

THE NUEVA SCHOOL



NUEVA HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN FOR RETURN TO CAMPUS

August 21, 2020



Nueva is known as a school that embraces change, a community that has the agility and resilience to navigate the complexity of innovative education. One reason why we are successful in this way is our ability to anchor decision-making in a small number of foundational priorities, especially when in the midst of highly fluid situations.

There is no better time than the present to continue with this approach while launching the 2020–21 school year. With so much uncertainty in community health guidelines and ambiguity in schools’ plans for a successful school opening, Nueva will rely on its tremendous commitment to wellness, learning, and care for all in the community as key priorities.

The items included in this planning document serve as core parameters to follow for a successful return to campus, regardless of when this might happen. I encourage you to carefully read through this information so that you are well informed of Nueva’s planning priorities as we continue to learn by doing and learn by caring.

LEE FERTIG, HEAD OF SCHOOL

As we manage on-campus experiences and prepare for a future return in various scenarios,

the overall well-being of our students, faculty, and staff is our utmost priority. We all have important roles to play to ensure the health and safety of each other. First and foremost, to reduce the risk of exposure to SARS-CoV2 virus that causes COVID-19 and to slow the spread, we all must adhere to the health guidelines established by the CDC, San Mateo County Health, San Mateo Department of Education, American Academy of Pediatrics, and our own physicians and pediatricians advisory board. At Nueva, we are focusing on the following priorities in our preparation for a return to campus.

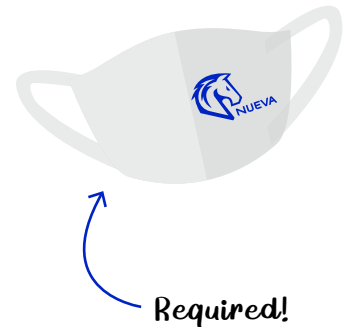


Key Priorities

1. Health and safety planning
2. Campus preparation and ongoing care
3. Learning models that adhere to health and safety

Health and Safety Planning

Following the advice of local, state, and national medical experts and the [strategies from Atul Gawande](#), we have developed guidelines for an on-site return to school. It is important that we all understand, practice, and are prepared to adhere to these guidelines for when we are onsite together.



Our school guidelines

THESE GUIDELINES INCLUDE

- 1.** Self-screening and reporting prior to coming to campus.
- 2.** On-campus screening and follow-up upon arrival.
- 3.** Maintaining physical distancing of at least 6 feet.
- 4.** Required use of a mask or face covering at all times (except during controlled breaks).
- 5.** Frequent hand washing and/or use of hand sanitizer.
- 6.** Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of shared spaces/objects and frequent ventilation.

- 7.** Adhering to group size considerations ensuring proper physical distancing.

Please review our [Health and Safety Plan](#) so we can all work together to adhere to these guidelines.

Also note that only employees and students will be allowed on campus. There will be times when contractors and parents will be allowed on campus, but only with administrative approval.

We ask for your flexibility during the dynamic situation we are experiencing. If we make any updates to these guidelines we will share them accordingly.

Masks and Face Coverings



What DOES qualify as a mask or face covering?

- Disposable or reusable masks or face covering
- Made of double- or triple-layered cloth, fabric, or other soft materials without holes (clear plastic inserts are OK) that covers the bridge of the nose, mouth, and chin of the wearer at all times with a snug but comfortable fit



What DOES NOT qualify as a mask or face covering?

- A face shield does not qualify as a mask/face covering. It can be used in addition to not instead of a mask/face covering.
- A one-way valve to facilitate easy exhaling (breathing out) does not qualify. It provides protection for the wearer but not for others.

Please carefully review our expectations for [Masks and Face Coverings](#) especially before coming on campus.

Health Screening Questionnaire

For entry to campus each day, students, faculty, and staff will be required to complete a health screening questionnaire. Prior to coming to school, we ask visitors to respond to the following questions and comply with a temperature check.



Updated as of 8/6/2020

[Health screening questionnaire](#)



THE NUEVA SCHOOL HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN HEALTH SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE

Before coming to campus, **conduct your own temperature check and health screening DAILY using this Health Screening Questionnaire.** This form is available online on your home page and onsite. This questionnaire can be completed and acknowledged online before you arrive on campus or completed onsite online or physically. In addition, by coming to and being on campus, you agree to be subject to additional onsite screening for symptoms/illness at any time during your time on campus.

- In the last 24 hours or currently, have you had or do you have a fever of 100.0F or greater? YES/NO
- In the last 24 hours or currently, have you had or do you have any of the following symptoms new or different from your usual state of health:
 - Cough (not related to known allergies/asthma)
 - Chills
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue / feeling tired and/or feeling unwell
 - Sore throat
 - Muscle pain and/or body aches
 - Headache (not related to known diagnosis of migraine headaches)
 - New loss of smell and/or taste
 - Congestion and/or runny nose
 - Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea
 YES/NO
- In the last 24 hours, have you taken Tylenol/Advil or any similar medication to manage symptoms of fever or any condition described above different from your usual state of health? YES/NO
- In the last 14 days, have you or anyone in your household been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting a test result or received a positive test result or have you had close contact with someone exposed to, hospitalized for, or confirmed to have COVID-19 or any other flu-like illness? YES/NO
- In the last 14 days, have you traveled:
 - To a State Department, CDC, or CA state travel advisory location? For up-to-date information:
 - [U.S. State Department Travel Advisory Information](#)
 - [CDC Travel Health Notices](#)
 - [California Travel Notices](#)

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Updated as of 8/6/2020

- Using shared / public transportation (including but not limited to planes, trains, buses, ferries / ships/boats, or other similar vehicles) where you could not and did not comply with the no gathering and recommended distancing, masking, and hand hygiene guidelines recommended by the CDC, state of California, county of San Mateo, and The Nueva School guidelines? YES/NO

- In the last 14 days, have you gathered (publicly or privately) where you could not and did not comply with the no gathering and recommended distancing, masking, and hand hygiene guidelines recommended by the CDC, state of California, county of San Mateo, and The Nueva School guidelines? YES/NO

If you answer YES to (or are unsure of) any of the above questions, please refrain from coming to / staying on campus until you can answer NO to all of these questions. Questions about the questionnaire may be directed to nurse@nuevaschool.org. This questionnaire must be completed every day you come to campus.

I have answered this questionnaire completely, accurately, and daily. I agree to comply with The Nueva School Health and Safety Plan and Return to School/Work Guidelines as part of my responsibility to protect the health and safety of myself and all the members of The Nueva School community.

Name of Questionnaire Subject (e.g. employee, student, or approved visiting contractor, parent, or other): _____

Name of Questionnaire Respondent if Different than Subject (e.g. parent of minor student): _____

Division / Department / Grade / Role: _____

Date and Time: _____

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If you answer yes or are unsure of any of the aforementioned questions, please refrain from coming to school until you can answer no to all of these questions. If unsure, please contact the health office at nurse@nuevaschool.org, human resources at hr@nuevaschool.org, or administration at administration@nuevaschool.org.




What if I am exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19?

If you or someone in your household are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, stay home.

- Stay home if you are symptomatic/sick or have recently been in contact with sick household/family/friends
- Report positive COVID-19 tests or possible exposure as soon as possible to administration@nuevaschool.org and/or nurse@nuevaschool.org

What if I test positive for COVID-19 (a “case”)?

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 is considered a “case” and should:

-  • stay home
-  • contact your healthcare provider (likely the physician who “ordered” your test if they haven’t already contacted you)
-  • report your result as soon as possible to administration@nuevaschool.org

Even if asymptomatic, follow self-isolation guidelines provided by your healthcare provider and/or County Health. In some cases, you may be advised to isolate if you have symptoms even if not yet tested positive.

SEE ALSO [CDC: What to Do If You Are Sick](#) and [CDC: Isolate If You Are Sick](#)



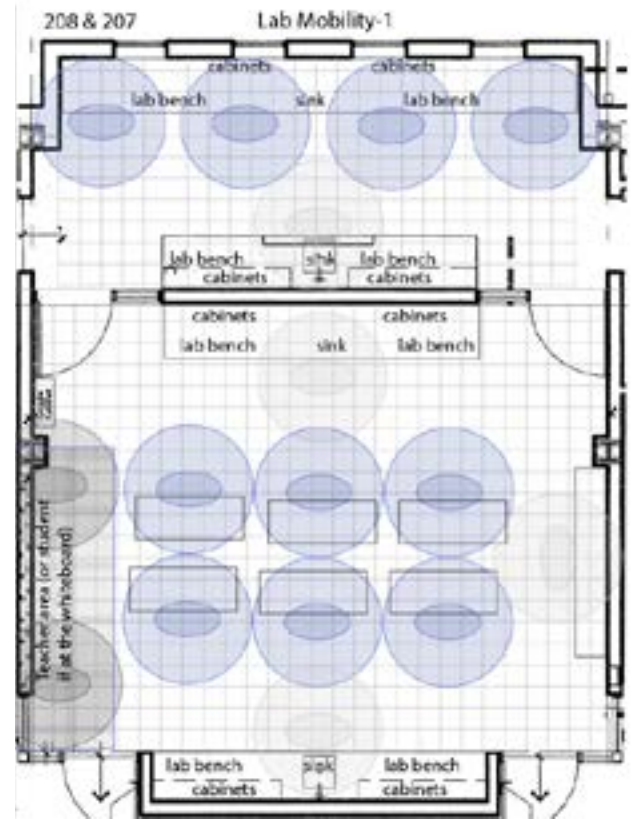
Please see [COVID-19 Case and Testing Protocol](#) for more specific guidance.

Please see [Testing](#) for more information regarding how to get tested.

Preparing Campus Spaces

In order to ensure proper physical distancing, we have examined all of our campus spaces and are in the process of adjusting the spaces to accommodate our changing needs. We are shuffling resources across both campuses as necessary to maximize the use of what we already have, and where necessary, we are purchasing additional resources to allow us to more easily meet the requirements for physical distancing. Examples of some of the adjustments have included:

- purchasing single desks to allow for more flexibility within classrooms.
- surveying campus and purchasing equipment to create outdoor learning spaces (tents, fans, furniture, modulars).
- repurposing mixed use spaces (e.g. the ballroom, cafe, library) for classroom use.
- modeling placement of desks/lab tables (see diagram for an example of this modeling) to better understand the possibilities within all of our current spaces.
- examining building plans to maximize airflow throughout buildings on both campuses.

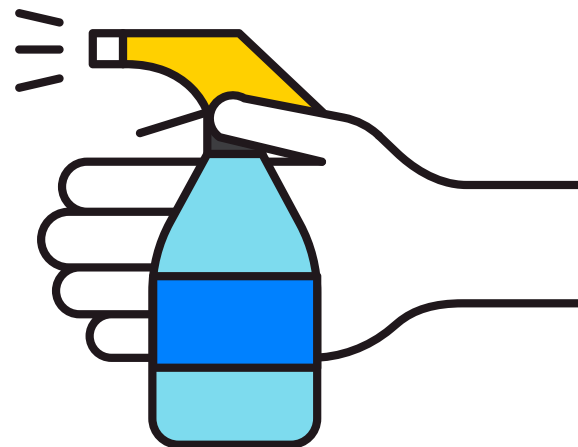


- establishing flow patterns for walking in hallways and stairwells throughout both campuses and creating signage to communicate those patterns.
- adding additional restroom facilities and hand washing capabilities.
- modifying arrival and departure procedures and campus access protocols. Details will be forthcoming.

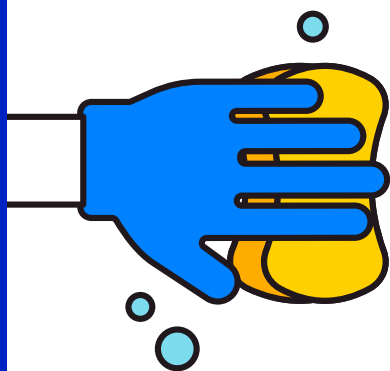
Ongoing Campus Cleaning

In addition to physical distancing and mask wearing, we have been very diligent with daily campus cleaning procedures. We have

- increased the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of high touch areas to multiple times throughout each day.
- increased our custodial presence on campus during school hours.
- increased access to disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizers throughout both campuses.
- have purchased and regularly use specialty equipment for disinfecting and deep cleaning spaces.
- established strict protocols for contractors campus access, limiting it to the construction zone where possible.



- carefully tracking visitors (e.g. outside contractors and delivery professionals)
- worked with architects to examine our air handling to develop protocols for air filtration clearing and replacement in commonly used spaces



Monitoring AQI

In addition to our preparation in response to the pandemic, we are also attending to campus conditions regarding air quality in response to the California fires. At Nueva, we monitor the Air Quality Index (AQI) level on both campuses throughout the day. We use the [Environmental Protection Agency's AirNow website](#) as well as Purple Air and IQAir, with local sensors in Hillsborough and San Mateo as primary reference points. We also monitor AQI on campus at least twice a day using a handheld Temtop LKC-1000S+ air quality monitor. While our policy for how we respond to rising AQI levels remains the same across both campuses, we will respond to the situational needs of each campus separately, according to the conditions present for each. For more information about our Air Quality Policy, [please review this document](#).

Summer Pilots

Over the summer, we piloted aspects of our program with small student cohorts. This allowed us to test and further develop:

- drop off and pick up procedures
- physical distancing
- mask wearing
- flow of movement around campus
- classroom setup (allowing for distancing and supportive of learning)
- effective use of outdoor spaces (for learning, play, eating)
- technology and instruction that supports in person, fully remote, and simultaneous learning (engaging students in a lesson who are on and off site at the same time)
- bathroom protocols
- hygiene protocols inside the classroom

We have found that students, even young children, are adaptable. With clear guidelines and encouragement, they have navigated the distancing, mask wearing, and hygiene protocols with positive energy. We are encouraged by what we are learning from these pilots regarding both our current planning and necessary adjustments, as well as the adaptability and resilience of our students.

In addition to testing our health and safety protocols, we are also testing out various technologies and teaching approaches for this new environment keeping our culture of inquiry, inclusion, and kindness front and center. More details will be forthcoming.

