

Camellia Waldorf School

Health and Safety Plan

2022-23

Camellia Waldorf School is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all students and staff members while continuing to offer a rich Waldorf curriculum. Particularly with the ongoing prevalence of COVID-19, that means taking precautions to manage the spread of disease designed to protect individual health as well as ongoing school operation. The following guidelines are subject to change based on recommendations from state and local health authorities and evolving health circumstances.

Staying Up to Date on Vaccinations:

Camellia Waldorf School will follow all laws regarding school vaccination requirements. In addition, we strongly recommend that all eligible individuals [get vaccinated against COVID-19](#) and [remain up-to-date](#) to protect oneself and reduce transmission of the virus.

All records of required vaccinations must be submitted prior to attending school. Records of recommended vaccines (like COVID-19) should also be submitted to the Front Office and updated as needed.

Optimizing Indoor Air Quality:

The risk of getting COVID-19 is greater in indoor settings with poor air quality. Effective ventilation and filtration can curb the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. It may also protect students and staff from exposure to wildfire smoke and other airborne allergens and pollutants.

Camellia Waldorf School will follow [CDPH recommendations to improve indoor air quality](#) to mitigate against COVID-19, including:

- optimizing and regularly servicing/upgrading our HVAC system as needed
- providing each classroom with high powered HEPA filter air cleaners and ensuring filters are cleaned/changed regularly

- keeping classroom windows and doors open when air quality and weather conditions allow

Using Facemasks:

Masks, particularly [high-quality and well-fitting masks](#) (PDF), remain highly effective, inexpensive, and dynamic tools to protect oneself and mitigate transmission of COVID-19 and other respiratory pathogens.

In accordance with CDPH guidance, Camellia Waldorf School will implement the following practices:

- No person can be prevented from wearing a mask as a condition of participation in an activity or entry into a school, unless wearing a mask would pose a safety hazard (e.g., watersports).
- Masks will be available to all students and staff who inadvertently fail to bring a face covering to school and desire to use one
- Students and staff should follow [CDPH masking guidance for the general public](#), as well as masking guidance for specific situations referenced below (e.g., when having symptoms, being infected, or exposed).
- Temporary mask requirements may be implemented based on an elevation in class, school, or community transmission levels.

Getting Tested for COVID-19:

Testing remains a key mitigation layer to detect and curb transmission of COVID-19. Camellia Waldorf School will continue to offer on campus antigen testing for all students and staff who have a signed consent form on file in Primary.Health.

Testing is available by request through the front office at any time and will be required prior to returning to school for anyone with symptoms of illness, as well as during the recommended testing window following known exposure to COVID-19.

Grade level or school wide testing may also be available as a preventative measure or in response to elevated exposure levels.

When supplies are available, at home antigen test kits will be made available to all students and staff, and to the degree possible, will be considered the primary method of COVID testing.

Due to the increased travel and social interactions that often occurs during school-breaks, it is recommended that students and staff get tested for COVID-19 prior to returning to school following major breaks (e.g., summer, winter, spring). When possible, at home test kits will be distributed prior to school breaks to facilitate this recommendation. All results from school issued antigen tests should be registered in

In addition, Camellia Waldorf School encourages all faculty, staff and volunteers who have contact with students to test for COVID weekly and report results through Primary.Health. At home antigen tests will be available.

Additional testing recommendations are referenced in relevant sections below.

Maintaining Clean Hands:

Hand hygiene can prevent the spread of infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

Teachers and staff will teach and reinforce proper [handwashing](#) to lower the risk of spreading viruses, including the virus that causes COVID-19 and ensure adequate supplies to support hand hygiene behaviors, including soap, tissues, no-touch trashcans, and hand sanitizers with at least 60 percent alcohol for staff and children who can safely use hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizers will be stored up, away, and out of sight of younger children and should be used only with adult supervision for children ages 5 years and younger.

Teachers and staff will also teach and reinforce covering [coughs and sneezes](#) to help keep individuals from getting and spreading infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

Managing Individuals with Symptoms:

Staying home when sick can lower the risk of spreading infectious diseases, including COVID-19, to other people.

Student and staff who develop new, unexplained symptoms should not return to campus until it is clear that symptoms are mild and improving or are due to a non-

infectious cause (e.g., allergies). This includes waiting until 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Additionally, if [symptoms](#) are concerning for COVID-19, it is strongly recommended that students wear a mask (if on campus when symptoms develop) and get tested immediately. Students should also follow [CDPH recommendations](#) for retesting and/or isolating if results are positive.

Camellia Waldorf School recognizes the importance of rest and recovery, as well as the need for maintaining a healthy community, and fully supports families in keeping students home when they are not feeling well. Students will not be penalized for illness related absences.

Reporting COVID-19 disease burden to local health authorities:

Notifying local health authorities of the disease burden in schools can expedite deployment of additional strategies and resources to manage illness and contain transmission and outbreaks.

Camellia Waldorf School will refer to California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 17, [§2500](#) and [§2508](#) for reporting requirements. Note that 17 CCR §2500 has been temporarily modified by the [State Public Health Officer Order of February 10th, 2022](#). As workplaces, schools are subject to COVID-19 workplace outbreak reporting requirements stipulated in [AB 685](#) and [Cal/OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards](#).

In addition, Camellia Waldorf School will work with local health authorities (SCPH) to report outbreaks within individual classes and determine an appropriate response.

Managing Students Diagnosed with COVID-19:

Prompt management of students with COVID-19 can prevent further spread and, in some cases, allow for early treatment.

Students diagnosed with COVID-19 should follow recommendations listed in [Table 1 \(Persons with COVID-19\)](#) of CDPH's guidance for the general public, including staying home for at least 5 days, obtaining a negative antigen test if returning to school between days 5 and 10, and wearing a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings.

Managing Students Exposed to COVID-19:

Prompt notification to students and families regarding exposure to infectious diseases, including COVID-19, can allow for rapid testing, early treatment, and prevention of further spread.

We ask that families notify Camellia Waldorf School as soon as possible if their child has COVID-19 and was on school grounds during their [infectious period](#). This will allow us to identify anyone who may have been exposed and notify anyone who spent more than a cumulative total of 15 minutes (within a 24-hour time period) in a shared indoor airspace (e.g., classroom) with someone with COVID-19 during their infectious period. Most often this will mean notifying the entire class since it can be difficult to determine length of individual exposure during free-moving activities.

At times, in lieu of individual exposure notifications, we will consider providing a general notification to the entire school community during times of elevated [community transmission](#) of COVID-19. This communication can alert all to the increased potential of being exposed to COVID-19 due to a rise in cases among school and community members, and remind all to monitor for symptoms and get tested.

All students with known exposure to persons with COVID-19 should follow recommendations listed in [Table 2 \(Asymptomatic Persons Who are Exposed to Someone with COVID-19\)](#) of CDPH's guidance for the general public. If they remain without symptoms, students may continue to take part in all aspects of K-12 schooling including sports and extracurricular activities. As recommended in [Table 2](#), they should wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days and get tested 3-5 days after last exposure. For students living with someone who has tested positive, we strongly encourage quarantining at home if at all possible, especially in cases where the COVID positive person is unable to isolate from the rest of the household. Camellia will support students by excusing absences and providing school work to complete at home. We also ask that if students do attend school that they test every 24-48 hours.

Based on the increased likelihood of exposure, Camellia Waldorf School also requires that any student with ongoing exposure to a household member with COVID-19 should stay home for at least 7 days and obtain a negative antigen test on or after the 7th day before returning to school and wear a mask indoors through day 10. If the student is able to completely isolate from the COVID positive household member (no

shared air space or bathrooms), the student may be able to continue attending school if they are able to take additional precautions including masking indoors or while in close contact or participating in high risk activities like sports or singing outdoors, as well as daily antigen testing through day 7 and masking through day 10. This would be considered a special exception and should be discussed with school administration before the exposed student returns to school

Managing COVID-19 Outbreaks:

Camellia Waldorf School will continue to work with local health officials in managing [suspected or confirmed outbreaks](#) of COVID-19.

Broad disruptions to in-person learning, such as temporary school or classroom closures, due to COVID-19 should remain a last resort and considered only after all available resources have been exhausted, and only after conferring with local health officials.

If it is determined that a class must temporarily close due to a COVID outbreak, families will be notified by email and/or text as soon as possible.

Cleaning Facilities:

In general, routine cleaning is enough to sufficiently remove the virus that causes COVID-19 from surfaces. If disinfectants are used, use [asthma-safer products](#). Camellia employs a professional cleaning service to clean shared spaces on a daily basis. Classrooms and common areas also have access to child safe cleaning products (generally soap and water) to clean as needed throughout the day.

Drinking fountains and water bottle filling stations will be open and used by students and staff. Routine cleaning will be done in these areas.

Additional Considerations

1. **Considerations for students with disabilities or other health care needs:** When implementing this guidance, Camellia Waldorf School will carefully consider how to address the health needs of our students and to

reasonably accommodate disabilities. Please communicate with the front office about any particular needs, including mask exemptions.

2. **Higher risk activities:** Certain activities that involve increased and forceful exhalation, like playing wind instruments, can pose increased risk for getting and spreading COVID-19, particularly if conducted indoors, in poorly ventilated settings, and/or without the use of masks. Accordingly, all flute/recorder playing will take place outdoors and with as much distance as possible. Choir classes will either take place outdoors or in a well ventilated room with students masked. Safety measures for competitive sports that involve playing against other schools, especially those that take place indoors or involve close contact, will be considered based on community transmission levels
3. **Large events:** Particularly during surges of COVID-19, school concerts, large assemblies, and other school-based crowded events, especially those held indoors, all have the potential to cause substantial spread of COVID-19 within and beyond the school community. Prior to hosting large events, Camellia Waldorf School will review the [Safe and SMART Events Playbook](#) (PDF) for possible mitigation strategies and make adjustments based on current transmission levels and risks involved. Possible mitigation strategies include holding events outdoors, offering distanced seating, or requiring masking indoors.
4. **Field Trips:** Field trips, including over night trips, will be allowed in accordance with Waldorf curriculum. Specific protocols, including how to approach attending indoor public places, sleeping arrangements, or other high-risk activities will be considered on a case by case basis with respect to current transmission levels and state and local guidance. All efforts will be made to offer a full Waldorf curriculum in a safe and healthy manner. Antigen testing will be required of all students, staff, and chaperones attending over night field trips, and all other school policies will apply to field trip activities.
5. **Visitors:** Camellia Waldorf School will not limit access for essential direct service providers who comply with school visitor policies due to a concern

about mitigating spread of COVID-19. Assessments, tutoring, observations, and facilities contractors will be allowed in classrooms as needed and all visitors will be asked to comply with school policies regarding regular COVID testing. In addition, parent volunteers will be allowed on campus as needed.