

GO-NYC



Back to School Blueprint for Families and Staff

***Sherita Smith
August 2021***

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Return to Full-Time In-Person Instruction

Based on the CDC and our state and local government's recommendation, GO-NYC is prioritizing return to full-time in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year.

This document will describe the layered prevention strategies we are putting in place to keep students and staff safe.

Please note the school's policy is subject to change based on updated guidance from the federal and local government.

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Please copy Sherita Smith on all communications at ssmith@greatoakscharter.org. In the event, Chandel Smith is out of the office, this will ensure a member of the team receives your message.

1

Cleaning/Sanitization

Emphasis on high-contact surfaces and high traffic areas.

2

Good Hygiene

Soap, sanitizer, paper towels, tissues, disinfectant wipes, face coverings

3

Hand Sanitizer

Each classroom, office and common space will have hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Refills available in 2nd fl resource room.

4

Wipe Down Surfaces

Within classrooms, students and staff will wipe down surfaces at the beginning of each period.

Mandatory Screenings

Mandatory Temperature Checks: All individuals must have their temperature checked each day. If an individual presents a temperature of greater than 100.0°F, the individual must be denied entry into the facility, or sent directly to the School Nurse prior to being picked up or sent home.

Mandatory Daily Screening for Staff: All GO-NYC staff and fellows must participate in a daily screening using Clear to Go.

Periodic Questionnaire for Students: We will randomly screen a portion of our students each week using Clear to Go.

Face Coverings Requirements

Face masks are required at all times while in the building, regardless of vaccination status.

Masks Breaks

Teachers may implement mask breaks throughout the day. It's a long day and this is strongly encouraged to help our students make it through the day.

Exception for Select Students

Students who are unable to medically tolerate a mask, including students where such mask would impair their physical health or mental health are not subject to the required use of a mask.

Classroom Layout and Overall Cleanliness

Each classroom and shared space will be equipped with the following:

- Hand sanitizer
- Sanitizing wipes
- Disinfectant spray

Classroom cleanliness guidelines:

- Students must wipe down their work surface upon entering the classroom
- Each classroom and common space will be cleaned and sanitized nightly
- Breakfast & Lunch - Since most of our students will eat lunch in the classroom, surfaces must be wiped down before and after meals.

What to do if a student becomes sick at school

1. Student shows signs of COVID-19 [symptoms](#)
2. Student is sent to the School Nurse office (if the student is located on the 2nd floor, they may be sent to the school operations office where the School Nurse will meet them)
3. Staff member and/or School Nurse notifies the Operations team
4. School Nurse calls the parent/guardian and student is picked up from school
5. Operations team will clean and disinfect the area that the student occupied

Follow Up and Return to School

- The POC will follow up with the family to ensure the student gets tested.
- In order for the student to return to school, student must present a negative COVID-19 test.

What to do if a student tests positive for Covid-19

1. Student begins home isolation
2. POC begins a list of close contacts and informs families and staff of possible exposure and/or school closure
3. Student begins self-isolation
4. Student can return to school and end isolation
 - a. 10 days from the start of symptoms, AND
 - b. Fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication, AND
 - c. Symptoms have improved

Student may attend class virtually, so teachers must open their Zoom.

What to do if a staff member becomes sick at school

1. Staff member shows signs of COVID-19 [symptoms](#)
2. Staff member notifies their supervisor and POC
3. Staff member is sent home
4. Operations team will clean and disinfect the area that the staff member occupied
 - a. The area will be disinfected after 24 hours

Follow Up and Return to School

- The POC will follow up with the staff member to ensure they get tested.
- In order for the staff member to return to school, staff member must present a negative COVID-19 test.

What to do if a staff member tests positive for COVID-19

1. Staff member begins home isolation
2. POC begins a list of close contacts and informs families and staff of possible exposure and/or school closure
3. Staff member begins self-isolation
4. Staff member can return to school and end isolation
 - a. 10 days from the start of symptoms, AND
 - b. Fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication, AND
 - c. Symptoms have improved

A Close Contact Test Positive for COVID-19

You quarantine when you might have been exposed to the virus.

What to do if a close contact test positive for COVID-19

- Staff member/student notifies the POC
- Staff member/student must self-quarantine for after exposure (see guidelines below)
- Watch for fever (100.4°F), cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.

Return to School

- Vaccinated
 - 3-day quarantine (COVID-19 test must occur after the 3rd day of exposure)
 - Negative test: Return to school the next day
 - Positive test: Start 10-day quarantine from the date of the positive test
- Unvaccinated
 - 7-day quarantine (COVID-19 test must occur after the 5th day of exposure)
 - Negative test: Return to school the next day
 - Positive test: Start 10-day quarantine from the date of the positive test

Staff Vaccination & Testing Requirements

All staff must be fully vaccinated by October 15th

- Medical and Religious Exemption: We will allow for a medical or religious exemption. Exemptions will be reviewed and approved by the HR department.
- **If a staff member chooses to not get vaccinated, they will be subject to weekly COVID-19 testing** beginning the week of 10/18. Testing must be done on your own time.

All staff, regardless of vaccination status, will be subject to weekly testing if the school enters the orange zone of our school closure triggers.

- Orange zone is defined as two or more confirmed cases in different cohorts in the same grade within seven days.

[Click here to find a vaccine clinic near you.](#)

Student Vaccination Requirements

GO-NYC will not require students to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. However, we fully support the vaccine and strongly encourage everyone to get it.

There are no diagnoses or conditions that prohibit a person from being vaccinated, but certain people should consult with their doctor before getting the vaccine.

[Click here to find a vaccine clinic near you.](#)

Student COVID-19 Testing

The school will participate in the DOE's random COVID-19 testing program.

Beginning in September 2021, we expect to test 10 percent of all randomly selected students. Note that all students must submit a COVID-19 testing consent form.

This policy is subject to change per the DOE's guidelines.

Operating Principles

01

Safety First (we will take care of our staff, students and families)

02

When safe, keep us in school as much as possible

03

Stability and predictability matters

School Closure Guidelines if Students or Educators Test Positive for COVID-19

One or more confirmed cases in same cohort within seven days

- If a student tests positive, the cohort of the positive case will shift to remote learning and quarantine for 10 calendar days
- Students within the cohort will move to remote learning for 10 calendar days
- If an educator tests positive, that educator will enter self isolation per the school's recommended guidelines (students will remain in school)
- All other educators should report to school *unless* they are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms & have received a positive test result
 - A negative test result must be presented before returning to school

Two or more confirmed cases in different cohorts in the same grade within seven days

- The grade of the positive case(s) shifts to remote learning and will quarantine for 10 calendar days
- All students and teachers within exposed grade will shift to remote learning for 10 calendar days
 - If a student tests positive in 6th/7th grade, both grades will shift to remote learning for 10 days
- Specials teachers
 - Will shift to remote learning for 10 days

Four or more confirmed cases in different cohorts across different grades within seven days

- Entire school will shift to remote learning for 10 calendar days

Note: Quarantine rules apply to students in advisory, core content classes and specials.

School Closure Guidelines - Other Things to Consider

Level of Community Transmission

total new number of cases per 100,000 persons in the community within the preceding 7 days

LOW 0-9	MODERATE 10-49	SUBSTANTIAL 50-99	HIGH >100
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Percentage of Positive Cases

total new number of cases per 100,000 persons in the community within the preceding 7 days

LOW <5%	MODERATE 5-7.9%	SUBSTANTIAL 8-9.9%	HIGH >10%
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[CDC COVID-19 Tracker](#) (preferred)
[NY State COVID-19 Tracker](#)



Thank You

