



The 2021-22 School Year Guidance And Precautions for COVID-19

August 4, 2021



Dear Denver JDS Families,

We are excited to welcome you to the 2021-22 school year. This is our 46th year and we know it will be filled with incredible learning experiences and growth for all our students.

As this new school year begins, we look forward to a productive environment where our students can achieve their highest potential and remain safe and healthy.

The following COVID policies come directly from guidance issued by the CDC, CDPHE (Colorado Department Public Health and Environment), and TCH (Tri-County Health). The school's COVID Task Force reviewed the current guidance and created COVID policies to start the year that give us the best opportunity for safe ongoing in person learning. It is important to know that they will be subject to change depending on the current health situation and guidance. We will provide updates as needed.

Thank you for your support of our Denver JDS community.



Avi Halzel

Avi Halzel, Head of School/CEO





COVID 19 Guidance

Denver JDS uses the COVID 19 guidance published by the CDC, CDPHE (Colorado Department Public Health and Environment) and TCH (Tri County Health). Our own COVID Task Force, made up of school administrators, teachers, board members, and medical professionals, reviews the guidance and uses it to make decisions about the school's policies.



COVID 19 Precautions

Denver JDS is continuing the use of regularly updated health departments' precautions to protect our students, parents, faculty, and staff from COVID 19. While there are no guarantees, the following multi-layered precautions will be in place at the start of the 2021-22 school year to help make our school as safe as possible. These precautions and policies can change at any time based on COVID rates in our area.

COVID 19 Precautions

1. Masks

- The CDC and TCH recommend that everyone 2 and older wear masks in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission. Arapahoe County, where Denver JDS is located, is currently an area of substantial transmission. At this time, everyone will be required to wear a mask while inside the school. You can see current transmission rates by [clicking here](#).
- When Arapahoe County is experiencing low or moderate transmission rates (not substantial or high transmission), we will consider updating the mask policy, as per CDC recommendations, and only require masks inside the school for individuals who are not fully vaccinated. If this change is made during periods of low or moderate transmission, vaccinated individuals will be encouraged but not required to wear a mask.
- Masks are optional when outside, except in certain circumstances such as crowded groups, singing, etc., as decided by school staff.
- Masks should be reasonably tight fitting but still comfortable. Thicker (3 layers of fabric) masks or surgical masks are recommended. Gaiters and masks with plastic vents are not permitted.

COVID 19 Precautions

2. Physical Distancing

- Desks in classrooms will be placed at least three feet apart from each other.
- Physical distancing of at least three feet should be practiced by adults and students to the extent possible.

COVID 19 Precautions

3. Hand Washing/Hand Sanitizing

- Students and teachers will wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds throughout the day.
- Students and faculty/staff will have access to hand sanitizer to use frequently. Students will wash or sanitize their hands before and after eating and before going outside and returning inside.

COVID 19 Precautions

4. Campus Cleaning Procedures

- The school's professional cleaning company (Service Solutions) will clean and disinfect the school daily.
- The cleaning company will provide a full-time day porter to clean and sanitize high traffic areas during the day.
- The cleaning company will conduct frequent deep cleans and is prepared to properly disinfect the buildings in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak.

COVID 19 Precautions

5. Temperature Checks & Symptom Checks

- Students and employees should take a daily symptom screening, including a temperature check, at home before coming to school.
 - A list of symptoms and a self-checker from the CDC can be found [here](#) on the main Coronavirus page of the CDC website.
- Touchless free standing thermometer stations are located in the lobbies of both buildings for use by adults and classes of students.
- Do not come on campus if you are sick. This includes any fever of 100.4 or above. If you become sick at school with a fever of 100.4 or above or if you have any of the symptoms of COVID-19 you must notify a school administrator and depart the school. Students with any COVID-19 symptoms or a fever of 100.4 or above will be sent to the office immediately. Depending on an evaluation of their symptoms, they may be sent to the COVID-19 isolation room and arrangements for their departure from school will be made.
- School administration will notify Tri-County health of any COVID-19 related health incidents as required and will follow their guidance.

COVID 19 Precautions

6. HEPA Air Purifier

- HEPA air purifier units have been placed in every classroom and other areas of the buildings.
- These systems filter and circulate air five times an hour.
- Windows will be opened in classrooms when appropriate to help circulate air.

7. Cohorts

- Cohorts are in use to limit the number of students and faculty who have contact with each other.
- Ultimately each division is a unit or cohort.

COVID 19 Precautions

8. Outside Learning

- Teachers will take students outside frequently so that they can be in the fresh air.
- A large tent will be on the school grounds for most of the school year to enable our community to enjoy the outdoors more frequently.

9. Limited entry to school buildings

- Parents and visitors will be permitted in the buildings by appointment, with permission from a school administrator and for publicized in-person events.

10. Entry and exit

- Students will enter in the morning and depart in the afternoon through multiple doors. Specific grades will be assigned to certain doors.
- This will prevent too many people from congregating in one area at these times.

COVID 19 Precautions

11. Remote Learning

- Students will be permitted to learn remotely only when they are in quarantine or isolation or if they will be absent from school due to an extended illness (doctor's note required).

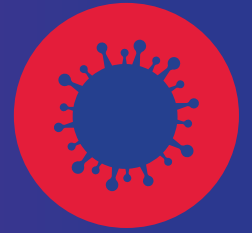
12. COVID Testing

- Regular COVID testing is strongly encouraged for non-vaccinated individuals and for anyone who has COVID symptoms or anyone who has had known exposure to someone with COVID.
- Free COVID tests for Denver JDS students and faculty/staff are available at COVIDCheckCO by clicking [here](#).

13. COVID Vaccination

- Denver JDS strongly encourages everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated for COVID 19. [Click here](#) for information about COVID vaccination from Tri County Health.
- A copy or picture of the vaccination record must be provided to the school for all vaccinated students.

COVID-19 Case Management



If an employee, student, or close contact of an employee or student is diagnosed with COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms, they must notify the school within two hours. School administrators will then take the appropriate steps according to current guidance and protocols.

COVID-19 Covenant



Denver Jewish Day School is a sacred community dedicated to living Jewish values every day. In addition to our *Divrei Chaim* (Words to Live By) and Mliddot (Jewish Value), our COVID-19 practices are driven by our interpretation of the Jewish concept of *Pikuach Nefesh* (saving a life) and the biblical commandment to “build a parapet around your roof” (Deuteronomy 22:8). The health and safety of our community members will rely on an abundance of caution practiced by all of us. To that end, members of the Denver JDS community, please read our COVID-19 Covenant and abide by the behaviors outlined there.

- I pledge to do my part to keep our community in good health.
- I understand I have a role in the fight against COVID-19 and pledge to take responsible actions when among my fellow citizens.
- I will demonstrate personal integrity, respect for others, and support the health and safety of the greater Denver JDS community by:
 - Following public health guidelines in place to better protect myself and others.
 - Adhering to physical distancing guidelines.
 - Adhering to mask wearing guidelines.
 - Keeping my hands clean and sanitized when out in the community.
 - Modifying my actions to protect myself and others and, when appropriate, respectfully encouraging others to do the same as guidelines and recommendations adapt over time.

By taking the pledge, I accept responsibility for myself and my actions and will do my best to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to help keep our community safer for all.



Thank you to our wonderful community of families, faculty, administrators and friends.

As always, please feel free to reach out to our team with any questions. We will be in touch regularly with updated information.



denverjds.org

If you have questions, please contact a member of the leadership team:

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