



KEHILLAH JEWISH HIGH SCHOOL

COVID-19 Addendum

August 2022



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A Letter from Our Director of Health and Safety

Dear Kehillah,

It is hard to believe that we are going into our fourth school year affected by COVID. With time, the landscape has shifted from unknown and scary to tried and true. While there are still things we do not know about the long term effects of COVID, we do know how to best minimize the likelihood of spreading COVID.

This year, our policies will be highly focused on family choice and personal responsibility/risk assessment. The proper use of an N95/KN95 mask, personal hygiene, and access to outdoor space when unmasked have proven to be the best way for individuals to take responsibility for themselves.

We intend to spend the 2022-2023 school year mask *OPTIONAL*. It is imperative that we respect each community member's decision to mask or not to mask. We are also committed to giving our families the information they need to make informed decisions about COVID risk. We will update our [COVID Corner](#) on our website each Wednesday with statistics on how many new cases we have had since the Wednesday prior and data on Santa Clara at large.

Personal hygiene and mask hygiene are two other very important ways to minimize the risk of spreading COVID. Washing our hands and avoiding touching our face are the foundation of all best health practices. Mask hygiene and handling are important as well. Not only should masks fit properly, they should be clean. Generally, masks are okay to wear as long as they are dry and not visibly soiled. When a mask gets wet or is visibly soiled it is time to replace/wash/disinfect the mask. It is also important to properly handle the mask: take it on and off by the ear loops and store it in a clean place between uses. We have ample outdoor eating spaces, to safely eat while unmasked.

Kehillah will not be hosting weekly COVID testing this year, but will trust that our community will test when not feeling well. We will require the use of at-home tests after breaks (and to start the school year). An email will be sent whenever an at-home test is required.

Lastly, I want to emphasize that Kehillah has the right to modify these policies at any time. Like in years past, we will adjust our policies to reflect what is needed in our community and in response to any shifts in the guidelines set forth by the CDC, the Santa Clara Department of Health, Santa Clara County Office of Education, or our expert advisors.

Looking forward to a wonderful and healthy 2022-2023!



Talia Anders
Director of Health and Safety
Academic Operations Manager

Pandemic / Endemic Planning

Our COVID policy is a living document and will evolve as the situation unfolds. We will alert you to any changes in our policy. Our guiding principles have remained the same since the start of the pandemic and we remain committed to them today. Our 6 pillars of prevention-layered mitigation strategies have also proven the test of time and have kept us safe since March of 2020.

Our Guiding Principles:

- Prioritize the physical health, safety, and social-emotional wellbeing of our students, staff, and faculty.
- Maintain Kehillah’s exceptional academic program and supportive environment.
- Remain committed to an education rooted in Jewish values and providing for our pluralistic community.
- Prepare for multiple responsive shifts with fidelity.
- Make data-informed and evidence-based decisions.

6 Pillars of Prevention

Hygiene: Personal hygiene is a tenant of good health. Keeping the physical body and frequently touched surfaces clean highly reduces the likelihood of infection.

Screening: Staying home when sick and testing for COVID when symptomatic reduces the spread of infection.

Distancing: Distancing remains a mitigation strategy. Although we do not intend on implementing a 6-foot social distancing rule, we ask our community to be mindful of others’ personal space.

Masks: Proper usage of an N95 or KN95 mask remains one of the best personal mitigation strategies available. Mask usage will be optional unless otherwise stated by Kehillah, Santa Clara County, or another government agency.

Ventilation: Our HVAC goes above and beyond recommendations with MERV filtration as well as UV lights. Additionally, classrooms have been outfitted with portable HEPA filters.

Vaccination: We strongly encourage all individuals who can be vaccinated to do so. Vaccinations help slow the spread of COVID and strongly minimize the risk of severe infection or death.

There will be training for employees, parents, and students about policies and how to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment in accordance with federal, state, and local guidelines.

About COVID

Everyone is at risk for getting COVID although symptoms vary from mild to severe. Many of the symptoms of COVID are not unique to COVID and masquerade as stress or exhaustion. We are all responsible for the health and well-being of our community. If you are having symptoms of COVID, you must get tested - do not brush it off as ‘not sleeping well.’

People with these symptoms may have COVID*:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coughing ● Shortness of Breath ● Fever 100.3 and over ● Loss of Taste and/or Smell ● Chills ● Muscle or body aches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sore throat ● Headache ● Diarrhea ● Nausea or vomiting ● Fatigue
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*This list does not include all possible symptoms. We will continue to update this list as the CDC learns more about COVID.

Instructional Model

Kehillah Jewish High School will continue to run the 2022-2023 school year fully in-person. However, if we see a significant community spread of COVID-19 that is eluding our mitigation strategies, have too many teachers or administrative staff out to run our program effectively, have extremely bad air quality, or are otherwise directed by Santa Clara County, we will temporarily move to a fully remote program.

Remote instruction will be delivered synchronously via Google Hangouts. Class attendance and participation are expected during virtual school. The block schedule will remain the same for both in-person and virtual learning.

When a student needs to miss class for a confirmed case of COVID-19, they will be offered the opportunity to attend class remotely via Google Hangouts. This option is only available to students who are out of school for confirmed COVID cases and feel well enough to engage in school/classes virtually. Students who are sick are not expected to attend classes remotely and are asked to take the time they need to get healthy. Teachers are available to all students during office hours to review missed material. As per our policy, all work will also be posted on Schoology.

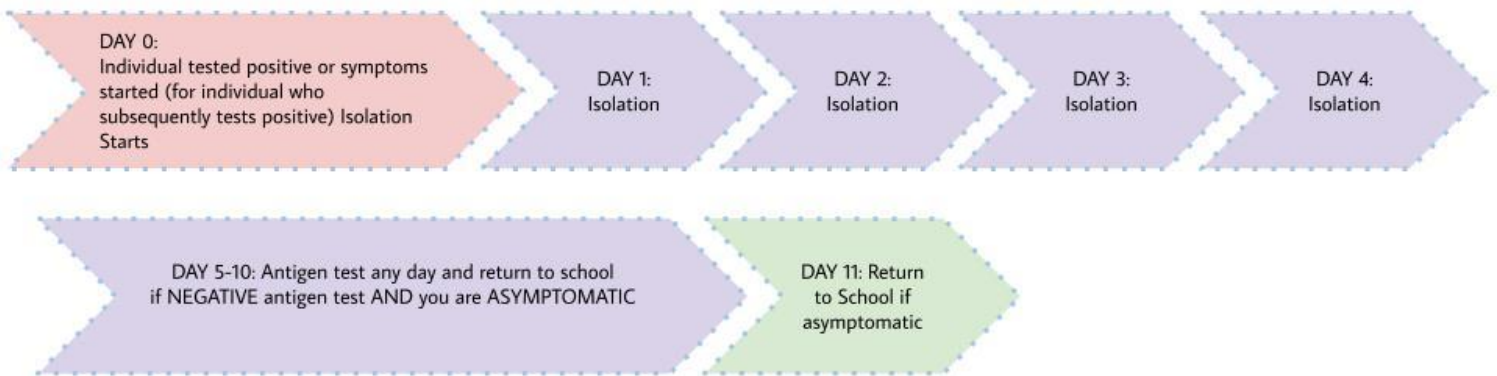
It is the teachers discretion how much participation and engagement is expected out of students who are attending class remotely when classes are otherwise being held in person. Students are welcomed into the class to view the lesson, there is no expectation that the lesson will be tailored to the at home/hybrid experience.

Medical Response and Campus Closure

Each Wednesday our website will be updated with how many new confirmed cases of COVID there have been since the previous Tuesday. To the extent possible, close contacts will be notified via email of their status.

Confirmed Case

- When an individual tests positive for COVID, they must go into self-isolation.
 - The date of the positive test or symptom onset, whichever is earlier, is considered Day 0.
 - The individual must self-isolate for a minimum of five days.
 - On day five, with symptom resolution and a negative Antigen test, the individual may leave self-isolation.
 - Self-isolation is a maximum of 10 days.
 - If there is no symptom resolution, the person chooses not to test, or continues testing positive; on Day 11 self-isolation ends regardless of symptom resolution or test status.
 - A person may test to end self-isolation on days 6-10.
- Close contacts may attend school, but they are required to wear a mask of their choice.



Close Contacts

Close Contacts must wear a mask while indoors until ten days after last contact. If at any point a close contact begins to feel symptomatic they must remain home, regardless of antigen test result. Close contacts must test on day five after initial contact.

Symptomatic

Symptomatic individuals are required to test. Kehillah will have tests on hand if an individual begins to feel unwell while at school. Symptomatic individuals must wear a face covering at all times while in the building, and eat outside. A negative test does not preclude someone from the mask requirement. Symptomatic individuals must test each day that they are feeling unwell. If a symptomatic person is a known close contact, they must go home immediately. We ask that when someone is too unwell to go to school, they stay home to recuperate..

Campus Closure

Since the introduction of vaccines, Santa Clara County no longer dictates a positive case rate that would necessitate a move to remote. However, Kehillah will move to remote if we see significant community spread of COVID that appears to be eluding our mitigation strategies, have too many teachers or administrative staff out to run our program effectively, AQI greater than 201, or are otherwise directed by Santa Clara County. If at any time we feel that our campus is unsafe, we will pivot to 100% remote learning. If we do need to pivot, we will notify everyone with our emergency notification system.

Notifying the School

The school must be notified of students' confirmed case status. If one is displaying symptoms of COVID, they must quarantine until proof of a negative COVID test can be submitted.

Response to Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 Cases and Close Contacts

Scenario	Immediate Steps	Return to Kehillah
Individual exhibits one or more COVID Symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Test Immediately -Individual goes home if feeling too unwell to remain at school, regardless of test outcome 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -With negative Antigen Test -If the test is positive, see below -If an individual refuses to test or submit a doctor's note, the case is assumed positive (see below)
Individual tests positive for COVID using rapid antigen test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -<i>Individual is asymptomatic</i>: Individual is sent home and required to take an Antigen test the next day. -<i>Individual is symptomatic</i>: Individual sent/remains home with instruction to isolate -Close contacts notified of the close-contact status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --<i>Individual is asymptomatic</i>: Individual may return if Antigen test from the next day is negative. -<i>Individual is symptomatic or additional Antigen test is positive</i>: Return to Kehillah after at least a five day self-isolation is completed.
Individual identified as Close Contact ¹ to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Close contact may remain at school, but must wear a mask for at least 10 days after last exposure -Close contact tests after 5 days after initial exposure -Close contact is sent/remains home, if at any point begins to feel symptomatic -Close contact must test on each day they are symptomatic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Close contacts may remain at Kehillah as long as they are feeling well and masked.

¹ 6 feet or less for over 15 minutes in a 24 hours period, without a N95 or KN95 mask on, vaccinated or unvaccinated

General Policies and Procedures

Food on Campus

Kehillah will resume buffet style food service for the 2022-2023 school year.

- Wash hands before using shared serving utensils.
- Wash hands, per CDC guidelines, before and after eating.
- It is strongly recommended that all eating happen outdoors. We have ample seating for outdoor eating.

Masking

Masking is a personal choice. Kehillah reserves the right to require masks of all individuals at any point in time. Kehillah will always have masks available to those who would like to wear one and will respect individual decisions to mask. We ask that everyone has a mask available at all times. Masking will be required, but not limited to the following situations:

- Close contacts for at least 10 days after LAST exposure
- Symptomatic individuals who test negative.
- Masks must follow dress code policies as defined in the Student/Parent Handbook.
 - Any clothing with offensive printing or promoting a substance that is illegal for minors is not permitted.
- Please contact Talia Anders if you are concerned about your ability to wear the required mask for medical or other reasons.

Personal Responsibility

We need to work differently and we must work together. We ask you to commit to these safe practices:

- Read and understand all communications.
- Go/stay home if you feel sick and contact your healthcare provider and the School for further guidance.
- Wash your hands when you get to school and continually throughout the day. Be sure to wash for the recommended 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth, especially with unwashed hands.
- If you cough or sneeze and don't have a tissue, keep your facemask on and cover your mouth with the inside of your elbow.
- Be considerate of your classmates and teachers (remember, we're all in this together).
- Please stay focused on your safety and our community's safety. If you see unsafe behaviors, please report them to Talia Anders.

Symptom Screening / Testing

Symptom screening will be done via self-attestation. When an individual is feeling unwell, we ask that they remain home. Kehillah reserves the right to require testing at any point. Kehillah requires a negative Antigen test to return to campus after any extended holiday break and weekly during the Jewish High Holiday season.

At home tests are an acceptable form of test. When testing is required, we ask that test be from within 24 hours of school activity arrival. The test must either be in the student's hand upon arrival or the student may take a selfie with the test with their name on the test. Simple pictures of an Antigen test will not be accepted. Lab based tests are always an acceptable form of test.

Vaccination Policy

- We will continue to require full vaccination of all employees and students.
 - Medical and religious exemptions can be made to the vaccination policy
- Kehillah reserves the right to require vaccines for any activity, like class trips, and can preclude participation based on vaccination status.
- When working with an outside vendor, Kehillah must follow their COVID protocols.

Visitor Policy

Visitors to campus must either be masked or show proof of vaccination. Kehillah reserves the right to require masks of visitors at any moment. Visitors are subject to the same COVID protocols as students and faculty.

Kehillah Jewish High School reserves the right to amend any of these policies at any time. We will update our policies in order to keep our community safe in accordance with the latest guidelines.