

HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN

ROOTS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

2022-23

As per OSSE's Health and Safety Guidance for schools, Roots Public Charter School has the following health and safety plan.

Sanitizing the Facility

A janitorial staff will be maintained to deep clean the school including all touchable surfaces each evening and the multipurpose room again on Sunday evenings. Throughout the day, staff will intentionally wipe all high-touch surfaces with a disinfectant. Sanitation supplies will be available daily.

Face Masks

Roots requires all who enter the school bring their own face masks. If someone doesn't have one, one will be provided by the school. All students, staff, and visitors must wear masks upon entering the building and on the grounds of the school. Exceptions include eating, drinking, and napping.

Shields and Physical Distancing

Shields and physical distancing will not be mandated, but care will be taken to support a healthy spacing. Cohorts for the most part of the day will be separate as Preprimary, K-2, and 3rd-5th grades to the extent feasible.

Hand Washing

Roots will ensure operational hand sinks with complete soap and hand drying options are available. All students and staff will be reminded to wash their hands frequently throughout the day especially after toileting and before eating. Also, hand sanitizers will be available in each room.

Coughs and Sneezes

Coughs and sneezes are to be in the inner bend of one's arm. Kleenex will be provided in each classroom.

Entering School Bldg

All students will enter the school at the rear door to the classroom. All parents and visitors will enter the school from the front office door and sign in as applicable.

Temperature Check

Upon entering the building, all persons must pass the temperature check. Each person will be screened each day before entering the building. Failed screening or getting sick during the day will constitute non-admission until a negative test is shown at least 5 days after the positive test.

HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN

ROOTS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

2022-23

Ventilation and Water System

Roots PCS complies with all ventilation and water system expectations and plans to perform necessary maintenance to ventilation and water systems.

Weekly COVID testing at home

To ensure that all persons entering the school are free of COVID, each person entering the building for the first time each week will be responsible to show (email or in person) the test results. All testing is done by parents at home before bringing their child to school. A positive test results precludes non-admission. Upon a negative test result the 6th day, the person may re-attend school.

COVID cases

Anyone that is demonstrating COVID symptoms or has tested positive for COVID is precluded from entering the school. Anyone that is a close contact, Kndg and above, may do “test to stay.” Preprimary children are not eligible for “test to stay.”

Test to Stay (TTS)

Exposure must occur at school for TTS to take place. The close contact must be asymptomatic and upon taking the home rapid test, tests negative. In this case, the close contact may continue to come to school. However, the close contact must also test negative again two days later and must during the school attendance:

- Wear a well-fitting mask while in school.
- Stay separated from other individuals during periods where their mask would need to be removed (e.g., when eating, drinking, and napping), if possible.
- Not fully participate during higher risk classes or activities during the school day. Higher risk activities are those with increased risk for COVID-19 transmission due to greater potential for forceful exhalation during participation (for example physical education class, recess, choir, orchestra, band, theatre, or dance). Students should continue to participate in modified, low-impact activities during these classes or times of the school day.

Monitoring and Reporting

The health and safety plan will be monitored by the school administration team to make sure all protocols are being followed. Roots will communicate the health and safety policies and procedures to staff, students, families, and visitors through phone calls, text messages, emails, digital platforms, and school website. Whenever a cohort has a positive COVID case or has any contagious illness or infection, the

HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN

ROOTS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

2022-23

parents of the cohort will be notified by notification flier/letter, telephone call, email, class dojo, google classroom, and/or text messages. As per regulations, upon 25 cases at one outbreak, Roots PCS will also report to DC Health.

Training, Technical Assistance, and Monitoring

Roots will provide training and technical assistance on our policies and procedure to the parent community at the Parent Orientation and first PTA meeting. Training for the staff will be at the Return to School Professional Development weeks. These trainings will be led by Roots administration and address the protocols that will be put in place and sustained throughout the year in accordance with the DC Health and Guidance for Schools and the OSSE Health and Safety Guidance for Schools.