



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan

Olive Grove Charter School (OGCS) is a nonclassroom-based, independent study school in which students participate in most of their instruction and complete their coursework from home. The Charter School operates five learning centers where students may meet with their supervising teacher as well as access classes and supplemental services. The learning centers remained closed for much of school year 2020-2021, with a very limited reopening for the last month of school. OGCS fully reopened its learning centers for school year 201-2022 to provide full access to a variety of in-person services to its students. OGCS maintains a fully virtual learning option for any student who is hesitant to return in person.

To date, OGCS has adopted a COVID-19 Prevention Program and we completed the COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist. Both are posted to our website at <https://olivegrovecharter.org/covid-19-safety-plan-csp/>.

The health and safety of our community is at the forefront of OGCS's careful planning for and execution of a safe return to in-person services. This plan to do so is aligned with the most recent [guidance](#) updated on January 12, 2022 by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). The guidance emphasizes the importance of widespread vaccination of all eligible members of the community, masking, and access to a robust COVID-19 testing program.

To that end, OGCS will implement the following measures to ensure a safe return to in-person services. This plan will be modified or adjusted as necessary to adapt to evolving public health conditions and corresponding State and County guidance and requirements. This plan may be superseded by such guidance/requirements, until the time the plan itself can be reviewed and modified.

Universal and correct wearing of masks

- All individuals, staff, other adults, and students, will be required to wear masks indoors until the time it is no longer recommended/required to do so.
- 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, if their condition permits it.
- Masks will be provided to students/staff members who inadvertently fail to bring a face covering to the learning center.
- Students who will not or cannot wear a mask will be excluded from entering the learning center. These individuals will be provided virtual supports comparable to those available in the learning center.

Physical distancing

- Even though recent evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented, OGCS will implement minimal physical distancing measures, to prevent overcrowding of our indoor spaces.
- To be able to control the number of people present in the learning centers at any given time, students will be required to sign up to attend. Staff will facilitate the sign-up process.
- Students and staff will maintain approximately three (3) feet distance from one another, when physically possible.
- Chairs will be spaced at least 3 feet apart to accommodate physical distancing.
- The number of individuals present in the learning center at any given time will be limited to allow greater air flow and increased ability to physically distance.
- Due to the proximity of individuals riding in a vehicle and the nature of the enclosed space, at this time school vehicles will not be used to transport students. The use of school vehicles and associated

protocols will continue to be evaluated.

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

- Sinks and soap are readily available and hand sanitizer stations are set up throughout the learning center.
- Staff will reinforce hand washing/sanitizing routines through modeling behaviors and tutorials.
- Staff will teach and reinforce respiratory etiquette including avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes.
- To assist with hand washing/sanitizing routines and respiratory etiquette, signs are posted at entry and throughout the learning center.

Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities

- Daily cleaning of surfaces using disinfectants will occur whenever individuals are present in the learning center.
- If there was a sick person with COVID-19 in the learning center within the last 24 hours, the spaces occupied by that person will be specifically cleaned and disinfected.

Contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine

Contact tracing

- In an effort to assist with contract tracing should the need arise, all students and visitors must sign in and sign out when accessing the learning center.
- Record will be kept of staff members onsite at any given time.
- OGCS will report COVID-19 cases to the local public health department.
- A designated COVID-19 liaison will assist the local health department with contact tracing and investigation.

Isolation and quarantine

- Pre-Screening for symptoms at home
 - Students and staff will be instructed to complete a [home-based screening](#) process prior to leaving their home to go to the learning center
 - Students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as [influenza](#) (flu) or [COVID-19](#), should stay home and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- For students, OGCS will adhere to the most current guidance provided by the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department (SBPHD) and the Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO). At the time of this review, this includes SBPHD's January 26, 2022 version of the [Protocols for Symptoms, Close Contacts, and COVID-19 Cases: Students in School Settings](#), and SBCEO's [COVID Protocols](#).
 - Visit <https://publichealthsb.org/school-health/> for the most up to date SBPHD protocols for schools.
- For staff, OGCS will adhere to a combination of CDPH's current [Guidance on Isolation and Quarantine](#), Cal/OSHA's [COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards \(ETS\)](#), and SBCEO's [COVID Protocols](#).

Diagnostic and screening testing

- OGCS will provides at-home COVID-19 test kits to students and staff while supplies last.
- OGCS has partnered with Aptitude Clinical Diagnostics to provide convenient testing in the community to students and staff with no out of pocket cost.

Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities

These protocols aside, the impact of vaccines on this pandemic cannot be understated. Olive Grove Charter Schools, Inc. reiterates the CDPH statement, "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." Therefore, OGCS encourages our entire professional and student community to embrace the

goal of 100% COVID-19 vaccination status among eligible members of the community.

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies

- OGCS will provide accommodations, modifications, and assistance for students, teachers, and staff with disabilities and other health care needs when implementing COVID-19 safety protocols, including:
 - Working with families to better understand the individual needs of students with disabilities;
 - Remaining accessible for students with disabilities; ensuring access to services for students with disabilities;
 - Adjusting strategies as needed;
 - A virtual option will remain available.

Coordination with State and local health officials

- Coordination with State and local health officials is of paramount importance in the safe return to in-person services.
- OGCS is in regular communication with the Santa Barbara County Education Office, and leadership stays current with local, county, State, and Federal guidance.
- Where guidance conflicts, OGCS will align with the guidance of the County’s public health department, or in the absence of such guidance, we will align with CDPH guidance.

This plan will be modified or adjusted as necessary to adapt to evolving public health conditions and corresponding State and County guidance and requirements. This plan may be superseded by such guidance/requirements, until the time the plan itself can be reviewed and modified.