

Coventry Village School

Family Handbook

2020 - 2021

CoVID-19 Addendum



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Introduction

In this new era of CoVID-19, we are all being asked to be more cautious and careful, and no more so than in our schools. This Handbook Addendum is intended to lay out and explain many of the new procedures we are doing to keep students and staff safe. The information here is subject to change, as the Vermont [Agency of Education, Department of Health](#), and the Federal [Centers for Disease Control](#) update their guidelines and expectations. It is a time of rapid change. If we find something in here is not working as well in person as it did on paper, we will adapt and change to a new procedure. The information and procedures in here supercede those in the CVS Family Handbook.

The State has broken up its guidelines into three categories:

- Step 1 closing the schools again and returning to remote learning. This would be if there is a spike in the cases of CoVID across the state, or even just locally. This might also happen for a short period if there is a confirmed case in a school.
- Step 2 is back in school with strict protocols. This stage is intended if the occurrences of CoVID are higher, but not enough to close schools. The strict protocols have students interacting with other students in their direct class, but little to no interactions with anyone else.
- Step 3 is in school, but with less strict protocols. We will take precautions, but not to the level of Step 3.

As of this writing, the state itself is in its version of Step 3, as we have very low occurrences of confirmed cases. However, the plan is to start in Step 2 to make sure we have systems in place that work, if they are later needed.

Link to Complete CVS Handbook

The complete Coventry Village School Family Handbook can be found here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-p9lhGyosz-YysT4qpGnbbgiOwEFAFNEQkO6FnN6A2M/edit?usp=sharing>

Paper copies will be sent home for each family, and additional copies are available at school.

NCSU Guidance Document for Families

Yet to be released.

Personal Protective Equipment

Students in grades K to 8, and staff, will be required to wear a face covering in the building. When students and staff are outside and physical distancing can be maintained, masks can be removed. If you feel there is a reason your child cannot wear facial coverings, please contact the school. The school will provide masks to those who need them. If desired, families are able to provide masks or shields for their children.

We understand the new facial covering mandate will be challenging for many. We are here to help everyone be successful. For those students who continually struggle with the expectation, we thought a clear set of reactions would be helpful.

	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense
Refusal to wear mask	• Student calls home	• Student calls home	• Student sent home

appropriately		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student participates in Mask Academy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent meeting
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Health Screening

Each morning, students and staff will be required to complete a health screening to participate. This will require a temperature check, and answering some questions. Families will be given the screening tickets to complete for each of their children each morning and send that ticket to school. Students will be expected to hand the ticket to school personnel. If the screening is not completed at home, children will be screened when they arrive at school.

Students being dropped off at school or on the bus without having a screening ticket will go directly to the front Gym door. There, they will be screened and sent in to their classroom. Students who show signs of symptoms will be held in the nurse's office isolation space until someone can come pick them up.

Bus Pick-up/Drop off

Students riding the bus will need to have their health screening ticket completed. Students without their screening ticket will be asked to sit in a designated section of the bus. This will ensure physical distancing to keep others safe.

Students already having the screening complete will walk to the exterior door of their classroom. Students should maintain physical distancing as much as possible. Upon entry into their classroom, students are expected to wash their hands immediately.

Student Pick-up/Drop-off

Families will not be able to enter the building without a prior appointment. Therefore, please continue to use the parking area on the left side (softball field side) of the parking lot for student pickup and drop-off. Please let us know ahead of time if you plan to pick up your child early.

Entering the School

Upon arrival at the school, students without screening tickets will go to the front gym door for screening. Students will be screened and enter through the gym door to walk to their classrooms.

Students who have a screening ticket from home will walk to the exterior door of their classroom. Students should maintain physical distancing as much as possible. Upon entry into their classroom, students are expected to wash their hands immediately. Handwashing will be expected before they complete any other task.

Visitors

Due to health concerns, visitors, including family, will not be allowed into the building without a prior appointment. Please make sure to schedule a meeting in advance if you need to enter the building. Parents assisting small children will be able to walk their children to class at the start of the year, using the classroom's exterior door. Families of PreK children will continue to be able to walk their child into the classroom. All entry will be through the exterior classroom doors.

Families will need to continue to use the parking spaces by the softball field (left side of lot) and walk from there to the school. Please be sure to leave the walkway in front of the parking spots free for walking.

Building Use

Keeping with AOE Guidance, public use of school grounds is permitted, however, public use of the building is not permitted. Requests for building use will be declined until guidance states otherwise. (p. 16 of AOE “Strong and Healthy Start”, 2020)

Hygiene

Throughout the day, students will be asked to wash hands or sanitize. According to the AOE, those times are, “arrival, after snack, lunch, breakfast, after playing outside, after sensory play, before and after bathroom use, prior to switching rooms/locations, before and after handling facial coverings, before and after cleaning.”

Due to the frequent use of sanitizer and handwashing, lotion will be helpful to prevent dry skin.

Students should not be sharing materials with other students to support a safe and healthy learning environment.

Physical Distancing

Classrooms will be configured to separate students as far as possible. Traffic will be directed with tape on the floor to help with distancing where necessary.

Classes will have a designated space outside for “breathing breaks” throughout the day. This is a space where kids will be able to remove their masks and breathe freely. Teachers will have discretion when to use these spaces.

Recess

Recess will be staggered throughout the day. Grades with overlapping recess times will be divided to use the playground, the basketball court, or the fields. Those will alternate regularly.

Meals

All snacks and meals will be consumed in classrooms in Step 2. Students will be asked to clean their desks and wash their hands prior to food consumption. Meals, breakfast and lunch, will still be provided by the school. Students can continue to bring meals from home, if preferred. Each grade will walk to the cafeteria to pick up their meals, and will walk back to their classroom to consume it at their scheduled time. Students will be asked to wash hands after they are finished eating.

Remote Learning

As the year progresses, there could come a time where learning must shift to remote, Step 1. Students will spend the start of the year learning how to access Google suites as well as other applications to help with remote learning. Those applications will be used throughout the year to help kids transition easier if remote learning is necessary.

Contracted Services and Field Trips

Per AOE Guidance, no outside visitors and volunteers, except for employees or contracted services for special education or required services, are permitted for CVS, these services will include Siskin and Green Mountain Farm-to-School. In order for field trips to occur, all health guidance as well as guidance from the Agency of Commerce and Community Development must be followed.

Classes

In Step 2, students will be with only their class and will have no exposure to other students. Even the exposure to other adults will be minimal. This helps stop the spread of any germs. On teams, students will still switch rooms, but cleaning of surfaces will happen between classes.

In Step 3, students will still mainly be with their class, but may get some exposure to their team or grade level band (K-2, 3-5, 6-8). There will be minimal overlap with kids outside their teams.

Sneeze guards will be used between students in many classes, especially in classes with higher numbers.

Bathrooms

Students in grades PreK to 5 will use their classroom bathroom and sink exclusively. Students in grades 6 to 8 will continue to use the student bathrooms. For Step 2, both hallway bathrooms will become single use bathrooms, with only one student in at a time. Students should wash hands prior to and after bathroom use.

Water Fountains

Students are encouraged to use their water bottle throughout the day to stay hydrated. There is a bottle filling station by the gym that students are encouraged to use. Students should not use classroom water fountains to fill their water bottles. Students should wash hands prior to and after use of fountains.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

All students and staff will be asked to do what they can to keep us all safe. This includes, but is not limited to: washing hands frequently, wiping down desks, sanitizing hands, wearing a face covering. High use items will be sanitized regularly throughout the day and items not able to be disinfected regularly will not be used as a group. Unnecessary cloth items should not be brought to school (i.e. puppets, toys, furniture, etc.). Students will have their own set of tools when appropriate.