

Back-to-School Checklist for K-12 Schools

1. Set clear rules for masking

- Implement universal masking regardless of vaccination status, to comply with CDC guidance
- Add masks to school supply lists for each grade level and recommend at least five clean masks in student backpacks each week
- Provide disposable and age-appropriate masks for students who forget or lose them during the school day
- Optional:** Define a policy for students and others who challenge masking rules

2. Create safe environments

- Modify physical spaces and operating protocols for proper ventilation and enhanced distancing
- Develop, implement, and communicate protocols for using and cleaning shared spaces/materials, including sanitizing high-touch surfaces, using portable handwashing stations and eating outdoors
- Put cleaning protocols in place (e.g. sanitizing high-touch surfaces)
- Optional:** Re-configure HVAC settings and install filters for optimal filtered airflow

3. Enable everyday COVID-19 health screening

- Train staff to identify potential COVID-19 symptoms
- Develop a healthy screening checklist (fever, travel, exposure, etc.)
- Decide who will administer the checklist (school or parents) and when
- Identify a provider to direct students and staff for symptomatic and asymptomatic testing
- Optional:** Partner with a symptom monitoring solution vendor (app or website)
- Optional:** Set up an on-site testing and screening operation

4. Set clear guidance for COVID-19 test results

- Develop testing protocol for symptomatic and exposed students and staff
- Set clear criteria for circumstances that require notification/communication
- Identify close contacts that require quarantine/isolation in concert with your public health department in the event of a positive case
- Determine who will be notified (e.g., classmates of a student who tests positive, everyone in the school) and who is responsible for initiating communication (e.g., principal, nurse)
- Set the actions that will be taken including communication and other health and safety measures (e.g. testing, shift to virtual/outdoor learning, etc.)

5. Encourage vaccines for eligible students and staff

- Encourage and educate faculty, staff, and students on the safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines
- Follow the latest news and guidance on vaccine safety and availability for students 11 and under, as it becomes available
- Optional:** Hold back-to-school community pop-up vaccine clinics with pharmacy or health partner for students ages 12 and over, and their families

More detailed guidance can be found within the **Safer School Reopenings** and **COVID-19 Testing in K-12 Schools** guides from Healthy Davis Together (HDT). HDT is a joint project between the City of Davis and the University of California, Davis. Since September 2020, HDT has been partnering with Davis Joint Unified School District (DJUSD) to support the safe reopening of their Pre-K through grade 12 schools, and has since expanded to support schools throughout Yolo County. To learn more please contact Mira Susa at msusa@ucdavis.edu.