



“The World Is Our Family”
A North Carolina Public Charter School

CAROLINA
International School

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COVID-19 School Re-Entry Safety Protocols

This document per the guidelines provided by the CDC and Cabarrus Health Alliance. These are safety precautions that must be adhered to; your cooperation is required.

Please review the following protocols for re-entry. We will continue to evaluate our safety protocols. We will measure the “health” of our environment each day.

Physical Distancing Guidelines

WHY Physical Distancing is Important:

Physical distancing is an important practice that helps mitigate transmission of the virus. COVID-19 spreads mainly among people who are in close contact (within about 3 feet) for a prolonged period. Spread happens when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks, and droplets from their mouth or nose are launched into the air and land in the mouths or noses of people nearby. The droplets can also be inhaled into the lungs. Recent studies indicate that people who are infected but do not have symptoms likely also play a role in the spread of COVID-19 and the new Delta variant. Since people can spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to stay at least 3 - 6 feet away from others when possible, even if you—or they—do not have any symptoms.

WHO Should Physically Distance:

- All staff and students on campus, indoors and outdoors, and during carpool
- Exception: *Additional safety precautions are required for school nurses and/or any faculty and staff supporting students in close proximity, when distance is not possible.*
- *These precautions must at a minimum include and a mask/face covering.*

WHAT is Physical Distancing:

- Social distancing, also called “physical distancing,” means keeping a safe space between yourself and other people who are not from your household.

WHEN to Physically Distance:

- Schools should aim for 3 feet of distance between individuals where feasible.
- A minimum physical distance of three feet between students is adequate when combined with the other safety measures, including the use of masks/face coverings, stable cohorts, and hand hygiene.
- Adults and adult staff within schools should attempt to maintain a distance of six feet from other persons as much as possible, particularly around other adult staff.

- 3 feet of physical distancing is required for students while eating lunch, as students will be unable to wear masks at that time.
- Attention to physical distancing should include when students are moving throughout the school, such as in hallways between class periods and on sidewalks entering and exiting vehicles

Disinfection Guidelines

Why Disinfecting and PPE will keep our classrooms as sanitized as possible. This should not be regarded as a suggestion but should take place each day. Each classroom is supplied with PPE equipment and should use the classroom bag, extra masks, cleaner or wipes, and hand sanitizer as often as needed.

Who Each teacher should wipe down tables and desks with each class change. A cleaning crew will clean rooms nightly. Please report to Mr. Harris if your classroom has not been cleaned and trash has not been emptied. Coverall Cleaning will perform the nightly cleaning.

What Disinfecting of each classroom, restroom, and larger areas will be cleaned using a disinfecting solution recommended by the CDC and CHA. Cleaning crews will use high grade disinfectant and hydro electrostatic sprayers/ sanitization equipment.

When Teachers and staff will clean surfaces after each class change or break using PPE materials provided. Each classroom should be equipped with hand sanitizer. A professional cleaning company has been contracted to perform nightly cleaning of each classroom, restrooms and larger areas including surfaces, floors and trash.

Handwashing Guidelines

WHY Handwashing is Important:

Frequent hand hygiene reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19 by removing pathogens from the surface of the hands.

WHO Should Handwash:

- Everyone!
- No exceptions!

WHAT are Best Practices for Handwashing:

- All students and staff should wash their hands using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Dry hands with disposable paper towels when possible.
- Handwashing is the best option. When handwashing is not practicable, use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Apply hand sanitizer to all surfaces of the hands and in enough quantity that it takes 20 seconds of rubbing hands together for the sanitizer to dry.
- Remind students to avoid touching their face or face coverings.

WHEN to Hand Wash:

- Upon arrival to school
- Before and after eating. *After eating, the mask is put back on, and then hand hygiene should be done.*
- After using the restroom
- Whenever hands are visibly soiled
- Before and after using shared materials or playground equipment
- Before putting on and taking off masks
- Before dismissal
- Upon entering and exiting a vehicle during carpool

Mask Guidelines

WHY Wear a Mask:

As the primary route of transmission for COVID-19 is respiratory, masks/face coverings are among the most critical components of risk reduction. Face coverings help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people or surfaces when the person wearing the face covering coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice.

WHO Should Wear a Mask:

- All staff and students on campus and during carpool
- Staff and students will provide their own masks but CIS will have extras on hand in the event one is forgotten or one becomes wet or soiled. *Masks/face coverings should be replaced when soiled or wet. If the mask/face covering becomes soiled, remove and safely discard disposable masks, or store reusable face coverings in a sealed container or plastic bag for laundering. Perform hand hygiene after changing a soiled mask/face covering.*
- Exception - **those who can't for medical/behavioral reasons.** Face shields may be an alternative for those students with documented medical or behavioral challenges who are unable to wear masks/face coverings. The same applies to staff with documented medical or other health reasons for being unable to wear face coverings. Face shields worn in place of a face covering must extend below the chin and back to the ears. The district will be requiring a doctor's note for students and staff who cannot wear a mask.

WHAT Type of Mask:

- Please make sure the mask:
 - fits snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
 - completely covers the nose and mouth
 - is secured with ties or ear loops
 - includes multiple layers of fabric
 - allows for breathing without restriction
 - can be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape
- Masks with exhalation valves and neck gaiters/buffs will not be allowed at school

WHEN to Wear a Mask:

- Anytime indoors
- While waiting in carpool
- Anytime outdoors when 6' space cannot definitely be maintained
- Exception: masks can be taken off only as needed or as necessary for eating:
 - When masks are off: *Masks/face coverings may be removed during mealtime and outdoor activities where students and staff can maintain at least 3 feet of physical distancing from others and have ready access to put them back on as needed when activity stops. **Teachers should use our Environmental focus to teach classes outside, when applicable, and to provide additional mask breaks.***
- Students may take masks off to eat or drink, as long as they are at least 3' apart
- Store masks safely and appropriately when not being worn

Resource: <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/164/open>

Thank you for your support and the care of our students,

Donna Harkey

Interim Head of School

K. Young

Principal K – 12