
SAFE OPERATION OF SCHOOLS (INFECTIOUS DISEASE)

Sage Oak Charter Schools (“School”) adopts this COVID-19 Safe Reopening and Operations of Schools. The health and safety of all students, teachers, staff, and the school community are of primary importance. The Board of Directors of the School has broad authority to take all measures necessary to ensure the safe operation of schools, including, but not limited to, compliance with required safety regulations and guidance, implementing safety measures, distance learning, and eliminating technological disparities.

The School recognizes that the safe reopening and operation of schools must take into consideration health and safety measures provided by national, state, and local health officials, and will be largely dependent on local public health conditions. Decisions concerning school closure, whether full or partial, shall be made in consultation with local health officials and in accordance with state guidelines.

For schools to safely reopen and allow students, teachers, and staff to convene in-person services, protective measures must be taken and all staff and offices shall be required to follow recommended protocols in accordance with published regulations and guidelines required of the School’s model and workplace. Schools shall take measures to limit sources of COVID-19 or other infectious diseases.

Continuing use of face coverings shall be consistent with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and other local and state school guidelines. It is recommended that staff wear face coverings when engaging with students, staff, or community members in most indoor settings for their own protection, and to protect the health and safety of students and other staff members. Personal protective equipment (PPE) shall be required for specific job functions and distributed to staff in accordance with board policies, and laws. Upon request, students who do not have personal face coverings shall be provided with face coverings by the school at no cost. Guidelines shall be developed for the use of face coverings by all students including those with special needs and have identified medical concerns. Measures shall be taken to avoid and mitigate any unintended consequences of implementing any safety precautions.

As per Cal/OSHA regulations, the School will monitor the vaccination status of staff to support the governing of required safety protocol and in implementing required quarantine, self isolation, testing cadence, and outbreak procedures. The School will maintain the proper documentation practices to ensure confidentiality of vaccination status and will remain compliant with the monitoring of vaccination status if required by CDPH in consideration with all applicable laws.

Students and staff who exhibit signs or symptoms of COVID-19 shall self-quarantine for the prescribed number of days determined by health officials and are further prevented from participating in any in-person activity or meeting until it is medically safe for them to return. Students who are unable to meet with staff as a result of COVID-19 shall continue to receive instruction and support remotely.

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Annual notification shall be provided to parents and staff advising them of health and safety requirements to return to in-person activities. Parents, teachers, and staff shall receive training and information on COVID-19 and preventative practices. It is the policy of the Board of Directors of the School that all teachers and staff shall be responsible for ensuring adherence to the policies and safety procedures of the School for the safe operation consistent with all laws, regulations, and policies.

Website Resources:

California Department of Public Health: <https://covid19.ca.gov/education/#k-12-guidance>

California Department of Education: cde.ca.gov

California Department of Industrial Relations: dir.ca.gov