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# **NEW VISTA CAREER ACADEMY SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

### **Procedures and Guidelines**

Subject to change as updated health guidelines are released (updated 8.3.2022)

These guidelines will be revised and updated when new data and health guidance from our state and local health agencies emerge. The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, is a highly infectious, lifethreatening disease declared by the World Health Organization to be a global pandemic. For more information on COVID-19, visit the websites of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) or the California Department of Public Health (https://covid19.ca.gov/). New Vista School has implemented safety guidelines and precautions in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Please review the following guidelines to help ensure we are doing all that we can do to keep our community safe and healthy.

There will be many requirements for parents, staff, and participants. We will do our best to minimize inconveniences during this challenging time. As this is a dynamic situation, there may be additional changes as we move forward. We will err on the side of caution for the best protection of all students. We very much appreciate your flexibility and support.

Federal, State, County, and City authorities have set forth guidelines for policies, procedures, and practices to be implemented in efforts to mitigate and slow the spread of the novel virus which causes COVID-19. This severe respiratory disease can be fatal, especially in vulnerable populations. In response, New Vista School will adhere to the policies described below as we are committed to providing essential care for our students.

## Face Masks and Rapid tests are available on campus

Current updates are available on our website under "Covid-19" / Career Academy tab (www.newvistaschool.org)

### Does New Vista Career Academy require participants to be vaccinated for COVID-19?

There currently is no requirement for students to be vaccinated for COVID-19.

### **Face Masks:**

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022: Face Masks are currently not required indoors for vaccinated or unvaccinated individuals, but highly recommended.

### Everyone is required to wear masks in:

• Public transit and in stations, terminals, and airports



- Indoors in K-12 schools and childcare (through March 11, 2022)
- Healthcare settings
- Emergency shelters and cooling and heating centers
- State and local correctional facilities and detention centers
- Homeless shelters
- Long-term care settings and adult and senior care facilities

# Masks are strongly recommended for everyone in: Indoor public settings (including K-12 schools and daycare beginning March 12)

- Retail
- Restaurants
- Theaters
- Family entertainment centers
- Meetings
- State and local government offices that serve the public

### **Office Cleanliness:**

We will wipe down open areas such as doors, floors, hand railings, and all other public areas throughout the day. Staff and participants will assist in wiping down desks and equipment that has been handled.

### **Office Visitation:**

- Parents and other visitors should schedule office appointments with the program Director: Nick Roach: <a href="mailto:nroach@newvistaschool.org">nroach@newvistaschool.org</a>
- If you have an emergency question, we can meet you at the front entry.
- Maintaining a protective environment is critical.
- Mail and other deliveries will be done outside the office door.

### At Home:

- Check your Student! Please complete health and temperature checks at home. Do not send a participant to school who appears to have a fever or is ill. The participant will be sent home and may require a doctor's note to return.
- Please ensure your participant is healthy, showered, and ready for the program.
- Please provide a cloth face mask for your student, as well as one back up for them to keep in their locker. A KN95 or N95 mask is recommended. A cloth facial covering or surgical mask may be used if preferred.
- Be sure your student understands social distancing, appropriate handwashing, and the safety protocols. Social distancing is recommended at 3 feet.
- Parents/Guardians/participants should refer to the Symptom Decision Tree for assistance on Covid symptoms and appropriate protocols.



- Take your temperature before arriving at the program. Temperature should be 100.4 or lower.
- Help us keep the program safe!

# **Arriving at the office:**

- The preferred drop off location is by the side door, closest to the street.
- Currently not required (3/12/22): Participants are required to wear a face mask during drop off.
- Currently not required (3/12/22): Staff is required to wear a face mask during drop off.

## Pick Up:

• Currently not required (3/12/22): Students and staff are required to wear a face mask during pick-up.

# What do I do if my student has a COVID-19 symptom?

# Please keep your student home and contact the Academy staff

- If you have COVID-19 symptoms, you shall immediately isolate yourself in your home or another suitable place for 10 days from the date of your symptom(s) onset and may end your self-isolation sooner under any of the following conditions:
- If a diagnostic specimen collected as early as the date of your symptom(s) onset tests negative.
  - While an antigen test, nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT), or LAMP test are acceptable, use of an antigen test is recommended. Use of Over-the-Counter tests are also acceptable to end isolation.
- Note: A negative PCR or antigen test collected on day 1-2 of symptom onset should be repeated in 1-2 days to confirm negative status. While isolation may end after the first negative test, it is strongly recommended to end isolation upon negative results from the repeat test.
  - o If you obtain an alternative diagnosis from a healthcare provider.

### **Covid Exposure on campus:**

- If there a Covid exposure on campus, any vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals will not need to self-quarantine unless they develop symptoms.
- The participant has a negative FDA approved/authorized antigen test (lab or home and results are shared with New Vista School nurse) Test within 3-5 days after last exposure.
- Participant wears a mask both indoors and outdoors for 10 days after initial exposure.
- Monitor symptoms through Day 14

If the participant tests positive for Covid-19 (symptomatic or asymptomatic), the participant can return to campus under the following conditions:



- At least 5 days have passed since symptoms onset (Day 1 is the first day after the onset of symptoms See illustration below)
- At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication
- Other symptoms have resolved
- An FDA approved/authorized Covid-19 antigen test is negative on or after Day 5 from symptom onset (test results must be shared with the New Vista nurse at agonzalez@newvistaschool.org)
- If the student does not or cannot test, the participant can return after a 10-day isolation period.
- All persons who test positive for COVID-19 should continue to wear a well-fitting mask at all times around other people through day 10.

## Isolation and Quarantine Recommendations for the General Public

# All persons with COVID-19 symptoms, regardless of vaccination status or previous infection, should:

- Self-isolate and test as soon as possible to determine infection status. Knowing one is infected early during self-isolation enables (a) earlier access to treatment options, if indicated (especially for those that may be at risk for severe illness), and (b) notification of exposed persons (close contacts) who may also benefit by knowing if they are infected.
- For symptomatic persons who have tested positive within the previous 90 days, using an antigen test is preferred.
- Remain in isolation while waiting for testing results. If not tested, they should continue isolating for 10 days after the day of symptom onset, and if they cannot isolate, should wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days.
- Consider continuing self-isolation and retesting with an antigen or PCR test in 1-2 days if testing negative with an antigen test, particularly if tested during the first 1-2 days of symptoms.

Continue to self-isolate if test result is positive, follow recommended actions below (Table 1), and contact their healthcare provider about available treatments if symptoms are severe or they are at high risk for serious disease or if they have any questions concerning their care.

**Table 1: Persons Who Should Isolate** 

Persons Who Test Positive for COVID-19	٠	Recommended Actions
Everyone, regardless of vaccination status,	•	Stay home (PDF) for at least 5 days after start of symptoms (or after date of first positive test if no symptoms).



# previous infection or lack of symptoms.

- Isolation can end after Day 5 if symptoms are not present or are resolving and a diagnostic specimen\* collected on Day 5 or later tests negative.
- If unable to test, choosing not to test, or testing positive on Day 5 (or later), isolation can end after Day 10 if fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- If fever is present, isolation should be continued until 24 hours after fever resolves.
- If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving, continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after Day 10. If symptoms are severe, or if the infected person is at high risk of serious disease, or if they have questions concerning care, infected persons should contact their healthcare provider for available treatments.
- Per CDPH masking guidance, infected persons should wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings (see masking section below for additional information).
- \*Antigen test preferred.

**Table 2: Close Contacts - General Public (No Quarantine)** 

# Asymptomatic Persons Who are Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (No Quarantine)

**Recommended Actions** 

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status.

Persons infected within the prior 90 days do not need to be tested, quarantined, or excluded from work unless symptoms develop.

- Test within 3-5 days after last exposure.
- Per CDPH masking guidance, close contacts should wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings and when near those at higher risk for severe COVID-19 disease (see masking section below for additional information).
- Strongly encouraged to get vaccinated or boosted.
- If symptoms develop, test and stay home (see earlier section on symptomatic persons), AND
- If test result is positive, follow isolation recommendations above (Table 1).



# **Physical Distancing and Face Coverings**

- Currently not required (3/12/22): Participants will remain at desks with face masks on.
- Face masks on students are encouraged but not required when appropriate distancing is possible, such as eating lunch outside.
- Some community partners may require participants to wear face masks. (**Please have two face masks available per day**). Participants will be prompted to wear a face mask when necessary or prudent.
- If needed, participants' will be provided "mask breaks" when able to sit more than 3 feet apart.
- Currently not required (3/12/22): Job coaches will wear a face mask in the classroom when physical distancing is not possible and when moving about campus.
- Currently not required (3/12/22): Job coaches and instructional staff are permitted to remove their face covering when they are instructing if physical distancing (3 feet) is being practiced.

#### Restrooms

- Currently not required (3/12/22): Only two participants per restroom will be allowed at one time.
- Participants must inform staff before leaving the office.
- Appropriate hand washing protocols will be enforced regularly.

## Hygiene

- Participants will be prompted to use the sinks in the restroom for handwashing. Hand sanitizer will also be available throughout the office.
- New Vista Career Academy Staff will continue to ensure the development of healthy hygiene habits including, avoiding handshaking or other 'touch' greetings, such as fist-pumps & high-fives, avoiding face touching, and ensuring proper handwashing practices.
- Staff will explain to participants why it's not healthy to share drinks or food, particularly when sick.
- Participants will be instructed to wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. This will include before and after eating, after coughing/sneezing, after playing outside, and before & after using the restroom.
- Participants will be reminded to use tissues to wipe their nose, and to cough into their arm or elbow as needed.

# **Daily Health Screening**

• Staff will be requested to perform temperature checks at home. Staff will be permitted access to campus if they have a temperature that is less than 100.4 degrees and if they



- confirm they are negative for COVID-19 symptoms within the last 24 hours including shortness of breath and coughing.
- Participants will be requested to perform temperature checks at home. Participants will be granted access to campus if they have a temperature that is less than 100.4 degrees and if they confirm they are negative for COVID-19 symptoms within the last 24 hours including. shortness of breath and coughing.

**Social Distancing:** Social Distancing recommendations have been adjusted from 6 feet to 3 feet.

### **Nutrition Break and Lunch**

- We highly encourage participants to use disposable bags for snacks and lunch.
- Tables used for snacks and/or lunch will be cleaned after each use.
- We encourage participants to bring personal, clearly marked water bottles that can be wiped clean during the day.

# **Supplies and Personal Items**

• Participants are permitted to bring a small bag or backpack for personal supplies.

### **Contact Tracing Procedures:**

- In the event a participant or staff member is found to test positive for COVID-19, all individuals known to have been in proximity with that individual for the two days prior to the onset of fever will be informed that they have been exposed to COVID-19 and will be advised to quarantine themselves for 5 days and seek medical advice. (Unless they have been vaccinated for two weeks prior to the exposure)
- Individuals who had contact with a known case should monitor their temperature and symptoms twice a day during quarantine as symptoms may present anywhere from 3 to 14 days post-contact.
- Parents of children who test positive for COVID-19 should also monitor young children for symptoms of a pediatric Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS) including abdominal pain, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, rash, blisters, pink eye or conjunctivitis, enlarged lymph nodes in the neck, red or cracked lips, red or swollen hands or feet. In the event these symptoms are present for more than 4 days in a child with a known case of COVID-19, emergency medical services are indicated.
- All developments of illness will be regularly communicated with local authorities, employees, and all families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures. New Vista Career Academy will monitor daily county and city public health updates on cases and transmission of COVID-19 in Orange County and the City of



Laguna Hills. New Vista Career Academy will seek consultation if there is an increase in cases in the City of Laguna Hills or the immediate surrounding cities.

• New Vista Career Academy is required to report positive COVID-19 test results to Cal/OSHA within 8 hours.

# Returning to the program

- Individuals found to be positive for COVID-19 may not return to the facility for a minimum of 5 days **and** until the individual has been without symptoms for 24 hours without the administration of fever-reducing medicines. Individuals who have had contact with an individual found to be positive for COVID-19, who remain asymptomatic for 10 days after their last known exposure to the virus, may return to the site on day 11 post-exposure.
- Additional areas of the program visited by the COVID-19-positive individual may also need to be closed temporarily for cleaning and disinfection.

# **Environment and Cleaning Procedures**

### **Facilities**

- Faculty and participants will thoroughly wipe down, with soap and water or approved cleansers, all desks (teacher and student), and other surfaces multiple times during the program day and before leaving each day.
- Office doors will remain open for increased ventilation if possible without disrupting learning.

# **Handwashing / Hand Sanitizing Stations**

- Wall-mounted hand sanitizer units are available throughout campus.
- Hand Sanitizer bottles are available for participant and staff use.

### **Transportation**

- Participants will be required to use their face mask while traveling in a program van.
- Social distancing will be compromised.

### **Distance Learning**

- Participants' who have been exposed or infected are required to self-quarantine at home, and will have the option of continuing to attend classroom instruction via Distance Learning for a limited time. Community outings will not have virtual learning capabilities.
- Participants will be able to access their classes via Google Meet /Google Hangouts, or in special circumstances, Zoom.



### **Face Masks:**

- Currently not required (3/12/22): Participants and staff will be required to wear face masks.
- Face masks should be provided by parents/guardians/participants.
- Please provide a back-up mask.
- A KN95 or N95 mask is recommended. A cloth facial covering or surgical mask may be used if preferred.
- Currently not required (3/12/22) Participants and staff will be required to use a cloth face mask during their time on campus, or while off campus at an indoor venue.
- Face masks need to be provided by parents.
- Mask guidance provided by the State (1/14/2022): "Face covering" means a surgical mask, a medical procedure mask, a respirator worn voluntarily, or a tightly woven fabric or non-woven material of at least two layers (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source) that completely covers the nose and mouth and is secured to the head with ties, ear loops, or elastic bands that go behind the head. If gaiters are worn, they shall have two layers of fabric or be folded to make two layers. A face covering is a solid piece of material without slits, visible holes, or punctures, and must fit snugly over the nose, mouth, and chin with no large gaps on the outside of the face.
- A face covering **does not** include a scarf, ski mask, balaclava, bandana, turtleneck, collar, or single layer of fabric.

# **Know which Masks Provide the Best Protection Against COVID-19:**

Least Effective	Effective	More Effective	Most Effective
Fabric mask     with three or     more cloth     layers	• Surgical Mask	<ul> <li>KF94</li> <li>KN95</li> <li>Double Mask</li> <li>Fitted Surgical Mask</li> </ul>	N95 (also best for wildfire smoke)