



Da Vinci Schools COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Updated 4/29/22

Parents who have questions about quarantine/isolation requirements can call the DPH COVID-19 Information Hotline at 1-833-540-0473.

This line is available in multiple languages and operates 7 days a week from 8:00 AM to 8:30 PM.

MASKING

NEW Effective Monday, May 4, all Da Vinci schools requires masks for any individual regardless of vaccination status who is identified as a close contact. Contacts must mask indoors for 10 days following exposure.

For all others, Da Vinci Schools does not require masks indoors or outdoors regardless of vaccination status, but masks remain strongly recommended. Da Vinci will continue other protective strategies, including eating lunch outdoors on all campuses until further notice.

Gov. Gavin Newsom and California state health officials issued an [order](#) on February 28 lifting the indoor mask requirement for K-12 schools, effective March 12, 2022, and moving to a strong recommendation to continue indoor masking. In addition, the L.A. County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) released a [Health Officer Order](#) on March 3 saying that it will align school masking measures with the State and shift to strongly recommending indoor masking as well. The most current LACDPH Health Officer Order [here](#).

Following discussion at a Special Board Meeting and after receiving input from multiple stakeholders including staff, Da Vinci Schools has chosen to align with the County guidelines as we've done throughout the pandemic.

CLOSE CONTACT

What is a Close Contact?

NEW Persons are considered to have been exposed to a case (close contact) during the infectious period if they shared the same indoor airspace at school with the infected person for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

In large indoor airspaces, those considered exposed may be limited to 1) those in a pre-defined or identifiable group (e.g., teammates, club members, cohort, etc.) or 2) those within 6 feet of the infected person for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. NOTE: Persons with an outdoor exposure at school are not considered close contacts.

What is the policy for students considered a "close contact" to someone who tested positive for the virus (at school or outside school)?

NEW Regardless of vaccination status, **close contacts are no longer required to quarantine** if they are asymptomatic and adhere to the following requirements:

- **Wear a highly protective mask for 10 days from exposure date.** The mask should be a well-fitting medical mask, a well fitting respirator, or a well-fitting high filtration reusable mask with a nose wire.
- **Get tested as soon as possible (ideally between days 3-5 after exposure).** PCR, rapid/antigen, and home tests are all approved. If you need a test kit, you or your child can pick one up from your school's health office. ***If your child had COVID-19 within the last 90 days and they are asymptomatic, they are exempt from testing.*
- **Monitor health for 10 days. If your child develops illness symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19, please keep them home and notify the school.** Signs and symptoms include:
 - Fever or chills
 - New Cough
 - Sore throat
 - Diarrhea
 - Nausea or vomiting

COVID Exposure Timeline

Day 0 Date of Exposure	Day 1 First day to monitor health and wear highly effective mask	Days 3-5 Test for COVID (PCR, rapid/antigen, and/or home test)	Day 10 Last day to monitor health and wear highly effective mask
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All close contacts should monitor symptoms through Day 14. Should student develop symptoms, they are then asked to stay home and should take a test. If the test is positive, follow Home Isolation Instructions for COVID-19 (ph.lacounty.gov/covidisolation).

Please contact Da Vinci Schools Nurse Emily Green (egreen@davincischools.org) with questions.

What is the policy for students with someone COVID + at home?

NEW Regardless of vaccination status, **close contacts are no longer required to quarantine** if they are asymptomatic and adhere to the following requirements:

- **Wear a highly protective mask for 10 days from exposure date.** The mask should be a well-fitting medical mask, a well fitting respirator, or a well-fitting high filtration reusable mask with a nose wire.
- **Get tested as soon as possible (ideally between days 3-5 after exposure).** PCR, rapid/antigen, and home tests are all approved. If you need a test kit, you or your child can pick one up from your school's health office. ****If your child had COVID-19 within the last 90 days and they are asymptomatic, they are exempt from testing.**
- **Monitor health for 10 days. If your child develops illness symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19, please keep them home and notify the school.** Signs and symptoms include:
 - Fever or chills
 - New Cough
 - Sore throat
 - Diarrhea
 - Nausea or vomiting

What happens if students have to isolate at home with COVID? Will students continue with their learning?

If a student is isolating due to testing positive for COVID, they will receive medically excused absences.

While a child is at home under isolation, if feeling well enough, they will continue their learning with the curriculum currently used by the class or teacher. Every effort will be made to ensure continuity of learning. This will differ by site and grade level. Classrooms will not be offering a "zoom in" option. This might include continuing to access google classroom and/or existing curriculum that will include access to online office hours and opportunities to make up work following the absence.

Your child will stay in their home school and will not be placed into the long term independent study Da Vinci Program.

Do exposed staff have to quarantine?

Employees who are vaccinated are not required to quarantine if exposed as long as they remain asymptomatic and test on day 3-5 since exposure.

Unvaccinated staff are required to quarantine following exposure for 5 days and a subsequent negative test.

What does “fully-vaccinated” mean, what does “Up-to-date vaccination” mean?

“Fully-vaccinated” refers to an individual who has received the first and second doses of the vaccine (or, in the case of Johnson & Johnson, the single required dose) and has completed the two-week period that follows to ensure maximum immunity.

“Up-to-date” means having received your booster if eligible (5 months after your Pfizer or Moderna second dose or 2 months after your J&J). Check out vaccine eligibility [here](#).

Is Da Vinci collecting or tracking student vaccination status?

Da Vinci Schools is not requiring disclosure of vaccination status by students. We have access to the State database for student immunizations and our vaccination rates are similar to the community rates in our local areas.

It is advised that vaccinated students have access to an image or copy of their vaccination card while on campus.

Are Da Vinci Schools requiring students to be vaccinated for the 2022-23 school year?

Da Vinci Schools will continue to follow LACDPH and California mandates related to vaccination. **At this time, COVID vaccination is not required.**

NEW The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has announced that any state requirement for students to be vaccinated against COVID-19 will not take effect before July 1, 2023. CDPH issued a statement saying: "To ensure sufficient time for successful implementation of new vaccine requirements, California will not initiate the regulatory process for a COVID-19 vaccine requirement for the 2022-2023 school year and as such, any vaccine requirements would not take effect until after full FDA approval and no sooner than July 1, 2023."

[Read the full CDPH statement here](#) by CDPH.

POSITIVE CASES

What happens if an employee or student tests positive for the virus?

Any student who tests positive at school will be moved to the designated isolation space, provided a medical grade mask and a parent will be contacted for immediate pick up. Employees will leave the premises immediately.

Individuals with a positive test obtained on campus, or who notified the site admin and/or school nurse, will be sent instructions to isolate immediately and follow up questions related to contact tracing may be asked of anyone who was on a Da Vinci campus.

The school will contact Da Vinci staff and students identified as having been in close contact with the individual who tested positive to provide masking and testing instructions. Details of the case and the list of those exposed will be referred to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health which may conduct further contact tracing.

The School Nurse will provide written instructions for return to school dates and procedures.

Isolation is 5-10 days. Day 0 is "illness onset" either first day of symptoms OR day of positive test if asymptomatic. A negative COVID test is NOT required for return to school after the 10-day isolation period, but individuals CAN take a rapid test on day 5 or later to "test out" of isolation if they are asymptomatic, or symptoms are improving. Home tests or school tests are acceptable. Repeat PCR tests are not advised. If negative, they can return Day 6. Full isolation is 10 days, returning Day 11.

If you do "test out" and plan to attend school/work, please notify egreen@davincischools.org and email a picture of negative test ahead of time so I can inform office and school site that you are cleared. You can also choose to test at Da Vinci Schools to "test out", however, if the test is still positive while in the 10 day window, you are ineligible for "test out" and must return home. If you do "test out" early, please plan to wear a surgical mask for the entire 10 days and continue to monitor symptoms.

For students isolating who feel well enough to complete schoolwork, we do not offer virtual class options, but our teachers have created resource/activity banks for students who may be out for short periods of time. You can find these in Google classroom (Conn, DVC, DVD, DVS) and in DreamSeeDoo (Rise). School site admin can provide more information should you need, students are encouraged. Please contact your office manager to notify us if your child is going to be absent from school as usual.

Please contact Da Vinci Schools Nurse Emily Green (egreen@davincischools.org) with questions

Does an employee or student who tested positive need to take another test before returning to work or school?

Employees and students who have tested positive for COVID-19 and completed a 10 day isolation period are not required to take another COVID-19 test when they return on day 11.

A negative COVID test is NOT required for return to school after the 10-day isolation period, but individuals CAN take a rapid test on day 5 or later to "test out" of isolation if they are asymptomatic, or symptoms are improving. Home tests or school tests are acceptable. Repeat PCR tests are not advised. If rapid test is negative, they can return Day 6. Full isolation is 10 days, returning Day 11.

What determines if a class will close, or a school will close because of an outbreak?

The LA County Department of Public Health will conduct an investigation and make a determination if a school, grade level, sport or class should close due to an outbreak. An outbreak is a specific event of multiple cases linked in the school setting that is determined in partnership with the LA County Department of Public Health.

If an outbreak is identified, principals and the school's COVID Compliance Team will follow specific protocols to inform the school community. Should one or more of Da Vinci Schools experience an outbreak of COVID-19 cases that require school closure, contingency plans to return to 100% distance learning will be implemented. Administrators and teachers are trained to pivot to distance learning should direction from a public health agency be given.

Symptoms/Not Feeling Well

What should I do if I, or anyone in my household, has COVID-19 like symptoms?

If you or anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms, it is important to get a COVID-19 test.

The person with symptoms should self-quarantine pending the test results because COVID-19 is very contagious. That individual should separate themselves from everyone in their household, so they do not transmit the virus to any family members in the home. They should wear a mask and physically distance if they must be in the same room as a household member. Follow hand hygiene recommendations and avoid sharing any personal items.

Da Vinci students should not attend school if they are not feeling well. If someone in their house is symptomatic and is awaiting a test result, students should come to school and wear a mask and seek a COVID test from health office. Please contact Da Vinci Schools Nurse Emily Green (egreen@davincischools.org) with questions about quarantine guidelines. Please report school absences as usual.

Da Vinci students can take a rapid COVID test at the Da Vinci Schools 201 N Douglas Street, El Segundo location (between 8:15a.m.- 3:30p.m.) or 12501 Isis Ave, Hawthorne location (between 8:45a.m.-2:45p.m.) No appointment is needed. Students are not allowed to test during class hours and will be sent back to class. Students, please pre-register for testing [here](#). Staff can register [here](#). For family members: [Testing Sites on the LA County COVID-19 Testing website that offer no-cost \(free\) testing](#)

If I'm symptomatic, can I get a COVID-19 test at the school?

Yes, any Da Vincian can test on site at any time. When symptomatic, please ensure you wear a surgical/medical grade mask when you come on campus to test. At home tests are also available to pick up to test at home.

Da Vinci students can take a rapid COVID test at the Da Vinci Schools 201 N Douglas Street, El Segundo location (between 8:15a.m.- 3:30p.m.) or 12501 Isis Ave, Hawthorne location (between 8:45a.m.-2:45p.m.) No appointment is needed. Students are not allowed to test during class hours and will be sent back to class. Students, please pre-register for testing [here](#). Staff can register [here](#). For family members: [Testing Sites on the LA County COVID-19 Testing website that offer no-cost \(free\) testing](#)

COVID-19 testing at the school

RAPID TESTING

All Da Vinci students/staff can take a rapid COVID test at the Da Vinci Schools 201 N Douglas Street, El Segundo location (between 8:15a.m.- 3:30p.m.) or 12501 Isis Ave, Hawthorne location (between 8:45a.m.-2:45p.m.) No appointment is needed. Students are not allowed to test during class hours and will be sent back to class. Students, please pre-register for testing [here](#). Staff can register [here](#).

NEW PCR TESTING

Da Vinci Schools offers onsite PCR testing for students and staff weekly on Mondays/Tuesdays from 830-330pm. This does not replace our existing rapid testing program.

Pre-registration required: <https://ihd-patient.preciseq.com/davinci-schools>

What to bring: ID and unique QR code provided after registration (This code is to be used for the lifetime of the Testing Program. Please present this code to the technician prior to every test)

*Please note, insurance information is required, so we encourage students to register at home with access to their insurance card.

Da Vinci cannot test family/community members at this time. Please see: [Testing Sites on the LA County COVID-19 Testing website that offer no-cost \(free\) testing](#)

COVID-19 Weekly Testing Program (for athletics/robotics) *DISCONTINUED*

The weekly testing program is required for robotics and sports that are considered moderate to high risk both indoor and outdoor (archery, swim, track and field and cross country are exempt at this time). For more information see County protocol [here](#).

Those required to test weekly include:

- Unvaccinated participants
- Participants not "up to date" meaning vaccinated athletes eligible for booster who have not yet boosted ("Up-to-date" means having received your booster if eligible (5 months after your Pfizer or Moderna second dose or 2 months after your J&J). Check out vaccine eligibility [here](#).
- Participants on a team that has had a COVID case will test for 2 weeks regardless of vaccination or exposure status.

Those not required to test include:

- Participants "up to date" on vaccination meaning having received your booster if eligible (5 months after your Pfizer or Moderna second dose or 2 months after your J&J). Check out vaccine eligibility [here](#). unless the team had a case, then you test!
- Those recently recovered from COVID in past 90 days (DV health team must have documentation of pos test result)

Starting (1/24), all students required to test in athletics/robotics programs will test with PCR testing vendor IHD on Tuesdays after school 230-430pm in the 201 yard area. We will send coaches clearance lists on Wednesday mornings clearing those who participated. **Those who don't participate in IHD testing will not play.**

We will NOT be providing rapid tests on site throughout the week to athletes/robotics participants to clear them for play. Our rapid testing program will continue to support students and staff that are symptomatic, exposed, or concerned about exposure. We have partnered with this new vendor in order to streamline the process of scheduling, providing clearances, and mixing surveillance testing with students who are in line testing because they are ill or are exposed.

If student is out on the scheduled Tuesday due to quarantine or isolation, please check-in with COVID tent before/after school or during lunch upon return for testing/clearance to participate.

PCR testing: **Pre-registration required** <https://ihd-patient.preciseq.com/davinci-schools>
Please note, insurance information is required, so we encourage students to register at home with access to their insurance card. What to bring on testing day: ID and unique QR code provided after registration (This code is to be used for the lifetime of the Testing Program. Please present this code to the technician prior to every test).

We encourage everyone to register so that if there is a case on your team, you are already set to test. (swim, cross country and archery included!)