

Great Hearts Academies

Mitigation Plan



What follows is the Great Hearts Mitigation Plan that applies to all Arizona Network Schools. This plan has been reviewed and adopted by the Governing Board of Directors of each academy pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute (“A.R.S.”) §15-183 (E)(8).

Keeping the Virus Out

Screenings

Screening for COVID-19 symptoms or exposure is best thought of as partnership between home and the school.

Home

Screening begins at home and is the responsibility of individual families and employees. Families and employees will need to be educated on identifying the symptoms that indicate they ought to stay home and are encouraged to self-report their symptoms or their student's symptoms to a contact person at the academy. For students, the point of contact will be their regular attendance line. For employees, it will be the Headmaster or designee.

Continued Screening During the School Day

Teacher and staff will monitor students and themselves throughout the day for symptoms of COVID-19.

- If a **student** demonstrates or reports symptoms of illness, the teacher to whom they report or who observes their symptoms is to send the student to the health office for additional screening.
 - If a temperature of 100 degrees or greater is registered and/or other symptoms of illness are confirmed, the student will remain in the health office and parents will be called and asked to pick up their student from school as soon as possible.
- If an employee experiences symptom of illness throughout the day, they will likewise report to the health office for additional screening, including a temperature check.
 - If a temperature of 100 degrees or greater is registered and/or other symptoms of illness are confirmed, the employee will remain in the health office until they are ready to go home.
 - The nurse or employee will notify the Headmaster or designee that the employee will be leaving for the day.
- Students or employees who are sent home with symptoms may not return until symptoms have subsided.

Positive COVID-19 Test, COVID-19 Diagnosis	
<p><u>Isolation Guidelines:</u></p> <p>Return to school contingent upon completion of all 3:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 24 hrs fever-free w/o fever reducing meds 2. Improvement in respiratory symptoms 3. 5 days have passed since first symptoms started or 5 days from positive test if subject is asymptomatic <p>PCR and Antigen tests are accepted. Antigen Home Tests are accepted as well. Antibody tests are still not accepted. (updated 7.6.22)</p>	<p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Person who receives the notice will report the case to the school nurse. 2. The school nurse will keep a spreadsheet of all cases to include date symptoms began, date tested, return date back to school, section. 3. Close off and disinfect all non-porous surfaces asap 4. Communicate in a manner consistent with other infectious disease notifications (when two or more cases are identified in a single section within a two-week time period) and legal confidentiality requirements to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. All Faculty members if subject is a faculty member b. Families in the same section as the student/teacher c. All teachers of the student if the subject is a student 5. If Teacher/staff – determine coverage. Asymptomatic teachers may return to school, but should wear a mask for five days. 6. School Closure, section or grade level quarantines will be determined by the Great Hearts lead office Covid Response Team.
Student, Teacher, or Staff Member Exhibits Covid-19 Symptoms (Not part of a pre-existing condition such as asthma or known allergies)	
<p><u>Symptoms:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Cough -Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing -Fever -Chills -Repeated shaking with chills -Muscle pain or body aches -Headache -Sore Throat -Nausea or Vomiting 	<p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School nurse will determine if symptoms are part of a pre-existing condition such as asthma or allergies. If not, continue to step 2. 2. Symptomatic individual is immediately sent home 3. Disinfect areas that the student/teacher has been in contact with

- Diarrhea
- Fatigue
- Congestion or runny nose
- Loss of taste or smell

Isolation Guidelines- If Tested

1. If Positive:

Return to school contingent upon completion of **all 3**:

- **24 hrs** fever-free w/o fever reducing meds
- Improvement in respiratory symptoms
- **5 days** have passed since first symptoms started **or 5 days** from positive test if subject is asymptomatic

If Negative:

- Stay home and away from others until **a full 24 hours** have passed since the **fever (including chills, shakes, and body/muscle aches) has gone away** without the use of fever-reducing medications **AND the respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, sore throat, congestion or running nose, and loss of taste/smell) have fully resolved or five days have passed and respiratory symptoms have improved.**

Isolation Guidelines- If Not Tested

We understand that not everyone will have the resources to get tested every time they exhibit a symptom. We also understand that other illnesses will be passed around that have some of the same symptoms as COVID-19 such as the common cold.

2. **If not tested, but seen by a doctor, and doctor suspects COVID-19, or if symptoms are unique to COVID-19 such as loss of taste or smell see guidelines for Positive COVID-19.**
3. If not tested, and if symptoms can be attributed to some other illness as determined by the school nurse, or some

4. If teacher, determine coverage
5. Testing is not required.

<p>other health professional, return a full 24-hours after fever has resolved without fever reducing medication and all symptoms have fully resolved, or five days if respiratory symptoms are improving.</p> <p>4. Return with doctor’s note if symptoms are still present and doctor does not suspect COVID-19.</p>	
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Close Contact with Someone Who Tested Positive for Covid-19

<p><u>Isolation Guidelines:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Close contacts do not need to isolate unless symptoms develop. If mild to moderate symptoms develop, individual should return a full 24-hours after fever has resolved without fever reducing medication and all symptoms have fully resolved, or five days if respiratory symptoms are improving. 2. Return with doctor’s note if symptoms are still present and doctor does not suspect COVID-19. 3. If individual tests positive please see guidelines above for Positive Test. 4. No need to notify the school. 	<p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If subject has symptoms, see isolation guidelines. School is only responsible for tracking those students who test positive.
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International Travel

Due to new federal regulations requiring all international travelers to have a negative Covid-19 test before returning to the United States, we are no longer requiring people to quarantine upon return from international travel.

<p><u>Isolation Guidelines:</u></p> <p>None</p>	<p><u>Actions:</u></p> <p>None</p>
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3 or More Positive Cases Reported on a Campus in a 14 day Period
(Epidemiologically linked but not of the same household, not identified as close contacts from off campus, but possible contact on campus)

<p><u>Isolation Guidelines:</u></p>	<p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nurse will report to MCDHS
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<p>Individuals will be isolated according to the Guidelines above. School or grade level closures will be determined by the lead office Covid Response Team.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Communication will be sent to faculty members and families whose students are in the same section as the cases. 3. GH Covid Response Team will work with the Maricopa Health Department to monitor and determine if additional measures, such as quarantining a grade level or closing the school, are needed. The Superintendent of the region will make the call.
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Differentiation of Roles between HR and Campus COVID-19 Response Coordinator (CCRC) for Faculty Cases

If the faculty member or student is exhibiting a symptom of COVID-19(loss of taste or smell), they will be referred to the school nurse. The school nurse will determine if the symptom is part of a chronic illness such as asthma or allergies, or if there is some other reasonable explanation for the symptom (ex. pregnancy). If the school nurse cannot make a reasonable determination for the cause of the symptom, she will send the individual home and have them refer to the Incident Response Guidelines.

HR- Once HR gets notification of a positive COVID-19 case HR will give the employee instructions regarding isolation and anything else related to benefits, pay, and employment. HR will keep in contact with the employee and will determine when the employee can return to work.

Reducing the Viral Load

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Extra Day Porter Duties

Day porters will continue to perform the same daily duties for the upcoming school year, as well as additional tasks and responsibilities. These additional assignments include daily disinfecting of:

- Play structures
- Outdoor benches
- Outdoor and indoor handles/doors
- Drinking fountains
- Stair rails

And increased disinfecting of high touch areas such as:

- Multi-purpose room
- Gyms
- Front office areas
- Restrooms

An additional part-time Day Porter (where there is not one already supplied) at each school has been provided to support these responsibilities.

Cleaning Products

Classrooms will be provided with the necessary disinfecting supplies, such as approved hand sanitizer, approved antibacterial wipes or Oxiver disinfectant solution, paper towels, and/or Oxiver wipes.

Hand sanitizer stations will be provided at entrances to the buildings, the front office, near restrooms, and as designated by the Headmaster or Campus Operations Team.

The Nurse's Office will be provided with some PPE and disinfecting supplies, including face shields, kn95 face masks, latex gloves, safety glasses, approved antibacterial wipes or Oxiver wipes, and Oxiver cleaning solution, hand sanitizer, and portable non-contact thermometers.

Mask Policy

Great Hearts recognizes that parents have the right to determine if their child wears a mask when attending school in the absence of a state mandate. As long as the State of Arizona does not mandate the wearing of masks to school, parents have the option to send their child to school with or without a mask. We will not be encouraging or discouraging mask wearing, nor will we tolerate teasing or bullying against any student whether they are wearing a mask or not. We expect goodwill between those who choose to wear a mask, and those who do not.

Please note that masks may be required on tribal lands by SRPMIC which includes our Cicero campuses, and we are required to comply with reasonable SRPMIC requirements.

Handwashing and Sanitizing

Hand washing is best when it comes to prevention of illness. If hand washing is not feasible then hand sanitizer (60% and above) is the next best method.

- Students and staff will hand wash for 20 seconds prior to eating lunch and after eating lunch. It is recommended that students and staff also hand wash prior to and after snack breaks and/or lyceum breaks, and before and after recess.
- Hand washing instructions will be posted by every sink. Where possible, sinks will be set to remain on for 30 seconds, so that students and staff are not required to touch the faucet after applying soap.
- Every classroom will be stocked with hand sanitizer.
- Students and staff are to cough/sneeze into a tissue and dispose of the tissue in the wastebasket. If a tissue is not available, students and staff will cough or sneeze into their bent elbow. Signs may be placed strategically as reminders on respiratory etiquette.
- Academy-wide hygiene procedures/routines will be developed in collaboration with the academy nurse prior to the first day of school and taught the first several weeks of school in the homeroom class and reinforced by all teachers.
- Some kindergarten and first grade classrooms have shared bathrooms. Teachers will teach students to wash their hands with soap and water after using the restroom and prior to eating. (Arch/Lower)
- Day porters/custodians and teachers will sanitize high-traffic zones, e.g., doorknobs and pencil sharpeners between teaching sessions. It may be appropriate for students to help at certain grade-levels and circumstances.

Social Distancing

For each item below, recommended strategies are given for how Academies can implement the guiding principles.

Distancing

- The spacing in between desks will be increased as much as the classroom space allows, and with limited exceptions all desks will face forward.

Restrooms

Academies will design and implement consistent policies and procedures surrounding bathroom use with an eye toward limiting the number of students occupying the restroom at any given time.

- Academies will train and support students in washing their hands for 20 seconds after using the restroom and using hand sanitizer when re-entering the classroom.
- Teachers may limit the number of students they allow out of class to use the restroom to 1 boy and 1 girl at any given time.
- Lower schools may consider redesigning routines that have a whole section of students stand in line the hallway (e.g. waiting for the restroom) to minimize both the size of the group and the amount of time they are standing in the hallway.
- Academies **can, but are not required to**, permit students to use the single-occupancy restrooms (if available), if they or their parents would prefer increased social distancing while using the restroom.