- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
- At least 24 hours have passed since last fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications
- Other symptoms have improved