



# French American School

*Sunnyvale-Silicon Valley*

## **COVID-19 Parent Handbook** For Preschool & Pre-K Families

School Year 2021/2022 – Revised 05/06/2022

# The Important Roles That Families Play

The partnership between FASSV and our families is critical to keeping our community healthy and safe. Families play a vital role in maintaining safety on campus. **The number one safety measure is to keep a child home if he/she is sick.**

We want to work with families to support their child's adherence to safety measures while they are on campus as well as at home.

Here is how you can help at home:

- Monitor your child for symptoms
- Encourage frequent handwashing and healthy hand washing techniques
- Avoid large-group gatherings
- Continue regular visits to your pediatrician or healthcare provider
- Practice wearing face coverings during family outings and activities in public
- Monitor your child's mental health by talking freely about COVID-19 and other concerns



We understand that there are families with higher risk members in their households. As a community which prioritizes health and safety, we must all do our part to adhere to state and local health recommendations to control transmission and potential future outbreaks.

There may be times when we ask families to comply with more stringent safety measures and we greatly appreciate your cooperation.

## Physical Distancing, Social Connection, and the Mitigation of Risk

The physical and emotional health and well-being of children, staff and communities are dependent on relationships and connections. While physical distancing is ideal for lowering the risk of the spread of COVID-19, there is an inherent conflict between an optimal academic, social, and emotional learning environment and physical distancing.

**In developing policies and practices, we are attempting to balance safety needs of our community, required adherence to federal, state, and local orders with what we know about how students thrive.**



## Community Expectations

All members of the FASSV community have a shared responsibility to prevent the spread of illness. It is imperative that we remain committed to the safety policies and procedures listed in this handbook to help keep students, staff, and faculty safe. By bringing your child on campus, you agree to the requirements listed below:

- **Follow Federal, State, and Local Orders:** All families are expected to adhere to the directives of applicable federal, state, and local government health departments, regarding social distancing in public and other measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
- **Stay Home if Sick:** If your child is sick, we expect you to keep him/her at home.
- If your child or someone in your household tests positive for COVID-19, **you must notify the school as soon as possible** by calling Martine Trusz, Head of School at (408) 505 4641 or Tiffany Hartdegen, Assistant Head, at (214) 354 1343, or sending an email to [martine@fassv.org](mailto:martine@fassv.org) **and** [tiffany@fassv.org](mailto:tiffany@fassv.org).
- If anyone in your household has been notified by an individual, an organization, or the County or State Health Department that they were in contact with an individual infected with COVID-19, **you are asked to notify the school** by calling Martine Trusz, Head of School at (408) 505 4641 or Tiffany Hartdegen, Assistant Head, at (214) 354 1343, or sending an email to [martine@fassv.org](mailto:martine@fassv.org) **and** [tiffany@fassv.org](mailto:tiffany@fassv.org).

# When To Stay Home

Is a member of the household positive for COVID-19, awaiting test results, or experiencing COVID-like symptoms?



Can attend school in most cases (refer to COVID-19 Decision Tree – TK-12 & Childcare), closely monitor for symptoms, wear a mask for 10 days, test immediately & day 5; stay home if develop symptoms

Is the student unwell with COVID-like symptoms?



**YES**



Does a student have a fever of 100.0 F or higher?



**YES**



Has the student been fever free without medication for 24 hours? (COVID, has it been at least 5 days since positive test? )



**YES**



Stay home, call your doctor, and contact the school

Call the school the day before returning

## Travels



Please avoid unnecessary travels. Travel restrictions are frequently changing. Check the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) website for the most up to date information.

**School Policy:** If you **OR** your child are not up to date with your **COVID-19** vaccines, we are recommending **you and your child:**

- Get tested for **COVID-19** 3-5 days after travel.
- Stay home and quarantine for a full 5 days after travel

# COVID-19 Testing and Reporting

**A. Students and staff will be required to be tested as soon as possible after they develop one or more COVID-19 symptoms or if one of their household members or non-household close contact tested positive for COVID-19 testing.**

- i. In lieu of a negative test result, we may allow symptomatic students and personnel to return to school with a medical note by a physician that provides alternative explanation for symptoms and reason for not ordering COVID-19 testing.

**B. Confirmed COVID-19 Case(s):**

- i. Any student or personnel who learns they have tested positive for COVID-19 while at school will immediately be required to wait in an isolation area until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility, as soon as practicable.
- ii. The School will notify all families and personnel in the school community of any positive COVID-19 case while maintaining confidentiality as required by state and federal laws (information concerning confidentiality can be found [here](#).)
- iii. Areas used by any COVID-19 positive person will be immediately closed off. Such areas may not be re-opened until they have been cleaned and disinfected.

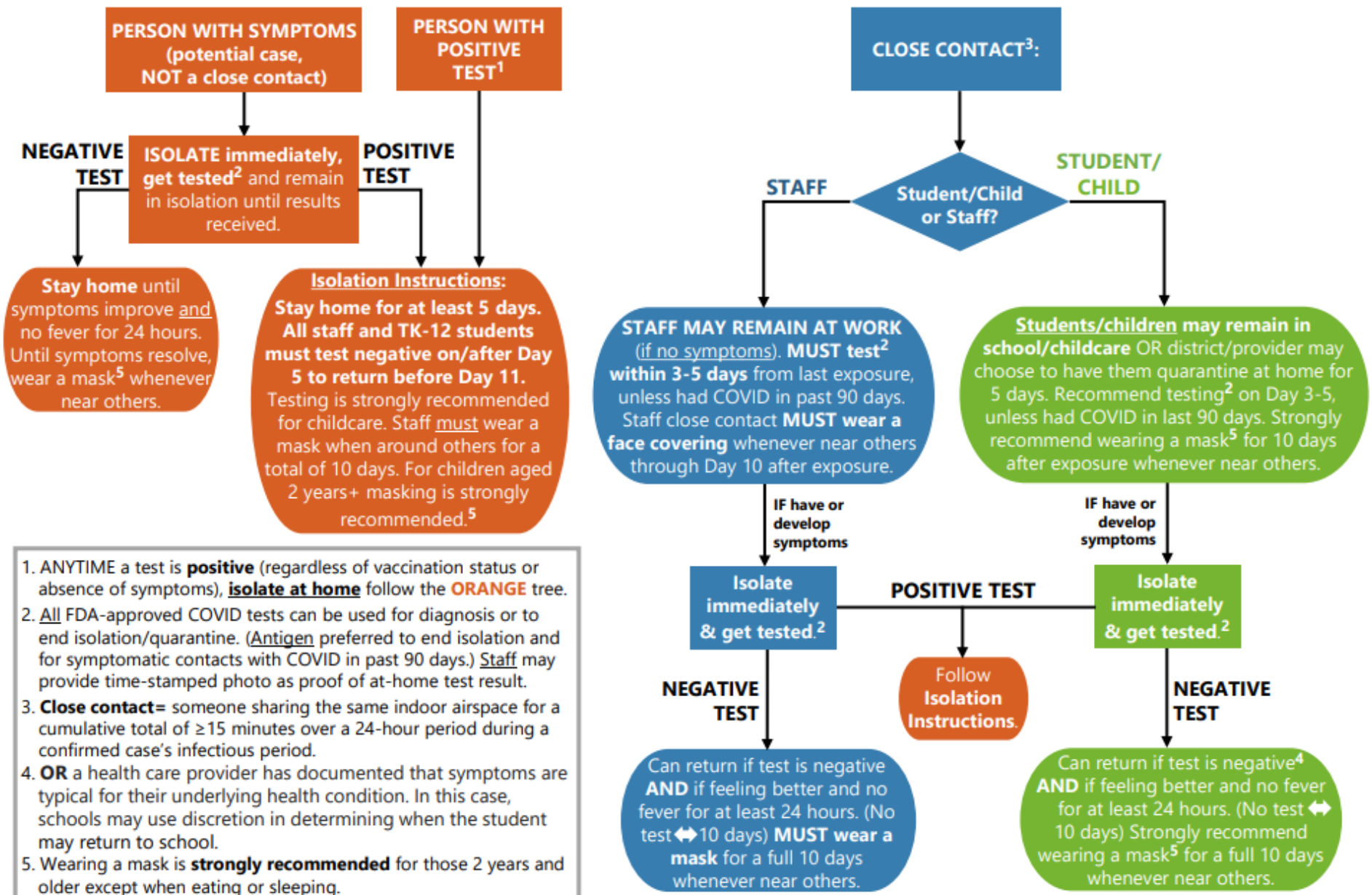
**Return to Program:**

- i. Symptomatic individuals may return on day 6 after onset of symptoms and at least after 24 hours after fever resolution and improvements in other symptoms with a negative (antigen) test result on day 5. Individuals must wear a well fitted mask through day 10 while at school. If no test is received, individual may return on day 11 after onset of symptoms and at least after 24 hours after fever resolution and improvements in other symptoms.
- ii. Asymptomatic individuals who test positive for COVID-19 may return on day 6 with a negative (antigen) test result on day 5. Individuals must continue to monitor for symptoms through day 10 and wear a well fitted mask while at school. If no test is received, asymptomatic individuals who test positive for COVID-19 may return on day 11.

**C. Close contacts to confirmed COVID-19 case(s):**

- i. Students or personnel who had close contact with a COVID-19 positive person (including all members of a stable group with the COVID-19 positive person) can remain at school in most cases (see *Santa Clara County Public Health COVID-19 Decision Tree – TK-12 & Childcare*). Individuals must test on day 3-5, wear a mask and continue to monitor for symptoms for 10 full days. If symptoms develop, students and personnel will be sent home immediately. They will be asked to test for Covid-19 and stay home until test results are received and until symptoms improve.
- ii. A **close contact** is defined as someone who was in contact with an infected person for more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period within 0-6 feet indoors.

# COVID-19 DECISION TREE – TK-12 & CHILDCARE (5.6.22) to Determine Isolation or Quarantine for Staff & Children



1. ANYTIME a test is **positive** (regardless of vaccination status or absence of symptoms), **isolate at home** follow the **ORANGE** tree.
2. All FDA-approved COVID tests can be used for diagnosis or to end isolation/quarantine. (Antigen preferred to end isolation and for symptomatic contacts with COVID in past 90 days.) Staff may provide time-stamped photo as proof of at-home test result.
3. **Close contact**= someone sharing the same indoor airspace for a cumulative total of ≥15 minutes over a 24-hour period during a confirmed case's infectious period.
4. **OR** a health care provider has documented that symptoms are typical for their underlying health condition. In this case, schools may use discretion in determining when the student may return to school.
5. Wearing a mask is **strongly recommended** for those 2 years and older except when eating or sleeping.

# On Campus



## Stable cohorts of students

- **Students** will be assigned to stable groups to the extent possible.
- **Currently, students** will be allowed to attend more than one after-school program, or other child/youth activity, where appropriate. This could potentially change, as state and local COVID-19 guidelines change.
- **Personnel** may engage in any physical contact as necessary given the needs of the students.
- The **School** will limit to the greatest extent possible, the number of personnel interacting with each cohort of students.



## Face coverings

- **All personnel** are currently required to wear a mask, covering the nose and mouth at all times, while at work except when eating or drinking.
- **All adults** picking up or dropping off students should wear a mask.
- **It is highly recommended that students ages 2 and up** wear a mask when inside (except when eating, drinking, and napping), as well as outside during aftercare if mixed with another cohort.



- Masks with exhalation valve will not be allowed on campus.



## Drop-Off & Pick-Up

- **Drop offs and pick-ups** will take place at the playground's gates. No parents or guardians will be allowed on campus.
- **Only one single adult** is allowed to drop off or pick-up a student.
- **Only late arrivals or early pick-ups** will be allowed at the school door.



## Daily Symptom Checking

- **For Staff:**
  - All personnel will take a daily health screening and temperature check.
  - All FASSV's personnel are currently vaccinated against COVID-19. Staff will be tested for COVID-19 before the start of the school year and will test on campus weekly.
- **For Chaperones / Volunteers:**
  - All personnel will take a daily health screening and temperature check before coming on campus to volunteer.
  - All chaperones / volunteers are to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (primary-series completed). Chaperones / volunteers will test for COVID-19 the morning of their volunteer shift.
- **For Students:**
  - Families will be required to provide a daily health screening on-site.

- K-5 students are currently tested on campus weekly. Parents with children in K-5 who choose not to have their children tested on campus must provide a weekly test result to Student Affairs.

**Note:** Any student exhibiting symptoms will be required to wait in an isolation area until he/she can be transported home or to a healthcare facility.

## Daily Screening Questions for Families

1. Have you been diagnosed with COVID-19 symptoms or had a test confirming you have the virus?

YES – STAY HOME and seek medical care.

2. Have you had close contact with someone who has been in isolation for COVID-19 or had a test confirming they have the virus? Close contact is less than 6 feet for 15 minutes or more.

YES – Follow the *COVID-19 Decision Tree – TK-12 & Childcare*

3. Have you had any one or more of these symptoms today or within the past 3 days?

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Loss of taste or smell

YES – STAY HOME and seek medical care and testing.

3. Have you had any one or more of these symptoms today or within the past 3 days and that are new or not explained by another reason?

- Fatigue
- Runny nose
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Muscle or body aches
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea

YES – STAY HOME and seek medical care and testing.



# Cleaning, Hygiene, and Other Measures

Our cleaning staff has already implemented additional disinfection measures with EPA approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, throughout the school day.

- Special attention will be paid to **high-touch areas** such as door handles, faucet handles, toilet handles, playground equipment, light switches, desks, tables, chairs, and shared objects.
- Enhanced **nightly sanitation and disinfection protocols** have also been instituted, in compliance with the Santa Clara County Health Department's directives.
- **Sanitation and Disinfection Protocols** have been instituted in compliance with the Santa Clara County Health Department's directive, in the event the SARS-CoV-2 virus enters the school facility.

## Handwashing

- All students will be instructed **in proper handwashing techniques**.
- **Handwashing will be required at numerous times** during the day such as upon arrival, before and after eating, after using the bathrooms, sneezing, or coughing, before and after outside break times and as needed.
- **Hand sanitizers** with at least 60% alcohol will be available at gates, building entrances, and in every classroom. Handwashing will be prioritized over hand sanitizing and the use of hand sanitizers by students will be carefully monitored to avoid any misuse or accident.

## Hallways and Common Spaces

- Playground and hallway **signage and information** will be provided regarding physical distancing in common spaces.

## Restrooms

- Designated bathrooms will be assigned for scheduled bathroom breaks and unscheduled bathroom access/needs.

## Personal Items

- Limit the items your child brings onto campus each day and reinforce policies around the sharing of food, supplies, and other items with other students.

# Preschool & Pre-K

## Hours of Operation

- 8:00 AM to 8:30 AM – Morning Welcome
- 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM – Class Time
- 3:30 PM to 3:45 PM – Dismissal
- 3:45 PM to 6:00 PM - Aftercare

## Access

- Checkpoint and access to the campus at the **playground gates**.
- Daily health screening and temperature check will be done at the checkpoints.
- From the checkpoints, students will be taken to their classroom by a staff member.
- No parent allowed on campus.

## Students' Belongings

- **Remember to pack the following:**
  - **Cold Lunch**
  - **Plenty of water in water bottles labelled with your child's name**

*Note: the School has a no candy policy; snacks can be fruits, cheese, crackers, etc.*

- Nap mats will be sent home every Friday to be washed.
- Remember to bring your child's mat back the following Monday.

Thank you!

We look forward to seeing you and your child on campus.

