



Downtown Academy Pandemic Policies

2021-2022

Protocols and Quarantine Guidelines

STAY HOME WHEN SICK - WASH HANDS OFTEN

PROTOCOLS

- Face Coverings
- Social Distancing
- Volunteers & Visitors
- Enhanced Precautions
- Afterschool and Co-Curricular Activities
- Contact Tracing/Quarantines
- Distance Learning



FACE COVERINGS

Using the CDC's [COVID-19 Community Level](#) tool for helping evaluate and rate the strain that the virus is having on specific communities, face covering requirements at DtA will change based on Clarke County's rating.

LOW

- PERMITTED but not required

MEDIUM

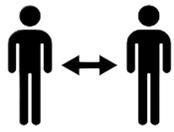
- RECOMMENDED for individuals who are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease
- RECOMMENDED for individuals in regular close contact with someone who is at high risk for severe disease

HIGH

- REQUIRED for everyone in all indoor spaces including the bus

At all levels, people can wear a mask based on personal preference. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

Mask exemptions shall only be granted when parents/guardians provide a physician's note explaining the medical reason for the mask exemption. Once the exception is granted, students will be allowed to wear a face shield instead of a face mask. Downtown Academy can provide face shields to these students, if requested.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

Gathering at school is a natural and beneficial part of growing individuals as a part of a community. Gathering safely to promote the health of one another is an important aspect of that kind of growth.

LOW

- Student interactions should will be encouraged as under normal circumstances to optimize learning opportunities
- Handwashing and sanitizing will continue to be encouraged

MEDIUM

- Teachers may implement the use of desk shields in their classrooms
- Teachers may exchange the use of classroom tables for desks in order to promote distance among students during work time

HIGH

- As much as possible, all will observe 3' of social distance in classrooms
- Physical barriers such as desk shields will be in place in all classrooms to support distancing
- Students will be kept from direct exposure to students from other classes
- Lunch will be enjoyed in classrooms to reduce exposure



VOLUNTEERS & VISITORS

Visitors and volunteers will be required to observe all precautions practiced by the school at the time of their visit.

LOW

- PERMITTED as under all normal circumstances

MEDIUM

- PERMITTED with basic screenings at check-in

MEDIUM

- LIMITED with screenings at check-in
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ENHANCED PRECAUTIONS

Frequent sanitization will continue in all school buildings and on the school bus with special attention to high-touch areas and restrooms.

Air sanitizing systems in all classrooms and work spaces.

Temperature checks upon arrival to school for all students and staff.



ASP/CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

After School and other co-curriculars will continue with additional safety measures as recommended based on the CDC Community Level tool.



CONTACT TRACING/QUARANTINES

Positive cases and symptomatic close contacts will follow CDC guidance and may return per DtA Quarantine Guidelines.

DtA Guidelines are approved by the DtA Pandemic Policy Council. Any update to DtA Guidelines will be first approved by the Council.



DISTANCE LEARNING

3 or more positive cases in a classroom: Entire classrooms could be quarantined/ moved to Distance Learning.

20% COVID-RELATED ABSENCES in SCHOOL*: Individual buildings could move to eLearning.

A move to Distance Learning could also occur if Downtown Academy does not have the necessary staff to hold in-person instruction.

DtA QUARANTINE & ISOLATION GUIDELINES

POSITIVE CASES

+ Positive or Suspected cases:

- Regardless of vaccination status, people with COVID-19 or suspected of having COVID-19 should isolate for 5 days from symptom onset or a positive test.
 - If after 5 days they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours), they may return to DtA with wearing a mask when around others for the next 5 days**.
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EXPOSURES

+ If Fully Vaccinated:

- Quarantine is **not** recommended
However...
- Wear a mask around others for 10 days
- Test on Day 5, if possible
- Stay home and test if symptoms develop

+ If Unvaccinated*:

Quarantine for **5** days from the date of exposure

- Strict mask use around others for 5 additional days
- Stay home and test if symptoms develop

***Unvaccinated:** means having not received a vaccination or more than 6 months out from having received a second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the J&J vaccine) and not having received a booster vaccination

****Recommendations, signed and in writing, from an individual's primary health care provider may supersede the requirements for the duration of isolation or quarantine as described in this policy.**

Changes effective Friday, March 4th, 2022



January 4, 2022

This message includes updates on the [COVID-19](#) response from CDC. The COVID-19 Outbreak is a rapidly evolving situation and information will be updated as it becomes available.

Isolation and Quarantine

CDC has updated [isolation and quarantine recommendations](#) for the public. These recommendations do not apply to [healthcare personnel](#) and do not supersede state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations.

People with COVID-19 should isolate for 5 days and if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours), follow that by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others.

Recommendations for people who are [exposed to COVID-19](#) are also updated. If you are unvaccinated or more than 6 months out from your second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the J&J vaccine) and you are not yet boosted, CDC recommends a quarantine for 5 days followed by strict mask use for an additional 5 days. If a 5-day quarantine is not feasible, it is imperative that an exposed person [wear a well-fitting mask](#) at all times when around others for 10 days after exposure.

People who have received their booster shot do not need to quarantine following an exposure but should wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure. For all those exposed, best practice would also include a test for COVID-19 at day 5 after exposure. If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.

Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccination and Children

Everyone ages 5 years and older should get a COVID-19 vaccination as soon as possible.

COVID-19 vaccines are free to all people living in the United States, regardless of their immigration or health insurance status.

Check with your child's healthcare provider about whether they offer COVID-19 vaccination. Check your local pharmacy's website to see if vaccination walk-ins or appointments are available for children.

COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shots

Vaccines are working very well to protect against severe illness, hospitalization, and death, but effectiveness against infection decreases over time.

The Omicron variant spreads more easily than the original virus. Boosters increase your protection from COVID-19, including variants. Get a booster shot 6 months after your Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna series, or 2 months after your Johnson & Johnson's Janssen shot.

Bring [your CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record card](#) to your booster shot appointment so your provider can add information about your booster dose. If you did not receive a card, contact the vaccination site where you got your first shot or your [state health department](#) to find out how you can get a card.

To find a COVID-19 vaccine or booster search [vaccines.gov](#), text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you.

Improve How Your Mask Protects You

Masks help protect against variants.

Everyone should continue to wear a mask in indoor public places in areas of high or substantial community transmission, regardless of vaccination status.

In areas with [high numbers of COVID-19 cases](#), consider wearing a mask in crowded outdoor settings and for activities with close contact with others who are not fully vaccinated.

Correct and consistent [mask use](#) is a critical step everyone can take to prevent getting and spreading COVID-19. Masks work best when everyone wears them, but not all masks provide the same protection. When choosing a mask, look at how well it fits, how well it filters the air, and how many layers it has.

Learn More About Children and Vaccinations:

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/planning/children/10-things-to-know.html?ACSTrackingID=USCDC_2067-DM72880&ACSTrackingLabel=Isolation%20and%20Quarantine%20%20%7C%20COVID-19&deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM72880

Learn More About COVID-19 Vaccines and Booster Shots:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html?ACSTrackingID=USCDC_2067-DM72880&ACSTrackingLabel=Isolation%20and%20Quarantine%20%20%7C%20COVID-19&deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM72880

Learn More About Using Masks to Protect You:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html?ACSTrackingID=USCDC_2067-DM72880&ACSTrackingLabel=Isolation%20and%20Quarantine%20%20%7C%20COVID-19&deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM72880