

A Management Plan to a Safe School Opening at Holy Family Grade School - Glendale, CA : SY 2021-2022 (as of 8.22.2021)

Dear **HFGS Families, Faculty, Staff, and Students,**

Please be rest assured that we shall have the following **enhanced safety protocols and prevention strategies** in place with the rising rate of the Coronavirus Delta Variant:

1. Keeping MyMedBot health screening app on a regular basis for every student, faculty, staff, and any guest(s) who enter our school premises;
2. An additional infrared thermometer checking prior to school entrance;
3. Wearing of masks indoors;
4. Encouraging vaccination for all faculty and staff; regular testing for the unvaccinated;
5. Acquiring and installing quality Air Purifiers in the classroom;
6. Continued deep sanitizing of desks and school/classroom equipment, frequent hand washing, and social distancing;
7. Keeping all cardboard, plexiglass shield protection barriers mounted on desks;
8. Pivoting to Distance Learning when another lockdown is state or nationwide mandated;

These are the assurances of the safe environment we desire to provide all our children and adults at Holy Family Grade School.

From CDCP, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – August 22, 2021

Update

Given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant, CDC has updated the guidance for fully vaccinated people. CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Children should return to full-time in-person learning in the fall with layered prevention strategies in place

Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools

Key Takeaways

- Students benefit from in-person learning, and **safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.**
- Vaccination is the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination can help schools safely return to in-person learning as well as extracurricular activities and sports.
- Due to the circulating and highly contagious Delta variant, CDC recommends universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.

- In addition to universal indoor masking, CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as screening testing.
- Screening testing, ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.
- Students, teachers, and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (e.g., using multiple prevention strategies together consistently) to protect students, teachers, staff, visitors, and other members of their households and support in-person learning.
- Localities should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies (e.g., physical distancing, screening testing).

Changes as of August 4, 2021

- Updated to recommend universal indoor masking for all students, staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.
- Added recommendation for fully vaccinated people who have a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 to be tested 3-5 days after exposure, regardless of whether they have symptoms.

Thank you and we shall keep you informed of any changes in our management plan to a safe school opening.

Dr. Suelto