



Opportunity · Unity · Excellence

COVID-19 Covid Mitigation Plan 2021-2022

The Upper Darby School District recognizes the social and emotional benefits of in-person learning. In order to keep our schools open, staffed, and to provide all of the benefits associated with a return to in-person instruction, the District has developed a set of mitigation strategies that we will implement from time to time depending on the level of community spread of COVID-19. At the time of this communication, the County is considered in the substantial range. If the County is still in substantial when schools open on August 30, 2021, ALL staff and students will be required to mask while indoors. We are requiring masking throughout the District from time to time in order to keep our schools open, reduce the potential for student and staff isolation, and to prevent the spread of the virus. The District will not be requiring masking during outdoor athletic competitions. When the District/County moves out of substantial for at least 14 days, we will continue to require masking of students ages 11 and under and recommend masking of eligible unvaccinated individuals. We will continue to update this guidance when more information becomes available.

- **Link to follow** [COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)
- **First Day of School** – Monday, August 30th for all grades
- **Learning Format** – Full day, in-person instruction 5 days per week K-8. *Kindergarten will be ½ days beginning Aug 30.* [UDHS has adopted a new schedule](#)
- **Attendance** – All students are expected to attend class on time, every day regardless of instructional model
- **Health Screening** – Staff and families must continue to conduct daily health and wellness screenings. If you are sick, please stay home and follow district attendance procedures. [UDSD Self-screening](#)

- **Hand Sanitizer** – Available in every school classroom
- **Masking of students and staff-** If Delaware County moves to levels of substantial or high transmission, CDC and PA DOH recommend all persons, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a mask in public indoor settings. Fully vaccinated people who have had a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 to be tested 2-5 days after exposure, and should wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test. Regardless of vaccination status, any person with new or unexplained symptoms of COVID-19 still needs to isolate and be evaluated for COVID-19 testing.
- **COVID-19 Testing**
 - **Students:** Testing available onsite for students who present with COVID-like symptoms during the day.
 - **Staff:** Testing available onsite for staff who present with COVID-like symptoms during the day.
 - **Quarantine for Vaccinated Individuals:** Testing available onsite between day 2-5 if identified as close contact during school operations.
 - **Alternate Quarantine Period for Unvaccinated Individuals:** If an individual remains asymptomatic after exposure during school operations they will return to school/work on day 8 for rapid antigen test. Individuals may return to school/work with a negative result AND monitor symptoms until day 14.
 - [Please refer to CDC guidance](#) for further information.

Contact Tracing, Isolation, and Quarantine

- Schools should continue to work with DOH or county or municipal health departments (CMHD) to complete contact tracing for individuals diagnosed or exposed to COVID-19. As part of the contact tracing process, DOH and CMHDs will continue to work with schools to gather information about potential close contacts.
- The CDC guidance adds the following exception to the definition of close contact:
 - In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) where:
 - both students were engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting face masks; and
 - other K–12 school prevention strategies (such as universal and correct mask use, physical distancing, increased ventilation) were in place in the K–12 school setting.
 - This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

- **Athletics/Performing Arts** – Students will be allowed to participate in athletics and the performing arts (band, orchestra, theatre, and choir). We are strongly encouraging our students participating in these programs to be vaccinated. We may adjust our rapid antigen testing program to require testing of athletes/performing arts students in order to participate when community transmission levels escalate.
- **Confirmed Positive COVID-19 Cases**
 - **Communication:** schools with covid related outbreaks and families will be informed.
 - **Person Testing Positive:** in-home isolation required for at least 10 days and notify school nurse.
 - **Classrooms or School Closures:** only if advised by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) or if we are unable to properly contact trace.
- **Continuity of Education** – Students who are quarantining or isolating will receive instructional support while at home via synchronous instruction or asynchronous instruction depending on the health of the student.
- **Social Distancing** – The District is requiring masking of all students in order to add another mitigation strategy in the absence of 3ft of social distance while in the “Substantial Range.” While 3 feet of distance will be encouraged when and where possible, our priority is to return our students to in-person instruction. This has been supported by the CDC and the PA DOH.
- **Air & Surface Sanitized** – In all instructional spaces, gyms, cafeterias and offices.
- **Cleaning & Sanitizing** – Schools **cleaned and sanitized** prior to Aug. 30 and each evening during the school year. [Electrostatic Clorox Sprayer](#)
- **Social and Emotional Supports for Students**
 - Trauma Informed Instruction
 - Lessons on social and emotional learning
 - Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS)
- **Extra-curricular Activities & Sports** – All activities will return in person. Spectators limited and based on community transmission levels.
- **Student Transportation** – All school buses and vans cleaned daily. Masking is required for staff and students.
- **Remote Learning Options** – Offered through the School District Schoology Platform using Upper Darby School District Curriculum. Students will be able to attend either synchronously (live virtual instruction) or asynchronously/independent work. **(Please contact the school principal).**
- **Hotspots-** Will be available to families through your school social worker. Please contact your school principal/social worker for assistance.

