

Woodland School



2022-23 COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

Overview



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We believe all members of the Woodland community have a shared responsibility to care for ourselves and others. In order to slow the spread of COVID-19, families, staff, and faculty partner with us by monitoring themselves and their family members for signs of illness at home before arriving on Woodland's campus. Please continue following all policies, procedures and recommendations. We encourage all eligible people to receive the COVID-19 vaccine once they are eligible, as well as stay current with all vaccines and immunizations.

During the 2022-23 school year, Woodland will conform to all applicable laws and Executive Orders and be guided by recommendations and expectations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), California Department of Public Health, San Mateo Health, and California Child Care Licensing, as applicable. The health and safety of our students and employees will continue to be a focal point. **This will include self-monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms, antigen testing when feeling ill, wearing a face covering indoors for 10 days following an exposure to COVID-19, antigen testing to return to school after contracting COVID-19, and antigen testing before the first day of school and after extended breaks.**

This document contains our plan to welcome students to campus during the 2022-2023 school year. Please review it carefully, as it shares policies and procedures that prioritize our community's health and safety.

2022-23 UPDATES TO WOODLAND'S COVID-19 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- ◆ Families are no longer required to complete a daily health check in Magnus.
- ◆ Woodland highly recommends wearing face coverings inside, but does not require face coverings to be worn inside except when an individual is exposed to COVID-19, at which time individuals are required to wear a face covering indoors for the 10 days following exposure.
- ◆ Woodland will rely on antigen testing instead of PCR testing per CDPH guidance.
- ◆ Woodland will not require or offer weekly on-campus PCR testing.
- ◆ Woodland will send exposure notices using group tracing. All individuals in a class will receive an exposure notice instead of contact tracing.
- ◆ Exposure notices will continue to be emailed to those impacted. All-community notices will not be sent after each positive case. Members of the community can track the School's COVID-19 positive cases on our COVID-19 dashboard in our parent portal.
- ◆ Middle School advisory will return to the mixed-grade model.
- ◆ Athletics may have mixed-grade teams.
- ◆ Visitors, including parents, grandparents, and family members may attend assemblies and all school events.

No students will be permitted to begin the school year without all required paperwork and current medical forms, including all updated immunizations.



Guiding Principles

Considerations for Woodland's COVID-19 Policies and Procedures are grounded in three guiding principles.

Health and Safety

Woodland's highest priority is the health and well-being of the community, and we recognize that we have an obligation to support the health of the broader community. We are committed to doing our very best to mitigate the risks, as outlined in this document, but we cannot guarantee that community members will not be exposed to COVID-19 while on campus.

Social and Emotional Well-being

Students have a broad range of experiences they bring to the classroom each day. Pedagogy and classroom practices will provide greater attention to student mental health and well-being to build resilience and cope with the lingering stress or anxiety students may be experiencing based on the pandemic context. Social emotional learning will continue to be thoughtfully woven into all aspects of the student experience.

Academic Excellence

We believe that children achieve their highest potential when they are in a challenging academic environment that allows them to be active, engaged learners. A continuous, in-person educational experience is vitally important to achieving this.

Woodland's COVID-19 policies and procedures must remain flexible and be able to adapt to circumstances beyond our control. They are subject to change based upon further guidance and evolving public health recommendations.

Health and Safety

Minimizing the Spread of COVID-19



Woodland is following state and local guidelines which provide direction on how to operate a school while mitigating the spread of COVID-19. We must recognize that there is no such thing as **zero risk** and we cannot guarantee a zero transmission strategy. Our goal is to mitigate risk and reduce harm. A single control strategy alone cannot prevent the transmission of a virus. But, multiple strategies together layer to create a greater chance of protection and we will take steps to limit transmission chains by using our abundant outdoor space, holding classes in our outdoor classrooms, keeping windows and doors open, running stand alone air purifiers, and continuing our health related protocols.

It is important to keep students at home if there are any signs of illness. Please let the school know if you, your child, or another member of your household tests positive for COVID-19, or if your child is exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. The CDC's list of COVID-19 symptoms, as well as additional guidance for minimizing the spread of COVID-19 can be reviewed at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.

All parents who will be interacting with students will be required to present their vaccination card at the main office.



Hand Hygiene

We know that frequent hand washing is critical to eliminate germs. We have hand sanitizer available at all entrances and in every classroom space. Students will routinely cleanse their hands throughout each day.



Face Coverings

It is highly recommended that all students and employees wear face coverings indoors at school. **If a student is exposed to COVID-19, he/she/they will be required to wear a face covering indoors for 10 days following the exposure.** Parents should send their children to school each day with a face covering in the event a child is exposed and required to wear a face covering. The school has multiple options for face coverings should one be needed throughout the day. Bandanas and gaiters are not adequate face coverings while on campus.



Vaccination

Woodland School recommends that all persons who are eligible receive the COVID-19 vaccine at the first opportunity available and that individuals eligible for a booster receive the booster. All of Woodland's employees are vaccinated.



Health and Safety

Minimizing the Spread of COVID-19

COVID-19 Testing



We believe that COVID-19 testing is important to protect our community. Per CDPH guidance, antigen testing will be our preferred COVID-19 test. Our COVID-19 testing goals are as follows:

1. All employees will antigen test when they begin their first day at Woodland in August.
2. All students will antigen test on Tuesday, August 23, at school in the Lodge between 8:00am and 3:00pm. Students must test negative before starting school on Wednesday, August 24. All families must register through Primary Health. Test results are shared with parents through Primary Health.
3. During the school year, students who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while at school will be antigen tested in the office. Students who test positive will be isolated and parents will be called to pick up their child.
4. As supplies are available, students and employees who are exposed to COVID-19 at school will receive over the counter tests to use at home on the day of the exposure and three to five days after the exposure.
5. Students who return to school after testing positive for COVID-19 between days 6-10 will be antigen tested to confirm a negative result before they are allowed to attend class.
6. Following extended breaks (Thanksgiving, Winter, Presidents' Week, etc.) Woodland will COVID-19 antigen test all students and employees.

Please note, because testing supplies may change, our plans for testing may also change.



Air Filtration

All classroom spaces have MERV-13 air filters. The ventilation system is run at a high frequency, increasing regular air exchange. Classroom windows and doors will remain open whenever possible. In addition, HEPA-filter air purifying units are in all classrooms and offices to further enhance air circulation and filtration.



Outdoor Spaces

Woodland will continue to use our spacious campus for outdoor lessons. The three outdoor classrooms and shaded amphitheater and gym patio are available throughout the day. We will continue to eat lunch and snack outside and, in the event of rain, students will eat under the overhangs.

What Happens If?

Confirmed Cases of COVID-19



Our protocol is based on the latest guidance from the Center for Disease Control, California Department of Public Health, San Mateo Health and San Mateo County Office of Education. These guidelines will continue to evolve with the latest health and safety information; we will update as needed. We have designated Jennifer Warren, Head of School, to be our COVID-19 liaison with county health officials. She will be the point of contact at Woodland for San Mateo Health regarding any COVID-19 information.

If a student, faculty, or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, we will use group tracing to identify exposed students and send notification letters promptly via email to the appropriate families and employees.

Woodland's COVID-19 tracker, available in our Parent Portal, will be updated in real time, should a student or employee contract COVID-19.

COVID-19 Reporting Requirements

IF an employee or student has a positive test result:

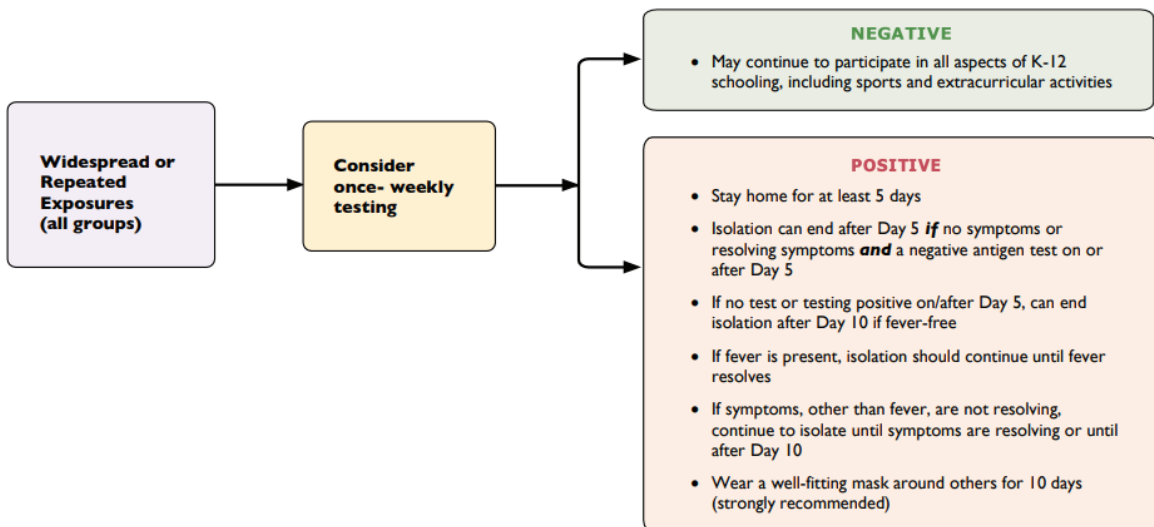
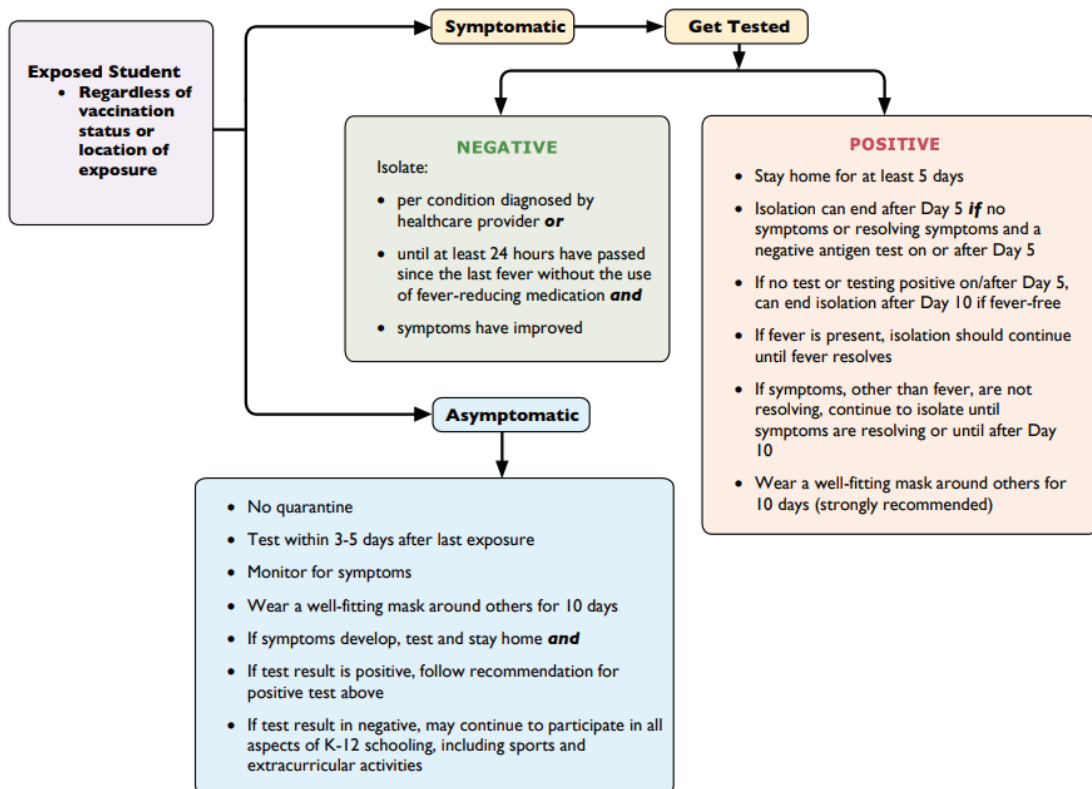
- ◆ Require that parents/guardians and staff notify school administration immediately if the student or staff tested positive for COVID-19 or if one of their household members or non-household close contacts tested positive for COVID-19.
- ◆ Upon receiving notification that staff or a student has tested positive for COVID-19 or been in close contact with a COVID-19 case, take actions as required on page 7 of this document.

For confirmed COVID-19 Case(s):

- ◆ School administrators will notify San Mateo Health immediately of any positive COVID-19 case.
- ◆ Notify all employees in the school community of any positive COVID-19 case while maintaining confidentiality as required by state and federal laws.
- ◆ Confirm all students and employees who are close contacts. Send over the counter antigen tests home with all close contacts. Require all close contacts to wear a mask inside for the 10 days following the exposure. With a positive test, students must isolate for at least 5 days after the positive test or the onset of symptoms, whichever is later, and be fever free for 24 hours post using fever reducing medication before returning to school. Students and employees returning to school between days 6-10 will be administered a COVID-19 antigen test and must test negative to remain in school. With a negative test, students may return to school when 24 hours have passed since the last fever without the use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved.
- ◆ All asymptomatic individuals who are close contacts may attend school.



COVID-19 Exposure at School



Health and Safety

Visitor Policy and Illness Policy



Visitor Policy

Visitors will be allowed on campus regardless of vaccination status. Visitors will check in at the office using VISITU and receive their visitor badge before going to their designated place on campus. Face coverings are highly recommended indoors at all times while on campus.

Illness Policy

For the health of all Woodland students and employees, please do not bring your child to school if they are ill or infectious. Should your child experience COVID-19 symptoms, please antigen test your child for COVID-19. If your child has tested negative for COVID-19, but is still unwell, your child may return to school after an illness only when they have been fever-free for 24 hours without any medication. If your child has experienced COVID-19 symptoms, please upload an image of your child's negative antigen test to Magnus once your child is symptom-free for 24 hours without medication.

Students who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms at school will be given an antigen test.

References

American Academy of Pediatrics
California Childcare Licensing
Center for Disease Control
California Department of Public Health
San Mateo Health
San Mateo County Office of Education