By this Directive, the Health Officer of the City and County of San Francisco (the “Health Officer”) issues industry-specific direction that schools as described below must follow as part of the local response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19,” including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes the disease) pandemic. This Directive goes into effect immediately upon issuance, and remains in effect until suspended, superseded, or amended by the Health Officer.

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, AND 120175, THE HEALTH OFFICER DIRECTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. This Directive applies to all transitional kindergarten (TK)-12 schools in the City and County of San Francisco (“Schools”). All schools are permitted and encouraged to reopen for in-person, on-site instruction with advance written approval by the Health Officer. Schools that have not yet received approval from the Health Officer to reopen for in-person, on-site instruction should email the Schools Hub at schools-childcaresites@sfdph.org for information about the streamlined application process in place for the 2021-22 school year.

2. Attached as Exhibit A to this Directive is guidance from the Department of Public Health regarding reopening Schools for in-person, on-site instruction (“TK-12 Guidance”). All Schools offering in-person, on-site instruction must comply with all applicable requirements listed in the Guidance, including as it may be amended in the future.

3. Each School must make their health and safety plan available (a) online at a permanent URL and (b) in hard copy upon request to all personnel working on site and to the parent(s) and guardian(s) of students in the School. Also, each School must provide a copy of the Health and Safety Plan and evidence of its implementation to any authority enforcing this Directive upon demand.

4. Schools must comply with the following requirements with respect to testing:

   a. Symptomatic Testing

      i. If any adults based in a School facility, including but not limited to teachers, staff, paraprofessionals, contracted janitorial staff, security, therapists, aides, essential volunteers, interns, and student teachers (“School-Based Adults”) have symptoms of COVID-19, the School must send that person home in compliance with the procedures set forth in the TK-12 Guidance. The person must not be allowed to return to the School until the relevant criteria set forth in SFDPH’s guidance on “Ending Isolation or Returning to Work

   (PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTIVE)

DATE OF DIRECTIVE: July 16, 2021
for Those Who Have Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19” are satisfied. (The guidance is available at https://www.sfcdcp.org/rtw.) It is strongly recommended that the person be tested as soon as possible for COVID-19.

Schools must take all steps necessary to ensure the School receives the results of these tests promptly. Schools must immediately (within one hour of learning of the result) report any positive or inconclusive test result to the SFDPH Schools and Childcare Response Team: call 628-217-7499 or email cases.schools@sfdph.org (please put “SECURE” in the subject line).

ii. If any student has symptoms of COVID-19, the School must send that student home in compliance with the procedures set forth in the TK-12 Guidance. The student must not be allowed to return to the School until the relevant criteria set forth in SFDPH’s “Quick Guide for Schools, Childcares, and Programs for Children and Youth” are satisfied (available at https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/ig/COVID-19-QuickGuide-Suspected-Confirmed-COVID-Schools-Childcares-Programs.pdf). It is strongly recommended that the student be tested as soon as possible for COVID-19. Schools must require parents or guardians to inform the School immediately (within one hour of learning of the test result) if their child tests positive or has an inconclusive test result and to provide documentation of the positive or inconclusive result within 48 hours. Schools must immediately (within one hour of learning of the test result) report any positive or inconclusive test result to the SFDPH Schools and Childcare Response Team: call 628-217-7499 and email cases.schools@sfdph.org.

b. General Requirements

i. The School must share information about testing with SFDPH as required by this Directive and as requested by SFDPH at any time while this Directive is in effect. Such information may include and is not limited to information about attendance, contact information, health information, employment information (for School-Based Adults), and any other information related to this Directive required by SFDPH. The disclosure of any confidential information under this subsection is limited to the minimum necessary for public health purposes as determined by SFDPH, and any such information that is confidential must be protected by SFDPH as required by law.

ii. All Testing must be done using tests that are authorized by the United States Food and Drug Administration or by the California Department of Public Health.

iii. Testing results, including but not limited to the Testing Log, are considered confidential health information of staff and students, and must be handled accordingly. For example, Schools can consider the following measures:
City and County of San Francisco
Department of Public Health
Health Officer Directive

Health Officer Directive No. 2020-33h

• If test results are to be faxed to the School, the fax machine must be placed in a private, secure area;

• Hard copy documentation must be kept in a secure location, such as a locked file cabinet behind a locked door, and must not be left unsecured while unattended;

• Electronic information must be stored on password-protected computers; and

• Any electronically-stored information must not be maintained in a cloud-based system that is located outside the United States.

iv. The School must maintain the confidentiality of information about testing results of School-Based Adults and students, and may only share such information as allowed or required by law.

v. In relation to reporting test results for School-Based Adults or students, the School must provide all information requested by SFDPH.

vi. The School must comply with SFDPH requirements regarding reporting of metrics as stated in “SFDPH Reporting Metrics” (available at https://www.sfdph.org/dph/covid-19/schools-education.asp).

5. Each School must cooperate with SFDPH by working and collaborating with SFDPH, and otherwise following the direction of SFDPH, in relation to the School and the subject matter of this Directive. Such cooperation includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

• Submitting a “List of Close Contacts of a Positive Covid-19 Case” (available at http:\www.sfdph.org\dph\files\ig\TEMPLATE-School-Contact-Tracing.docx) to the SFDPH Schools and Childcare Hub via email (cases.schools@sfdph.org) within 24 hours of learning of a positive COVID-19 case;

• Promptly taking and responding to telephone calls, emails, and other inquiries and requests by representatives of SFDPH;

• Allowing SFDPH personnel on-site without advance notice;

• Responding to all SFDPH requests for information in a timely manner;

• Communicating with School-Based Adults, students, and their parent(s) or guardian(s) as directed by SFDPH; and

• Taking immediate action as required by SFDPH in the event of an outbreak or other time-sensitive situation that poses a risk to the health and safety of students, School-Based Adults, or the community.

6. Schools must advise all students and School-Based Adults that, unless they meet criteria set forth in SFDPH’s “Quick Guide for Schools, Childcares, and Programs
for Children and Youth” to be exempted from quarantine, they must notify the school and stay home if any household member or other close contact has a positive or inconclusive COVID-19 test or was otherwise diagnosed with COVID-19 by a healthcare provider. School-Based Adults and students may return to school when the relevant criteria set forth in SFDPH’s “Quick Guide for Schools, Childcares, and Programs for Children and Youth” are satisfied (available at https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/ig/COVID-19-QuickGuide-Suspected-Confirmed-COVID-Schools-Childcares-Programs.pdf). It is strongly recommended that unvaccinated individuals get tested for COVID-19 six days after their last close contact with the person with COVID-19.

7. This Directive may be revised by the Health Officer, through revision of this Directive or another future directive or order, as conditions relating to COVID-19 require, in the discretion of the Health Officer. All Schools must stay updated regarding any changes to this Directive by checking the Department of Public Health website (www.sfdph.org/healthorders; www.sfdph.org/directives) regularly.

Where a conflict exists between this Directive and any state, local, or federal public health order related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the most restrictive provision controls. Failure to carry out this Directive constitutes an imminent threat and menace to public health, constitutes a public nuisance, and is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

Susan Philip, MD, MPH, Date: July 16, 2021
Health Officer of the
City and County of San Francisco
Guidance for TK-12 Schools for In-Person, On-Site Instruction
for School Year 2021-2022

July 16, 2021

This guidance was developed by the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) for local use. It will be posted at https://sfcdcp.org/school

AUDIENCE: Public, private, and parochial TK-12 schools in San Francisco. Transitional kindergarten (TK) programs that are not part of an elementary school should refer to SFDPH guidance for Programs for Children and Youth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary of Changes since the 5/20/2021 Version</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major revisions are highlighted throughout the document in blue color.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Updated to align with the CDC and CDPH TK-12 Guidance for school year 2021-2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>o Schools should prioritize a full return to in-person learning for all grades at full capacity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>o Everyone must wear facemasks indoors at schools, even if fully vaccinated.</td>
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<td>o Updated testing recommendations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>o Physical distancing and cohorting are not required. These two measures are lower priority than other prevention strategies such as face coverings and ventilation that allow for a full return to in-person instruction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>o Unvaccinated masked students with close contact to another masked student with COVID-19 may continue to attend school with testing (modified quarantine).</td>
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<tr>
<td>• A “What’s Allowed” section has been added.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Mitigation for wildfire smoke and poor air quality has been added to the Ventilation section.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PURPOSE: To help TK-12 schools understand health and safety practices needed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 for in-person instruction.

BACKGROUND: Given the important health and education benefits of in-person learning and the knowledge gained since the start of the COVID-19 epidemic, our priority must be to ensure a safe and smooth transition back to in-person learning for all students in San Francisco. By layering effective prevention strategies, schools can reduce the risk of COVID-19 and provide in-person instruction safely for staff and students. Effective prevention strategies include vaccination, masking indoors, ventilation, hand hygiene, physical distancing, and testing.

The recommendations below are based on the most up to date science available, and incorporate the current, lower levels of COVID-19 transmission and high vaccination rates in San Francisco. They are subject to change as new knowledge emerges, local community transmission changes, or as the percentage of staff and students who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 increases. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) will continue to assess conditions on an ongoing basis, and will determine no later than November 1, 2021, whether to update mask requirements or recommendations. SFDPH will continue to assess local conditions in addition to responding to any changes in CDPH's guidance.
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Key Messages

- As of July 9, 2021, ~75% of eligible San Franciscans are fully vaccinated. COVID-19 vaccination of staff, eligible children, and household members is one of the most effective ways to decrease the risk of COVID-19 in TK-12 schools. Vaccinated adults and teenagers help protect younger children who are not yet eligible for vaccination.

- Over the past year, we have learned the importance of in-person learning to students’ physical and mental health, as well as their learning. Because of the importance of in-person learning to students’ health, the measures used to prevent the spread of COVID-19 must balance and prioritize students’ access to safe and full in-person instruction and to keep them in school as much as possible, limiting unnecessary missed days at school.

- The risk of transmission in school is low. Schools provide layers of prevention, in a structured, supervised setting where everyone must follow precautions to prevent COVID-19. As a result, the risk of COVID-19 in schools is often lower than less supervised settings outside of school. There were less than five cases of COVID transmission in San Francisco schools with in-person learning among 48,000 students and teachers during the last school year, including during the height of our winter surge. SFDPH recommends that parents and caregivers with concerns consult with their child’s doctor before deciding not to send their child to school.

Procedures and Protocols

Apply to Reopen

*Schools must apply and be approved by SFDPH to reopen.*

- Submit an application to SFDPH Schools Hub. For more information, email Schools Hub at schools-childcaresites@sfdph.org.

Establish COVID-19 health and safety protocols

- Designate a COVID-19 staff or liaison to be the single point of contact at each site for questions, concerns, or exposures. This person will also serve as a liaison to SFDPH.

- Create a Health and Safety Plan describing what your school will do to follow the requirements in this guidance and any relevant Health Directives or Orders.
  - Share your plan on your website and with staff, families, and other members of your community.

- Establish written protocols for what your school will do if someone at school is exposed to COVID-19, has symptoms of COVID-19, and/or tests positive for COVID-19. This can be part of your Health and Safety Plan.


Required Signs

Programs must post the following signs, available here in different sizes and colors:

- Post at all public entrances: **Best practices for COVID-19 prevention**
- Post in staff break rooms and other staff areas: **Get Vaccinated, SF!**
Strategies to prevent the spread of COVID-19

Promote COVID-19 vaccination.

- Encourage COVID-19 vaccination for staff, volunteers, students old enough to be vaccinated, and family members.
- Limit non-essential visitors who are not fully vaccinated, including volunteers and activities involving external groups, as required by CDPH.

Wear face masks indoors.

*Face masks can keep infection from spreading, by trapping respiratory droplets and aerosols before they can travel through the air. Face masks promote safety and in-person learning by reducing the need for physical distancing. They are an essential prevention strategy in indoor spaces that include anyone unvaccinated against COVID-19.*

For this guidance, *face masks* includes cloth face coverings that cover the mouth and nose. Face masks must not have an exhalation valve.

- Face masks are required indoors for TK-12 students, with exemptions per CDPH face mask guidance, even if when fully vaccinated for COVID-19. Adults in TK-12 school settings are required to mask when sharing indoor spaces with students regardless of vaccine status.
- Face masks are not required outdoors.
- Persons exempted from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition, must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it.
- In limited situations where a face covering cannot be used for pedagogical or developmental reasons, (e.g., communicating or assisting young children or those with special needs) a face shield with a drape (per CDPH guidelines) can be used instead of a face covering while in the classroom as long as the wearer maintains physical distance from others. Staff must return to wearing a face covering outside of the classroom.
- Keep a supply of face masks for people who forget to bring their own.
- If students refuse to wear a face mask and do not have a medical exemption, schools are not required to exclude them from in-person learning. Per CDPH, if schools choose to exclude these students, they must develop and implement protocols to enforce the mask requirements. Additionally, schools should offer alternative educational opportunities for students who are excluded from campus because they will not wear a face covering.

Exemptions to face masks

- For exemptions to face masks, see CDPH Face Mask guidance and CDPH TK-12 guidance.
- When there are no students present, staff may follow Cal/OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS) on face masks.
Improve ventilation and use outdoor spaces.

*Increasing indoor air circulation lowers the risk of infection by “diluting” any infectious respiratory droplets with outdoor air. Being outside is even lower risk.*

**Outdoor spaces**
- Do as many activities outside as possible, especially snacks/meals and exercise.

**Indoor spaces**

*Good ventilation decreases the number of respiratory droplets in the air by replacing indoor air with fresh, uncontaminated air and/or filtering infectious droplets out of the air. It is another important measure to prevent COVID-19 transmission indoors.*

- During wildfires or other times when air quality is poor, prioritize maintaining healthy air quality indoors. Your school may remain open even if you need to close your windows or decrease outdoor air intake by your ventilation system during these times. Continue other precautions, especially wearing face masks. Portable air cleaners (HEPA filters) can be helpful.

Review [SFDPH Ventilation Guidance](https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/ig/Guidance-Shared-Outdoor-Spaces.pdf). General recommendations include:
- Open windows to increase natural ventilation with outdoor air when health and safety allow. When possible, consider also leaving room doors slightly open to promote flow of outdoor air through the indoor space.
- If open windows pose a risk of falls for children, use window locks to keep windows from opening more than 4 inches, or other safety devices to prevent falls.
- Do not prop or wedge open fire doors. Continue to follow fire and building safety requirements.
- If your building has an HVAC system (also called mechanical ventilation, forced air, or central air),
  - Have your HVAC system checked by a professional to make sure that it is working properly.
  - Open outdoor air dampers and close recirculation dampers (“economizers”). This will maximize the amount of outdoor air that the HVAC system takes in and minimize the amount of indoor air that is recirculated.
  - If you can use higher-efficiency air filters without reducing airflow or damaging your HVAC system, use air filters rated MERV13 or better.
  - Disable “demand-control ventilation controls” so fans keep running even when a room doesn’t need to be heated or cooled.
  - If your HVAC system has a timer, set it to run at least 1-2 hours before the building opens until 2-3 hours after everyone has left the building, including custodial staff.
- If your school uses fans, adjust the direction of fans so that air does not blow from one person’s space to another’s space.
- Consider portable air cleaners (“HEPA filters”).

For more information, see:
- [www.sfcdcp.org/COVID-ventilation](http://www.sfcdcp.org/COVID-ventilation)
Stay home when sick. *Asking people about symptoms after they arrive is not very effective in keeping COVID-19 out of programs. It is more important to tell people to stay home if they are sick.*

Make sure that staff, volunteers, students, and families know the symptoms of COVID-19. Tell people who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as influenza (flu) or COVID-19, to stay home and consult their healthcare provider for testing and care.

- Give a list of COVID-19 symptoms to staff, volunteers, students, and families. Make sure they know to stay home when sick. **Schools do not have to confirm that people have reviewed the form each day or collect responses to the questions.**
  - Staff, Contractors, Volunteers: [SFDPH Sample Personnel Screening Form](https://sfcdcp.org/school)
  - Parents, caregivers, or other adults: [SFDPH Sample Screening Form for Non-Personnel](https://sfcdcp.org/school)
  - Students: [For Parents and Guardians: COVID-19 Symptom and Exposure Check](https://sfcdcp.org/school)
- Encourage family members of students and staff to get tested promptly if they have symptoms of COVID19. This will lower the risk of infection spreading to people in your school.
- SFDPH does not recommend temperature checks.

Encourage staff, children and youth who are not fully vaccinated for COVID-19 to follow CDC guidelines for quarantine and testing after travel.


**Testing staff and students**

*Testing is most useful when people are more likely to be infected, for example, after close contact to someone with COVID-19, with higher-risk activities like indoor sports, and when community levels of COVID-19 are high or rising rapidly. Testing is less useful when the chance of infection is very low, for example, for people who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19, with low-risk activities like classroom instruction, and when community levels of COVID-19 are low.*

CDPH has updated the 2021-22 school year guidance to include [testing considerations at K-12 schools](https://sfcdcp.org/school). There are different levels of testing for consideration. Given San Francisco’s experience in routine testing of asymptomatic children resulting in low yield of positive tests, but at times ‘false positives’ (which is a positive COVID-19 test when in fact you do not have COVID-19) SFDPH has determined the best path forward for our city specifically, at this time.

- SFDPH does not recommend routine testing of the following groups:
  - Staff and students who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and have no symptoms.
  - Staff or students who have had COVID-19 in the last 3 months, confirmed by a lab test.
  - Students without COVID-19 symptoms or known exposures.
• SFDPH continues to recommend testing for the following groups:
  • People with symptoms of COVID-19 regardless of vaccination status.
  • Close contacts of persons with COVID-19 who are not fully vaccinated and have not had COVID-19 in the last 3 months.
• For information about required testing for San Francisco schools, see Health Officer Directive No. 2020-33 at https://www.sfdph.org/directives

Hand hygiene: Follow pre-COVID protocols.
• Teach and reinforce washing hands, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff.
• Promote hand washing throughout the day, especially before and after eating, after using the toilet, and after handling garbage, or removing gloves.
• 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: Follow pre-COVID protocols unless there is a COVID-19 case.
Routine disinfection to prevent COVID-19 is no longer recommended for schools. Surfaces are not a significant route of transmission.
  • In general, cleaning once a day is usually enough to sufficiently remove potential virus that may be on surfaces.
  • Paper-based materials like books and magazines do not need cleaning between uses.
  • Outdoor playgrounds do not need cleaning and disinfection between groups.
• CDPH recommends additional disinfection only after a confirmed COVID-19 case:
  • If a facility has had a sick person with COVID-19 within the last 24 hours, clean AND disinfect the spaces occupied by that person during that time.

For more information, see https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html

Cohorting is not required.
A cohort is a small, stable group with the same staff and children each day. Keeping people in cohorts lowers their exposure risk by limiting the number of people they interact with. It is less important when community transmission is low.

Cohorting is no longer required. SFDPH does not recommend cohorting if it will limit full enrollment for in-person learning. Schools should prioritize full enrollment over strict cohorting.
  • Staff and volunteers may work with more than one class or group.
  • There is no maximum group or class size.
• To reduce the number of people who may need to quarantine in the setting of an exposure, consider ways to track who is within 0-6 feet of others unmasked each day. Examples include assigned seating or recording who is next to each other when unmasked for meals and snacks.

Physical distancing is not required.

Physical distancing decreases the risk of COVID-19 from respiratory droplets. Physical distancing is less important in settings where people wear face masks, vaccination rates are high, and spread of COVID-19 is low.

Physical distancing is no longer required. Because of the importance of in-person learning, CDC, CDPH, and SFDPH do not recommend physical distancing if it will limit full enrollment. Schools that opt to use physical distancing to further reduce COVID-19 risk should:

• Prioritize full enrollment over physical distancing.
• Balance distancing with students’ developmental and socio-emotional needs.
• Consider strategic use of physical distancing for higher-risk activities, for example:
  o During dance, exercise or singing.
  o When unvaccinated children are not wearing masks, for example, during meals.
• In many cases, moving higher-risk activities (such as band, exercise, etc.) outside will reduce COVID-19 risk more than distancing indoors.

Specific Situations

Transportation

Since vehicles are small, enclosed spaces that do not allow physical distancing, they are higher risk of COVID-19 transmission. Biking and walking are lower risk than shared vehicles.

• Carpools and shared rides
  o Tell staff and families to try to carpool with the same stable group of people.
  o Open windows and turn the fan on high, set to outdoor air.
  o Treat the vehicle as an indoor space: everyone in the vehicle should wear a face mask.
• Program Buses and Vans
  o Face masks are required for everyone riding the bus, including drivers. Bus drivers should carry a supply of face coverings in case a student forgets theirs.
  o Maximize space between people from different households who have not been vaccinated for COVID-19.
  o Keep vehicle windows open when weather and safety permit.
  o Disinfection for COVID-19 not needed unless someone with COVID-19 has used the bus within the last 24 hours.
  o Symptom and exposure screening are not required, as home-based monitoring is now required.
• Walking School Buses
• Prioritize pedestrian safety.
• Keep a record of staff and students on the walking school bus each day.
• Outdoor equipment such as walking ropes do not need additional cleaning. Instead, have children and staff wash or sanitize their hands before touching the equipment.

Public transit
• Everyone must wear face masks while riding public transit or in transit stations (train stations, subway stations), even if they are fully vaccinated, as required by San Francisco’s Safer Return Together order, CDPH and CDC.

Meals and snacks
*Eating together is higher-risk for COVID-19 transmission because people must remove their face masks to eat. Children often eat with their hands and people often touch their mouths with their hands while eating. In addition, meals are usually considered time for talking together, which further increases risk, especially if people must speak loudly to be heard.*

• Eat outdoors when space and weather allow.
• Space unvaccinated students out when eating. Consider assigned seating during meals to keep track of close contacts during unmasked periods.
• For food service such as cafeterias, clean frequently touched surfaces. Surfaces that come in contact with food should be washed, rinsed, and sanitized before and after meals.
• Meals do not need to be individually plated or bagged.
• Consider starting lunch with silent eating time, followed by conversation time, to discourage talking while face coverings are off.

Students receiving special services
• Do not exclude students because of medical conditions that may increase their risk of severe COVID-19. Let the student’s medical team and family decide if it’s safe for them to attend.
• Do not limit access to essential staff that are not school employees, such as direct service providers, occupational therapists or physical therapists. Schools can ensure compliance with school visitor policies.
• Provide accommodations and related services for special education, learning disabilities and medical conditions.
• Additional accommodations may be needed for students to safely attend class. For example, students may need additional supervision and support around face masks or handwashing.
• When students are unable to attend school due to COVID-19 infection or exposure, consider remote video sessions for therapy.
Frequently Asked Questions: What’s allowed

- Parents and caregivers may enter the building for pick-up and drop-off, even if they are not fully vaccinated for COVID-19.
- Therapists who are not employees but provide direct services to children onsite, such as ABA providers, occupational therapists, and physical therapists should be allowed to provide services. Providers should also be allowed on-site for vision, hearing, and dental screening.
- Festivals, performances and other events that involve families; tours; and open houses are allowed if all participants are fully vaccinated. If indoors, all participants must wear face coverings. Keep a log of all persons who attend. This will be helpful if someone at an event, tour or open house later tests positive for COVID-19.
- Drinking fountains can be used.
- Students can share toys, computers, books, games, play areas, and area rugs.
- All restrictions on field trips have been removed. You can go on field trips to outdoor or indoor destinations. You may use shared vehicles or public transportation following the same policies and guidance outlined in this document.
- You may resume fire drills.
- Sports, dance, exercise, wind-instruments, singing, and chanting continue to be allowed. These activities continue to be higher-risk for COVID-19 because people breathe more air and breathe more forcefully when doing these activities. **Masks must be worn indoors for all activities.**
  - As of now, at sports and extracurricular activities, prevention strategies remain important for those who are not fully vaccinated and should comply with school day policies. People who are not fully vaccinated should continue to wear masks and keep distancing during these activities.

What to do when someone has COVID-19 symptoms or confirmed COVID-19

When staff or students become sick at school

- Staff who become sick at work must notify their supervisor and leave work as soon as they can.
- Send sick students home. Keep students who are waiting to be picked up in a designated isolation space. Make sure that they keep their face masks on.
- When a parent or guardian arrives to pick up a student, have the student walk outside to meet them, if possible, instead of allowing the parent or guardian into the building. The parent or guardian may also have COVID-19, since children are most often infected by an unvaccinated adult in their home.
See the Quick Guide for Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 for steps to take. The San Francisco Isolation and Quarantine Directives (available at www.sfdph.org/directives) detail what to do if someone at school has COVID-19 symptoms, has a close contact (see Box below) to someone with COVID-19, or tests positive for COVID-19.

- The Quick Guide with translations has a summary chart of these requirements. It also lists steps to take if your school has a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- SFDPH staff will work with schools on case management and provide input on next steps, including isolation, quarantine, and outbreak management.
- Per AB 86 (2021) and California Code Title 17, section 2500, schools are required to report COVID-19 cases to SFDPH at cases.schools@sfdph.org.

Returning to school after COVID-19 symptoms, exposure, or a positive test

- For SFDPH criteria for children return to schools, see: https://sfdpd.org/dph/COVID-19/Schools-Returning.asp
- CDPH now allows a modified quarantine for students (see Box below) who are exposed to another student with COVID-19 at school. This is because of the low risk of spread of COVID-19 between students in TK-12 schools, even when community levels of COVID-19 have been high, and the importance of minimizing days missed from school.

Close contact to COVID-19 and Modified Quarantine in TK-12 Schools

A close contact is someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15 minutes or more over 24 hours (for example, three individual 5-minute periods over the course of a day) while the infected person was contagious.

People who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 or have had COVID-19 in the last 3 months do not have to quarantine after close contact as long as they do not have symptoms.

Per CDPH guidance, there is a modified quarantine for unvaccinated TK-12 students who have close contact at school. They can continue to attend school if:

- Both the student and the infected person wore face masks consistently and correctly;
- The student continues to appropriately mask, as required;
- The student gets tested for COVID-19 twice a week during the Quarantine period; and
- The student does not develop any COVID-19 symptoms that are new or unexplained by another condition.

Students must not participate in extracurricular activities such as sports until their quarantine period ends. Please see CDPH guidance for more information: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/K-12-Guidance-2021-22-School-Year.aspx

This exception does not apply to adult-to-adult transmission in the classroom. Please follow local Isolation and Quarantine Guidance for adults.
Resources

San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH)

- **SFDPH Schools and Childcare Hub** for COVID19 consultation and guidance
  (628) 2177499 or cases.schools@sfdph.org

- COVID19 guidance for the public, including employers
  [https://www.sfcdcp.org/covid19](https://www.sfcdcp.org/covid19)

- COVID19 guidance for schools at [https://sfcdcp.org/school](https://sfcdcp.org/school)
  “Quick Guide for Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19”
  “Parent Handout: Symptom and Exposure Check/Returning to School after Symptoms”

- Outreach Toolkit for Coronavirus. [https://sf.gov/outreachtoolkitcoronavirusCOVID19](https://sf.gov/outreachtoolkitcoronavirusCOVID19)

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

- COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2021-22 School Year
  [https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/K-12-Guidance-2021-22-School-Year.aspx](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/K-12-Guidance-2021-22-School-Year.aspx)

- State of California Safe Schools for All
  [https://schools.covid19.ca.gov/](https://schools.covid19.ca.gov/)

- Evidence Summary: TK-6 Schools and COVID-19 Transmission (Last Updated: April 16, 2021)
  [https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Safe-Schools-for-All-Plan-Science.aspx](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Safe-Schools-for-All-Plan-Science.aspx)

- Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings
  [https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Science Brief: Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs

- CDC Guidance K-12 Schools Guidance

- Schools and Child Care Programs