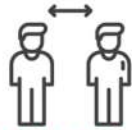


6 KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Minimize Risk to Accelerate Learning in the Era of COVID-19



PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Because the virus that causes COVID-19 is more easily transmitted when someone infected is in close proximity to others, physical distancing and thoughtful use of existing space will be key factors in mitigating risk and accelerating learning in the era of COVID-19.



FACE COVERINGS

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads in droplets that are exhaled by someone who has the virus. Protective equipment such as face coverings, helps prevent the spread of COVID-19 by limiting the flow of these droplets. Students and staff should use face coverings on campus, unless contraindicated, to reduce the chances of exposing each other to this virus.



HANDWASHING

Handwashing will go a long way in helping schools reduce exposure to and the spread of COVID-19. Students and staff should wash their hands frequently throughout the day, including before and after eating, after coughing or sneezing, after classes where they handle shared items (such as outside recreation, art, or shop), and before and after using the restroom.



COHORTING

Student grouping, or cohorting, can increase safety once schools are ready to return to in-person instruction. Cohorts can minimize exposure, first and foremost, and maximize connection in order to accelerate learning. They can be an important component of reopening school buildings safely by reducing the number of people with whom school staff and students interact face-to-face.



CLEANING AND SANITATION

Because the virus that causes COVID-19 can also live on surfaces for a period of time, staff should clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at school and on school buses at least daily, and, as practicable, these surfaces should also be cleaned and disinfected frequently throughout the day by trained custodial staff.



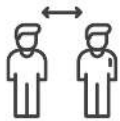
TESTING AND TRACING

LEAs may have to take additional measures when a student, teacher, or staff member has symptoms, is in contact with someone infected, is diagnosed with COVID-19, or when the county is placed on the monitoring list. LEAs should recommend testing for students and staff who display symptoms or who have been in close contact with someone who is a confirmed case of COVID-19. CDPH guidance states school districts and schools shall test staff periodically, as testing capacity permits and as practicable.

For more information check the Health and Safety Guidebook:
<https://k12playbook.ccee-ca.org>

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