



# **2021/2022 ROADMAP**

**A Guide To Keeping Our Students  
Healthy and Learning In-Person**

Rev. 8/31/21

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The 2021/2022 Roadmap is guided by the assumption that the COVID-19 health crisis will continue as we return this fall. McGillis will continue to respond quickly to circumstances in our own School community, as well as conditions in our city and county. As we plan to return to in-person learning, we are taking a cautious and layered approach with the goals to keep our community healthy and our students learning on campus.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our entire McGillis community has remained committed to the challenges that the pandemic has presented, and unfortunately, continues to present. However, we've proven our steadfast commitment and our guiding principles will continue to help us navigate the ongoing uncertainties that are likely to continue as we begin the new school year.

### Our Guiding Principles:

1. Protecting the health and safety, including the physical health and the social-emotional well-being, of our kehilah is our top priority;
2. Delivering our mission and values in a program that inspires and prepares our learners for a lifetime of creating a better world;
3. Committing as a community to adopt the necessary measures, protocols, and expectations to ensure a safe and healthy community with the goal to keep our students learning on campus; and,
4. Knowing that reducing risk to zero is impossible, we will follow public health and safety guidelines, utilizing the Utah Department of Health, Salt Lake County Health Department, and the CDC's coronavirus guidelines as our main reference points for our ongoing assessment of risk.

## VALUES DRIVEN IN A TIME OF CRISIS

The McGillis School is rooted in values that guide the way we live and learn in our School community. In this time of crisis, our values continue to provide our North Star. Every McGillis student, teacher, and staff member is a member of our Kehilah, and therefore should be known, valued, and cared for. We all have a right to expect both emotional and physical safety. During the COVID-19 pandemic, this means members of our community can reasonably expect a heightened level of concern for their health and wellbeing. This lies within our values of Derech Eretz and Tikkun Olam. While it is possible that students, teachers, or staff members will be exposed to COVID-19 in the course of their work or studies, everyone can expect that our greatest efforts and reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent illness in our School.

Derech Eretz, having respect for all, guides our interactions with others — friends and strangers, students and adults — to be self-aware, respectful, and courteous. During the COVID-19 pandemic, this means complying willingly with rules and policies designed to keep our community safe and healthy. This means thinking of others, appreciating that their



risk tolerance might be lower than ours, and adjusting our behavior with sensitivity and respect. This means respecting policies, decisions, and expectations, even when inconvenient to ourselves. In some communities, measures taken to prevent COVID-19 have ignited conflicts between the liberty of individuals and perceptions of the common good. We expect our values of Derech Eretz, Tikkun Olam, and Gemilut Hasadim to remind us of our duties to others and demonstrate our shared commitment of respect for our Kehilah.

Our values will guide our interactions and actions, including how all members of our community and visitors:

- wear high quality, well-fitting, multi-layered face masks, wash and disinfect their hands frequently, and mind physical distancing norms;
- interact with each other in and out of the classroom, and take responsibility for maintaining a healthy environment;
- treat others—teachers, maintenance staff, kitchen staff, office administrators, administrators, etc.—as people worthy of their respect and deserving of safety themselves;
- follow self-screening guidelines for symptoms of illness and refrain from coming to campus when symptomatic; and
- comply with self-quarantine rules regarding exposure to COVID-19.

## COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

McGillis reintroduces our Community Commitment and asks all families to recommit to the measures, protocols, and expectations that will ensure a safe and healthy community as we continue to recognize the presence and possible impact of COVID-19 in our community.

<https://www.mcgillisschool.org/about/roadmap/community-commitment>

As champions of our Community Commitment, each one of us should feel free to encourage one another when we notice that we may not be complying with the norms of our protocols, understanding that they're most often not breached with intention, but rather lack of attention.



## COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

The wellness of our community is the social responsibility of each and every one of us. As a community and as a society, we have a responsibility to each other to do what is best for our collective whole.

I/we, \_\_\_\_\_, commit to:

### FOLLOW MCGILLIS' COVID PROTOCOLS BASED ON HEALTH EXPERT GUIDANCE.

All community members are expected to follow The McGillis School's 2021/2022 Roadmap to maintain their own health and safety during this pandemic. The Roadmap is subject to change as developments occur and/or new information becomes available.

### CONTACT MCGILLIS IF A COMMUNITY MEMBER TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19.

If a student, employee, or any member of their household tests positive for COVID-19, the School must be notified as soon as possible. Please contact [health@mcgillisschool.org](mailto:health@mcgillisschool.org) with questions or to report a positive COVID-19 test result. This information will remain confidential and will allow the School to engage in effective contact tracing procedures to limit possible infection of others.

### STAY HOME IF SICK.

Any community member showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19 must not come to school. Parents/guardians must keep sick students home and away from others and report the illness to the School at [health@mcgillisschool.org](mailto:health@mcgillisschool.org). CDC: Symptoms of Coronavirus.

### CONTACT MCGILLIS IF EXPOSED.

Any member of a household who has been notified they were in contact with an individual infected with COVID-19 must inform [health@mcgillisschool.org](mailto:health@mcgillisschool.org) as soon as possible. Each case will be assessed individually to determine the necessary course of action as determined by the School's protocol.

### KEEP MEDICAL INFORMATION UP TO DATE.

All medical information must be updated with family and emergency contacts and current medical information for a student to attend the first day of school. Log into the Family Updates tab of the Veracross Parent Portal to update your household information and your child(ren)'s medical information, including COVID-19 vaccination status as your child/ren are eligible for vaccines.

### WEAR A MASK.

At this time and until further notice, all students regardless of vaccination status are required to wear a properly fitting, high quality mask when indoors. All Faculty and Staff are required to wear a mask when indoors and when in the presence of students. All visitors are required to wear a mask when indoors. If a student forgets their mask, a disposable mask will be provided for them that school day.

### LIMITED CAMPUS ACCESS.

At this time and until further notice, parent/guardian entry into the school building will be restricted. Masks will be required for essential visitors who will access entry through our Main Entrance and report immediately to the Main Office, which will introduce a health declaration statement, and initiate a temperature and symptom check prior to giving permission to move to another part of the school.

### PRACTICE EXCELLENT HYGIENE.

Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds - especially after being in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, sneezing, or using the restroom. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

(As of 08/01/21)

The School will continue to assess, modify, and communicate school policies and protocols on an ongoing basis.

McGillis community

# IN-PERSON TEACHING & LEARNING

During the 2021/2022 school year, McGillis intends to only offer in-person learning and will not offer classes regularly via Zoom.

In-person learning is a traditional school experience with students attending school in person five days a week. Students are able to capitalize on classroom environments that provide engaging social interaction and feedback.

A layered mitigation strategy offers a cautious approach to keep our community healthy and our students learning on campus.

The McGillis School will be prepared for the rise in prevalence, or the risk of a rise in prevalence for COVID-19 in our School community. The School will continue to consult with our COVID Task Force to determine the appropriate actions and responses to COVID-19 positive cases. The response will be determined based on policy considerations from CDC, UDOH, SL County Health Department, and circumstances around each situation.

Concurrent cases in our community will always lead the School to consider the best course of action, which could include in-person learning as usual for all students, remote learning for a grade level, classroom, or subgroup of students, or remote learning for our entire student population until the health of our community improves.

## OUR LAYERED APPROACH

As of the start of the 2021/2022 school year, many of our students are currently not eligible for vaccinations. Therefore, the School will implement a layered prevention strategy to protect our community and support in-person learning, including:

### Getting Vaccinated

Vaccination is the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. With the persistence of COVID and the complexities of variants, the School is considering policies around vaccinations. Our community should anticipate, upon full FDA approval, the School may consider a vaccination requirement. At this time, we are asking families to update their child/ren's medical information, including COVID-19 vaccination status as your child/ren are eligible for vaccines. We anticipate that at some point during the school year, all students will be eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination.

### Wearing Masks

- Regardless of vaccination status, masks are required by any person on the School campus at all times.
- Masks should be high quality, well-fitting, multi-layered face masks.
- Masks will be removed for lunch and designated outdoor mask breaks.
- The COVID Task Force will revisit this policy throughout the year.

## When to Stay Home

Please stay home and notify [health@mcgillisschool.org](mailto:health@mcgillisschool.org) if:

- your student is showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19;
- your student has been notified they were in contact with an individual infected with COVID-19;
- your student or any member of your household tests positive for COVID-19; or
- any **unvaccinated** student with a household member is pending a COVID-19 test due to symptoms.

NOTE: If a **vaccinated student** with a household member is pending a COVID-19 test, and the student is symptom-free, the student may return to school. However, testing is strongly recommended, including a rapid test as soon as possible and a PCR test 3-5 days after last exposure.

Each case will be assessed individually to determine the necessary course of action as determined by the School's protocol.

Information will remain confidential and will allow the School to take necessary action to mitigate risk within our community.

According to the CDC, symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and can include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

## Testing

- The School may require screening prior to overnight trips. Details will be provided in advance of each overnight trip.
- Other approaches to using testing to support sustained in-person learning may be considered.
- The School recommends our community to elect into voluntary screening after travel or other activities that may be higher risk.

## Hygiene

Students will sanitize their hands upon entering the building and hand sanitizer will be readily available throughout the School. Teachers will encourage students to wash their hands with soap and water regularly throughout the school day, particularly before and after lunch.

## Air Filtration

McGillis will maintain HEPA air purifiers in each classroom and office space throughout the building. Upgraded MERV 13+ filters in our hvac system will continue to benefit the air quality inside the School.

## Cleaning

Classroom tables, desks, and all surfaces will be sanitized daily at the end of each school day. Cleaning supplies will be readily available for each classroom to use as often as needed.

## Ongoing Assessment of Our Community's Health

The School's COVID Task Force will continue to meet regularly as needed to keep a pulse on what is happening nationally, locally, and within our community. This team will regularly assess our McGillis COVID-19 situation and take the necessary actions to keep our community's exposure limited to the highest degree possible.

# COVID-19 TASK FORCE

The School's COVID-19 Task Force Team meets regularly to keep a pulse on what is happening nationally, locally and within our School community. This team regularly assesses our McGillis COVID-19 situation and takes the necessary actions to keep our community's exposure limited to the highest degree possible.

- Annette Accarrino, Director of Marketing & Communications
- Jim Brewer, Head of School
- Matt Haber, McGillis Board Past-President
- Adam Hersh, MD & McGillis Parent
- Jen Merino, Health Specialist
- Mary-Beth Scholand, MD & McGillis Board of Trustees
- Emily Spivak, MD & McGillis Parent
- Michael VanTyne, Director of Operations & Technology

## Isolate At Home If You Test Positive For COVID-19

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 should isolate right away.

You should isolate right away if you test positive for COVID-19, even if you are fully vaccinated, and contact [health@mcgillisschool.org](mailto:health@mcgillisschool.org). This means to stay home except to get medical care. You should not go to school, extracurricular activities, etc.

If you've tested positive, you should isolate until you have been:

- Fever-free for 24 hours, and
- Your respiratory symptoms have improved for 24 hours, and
- It has been at least 10 days since you first got sick.

If you did not have symptoms, you should isolate for 10 days from the day you were tested.

You are infectious and can spread the virus to others starting up to 2 days before you first had symptoms until your isolation period is over. If you never had symptoms, you are infectious starting 2 days before the day you were tested for COVID-19.

- Anyone who is not fully vaccinated and came into close contact with you during this time should quarantine.
- Close contact means you were closer than 6 feet to a person who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or longer in a 24-hour period while they were infectious.
- If you test positive for COVID-19, anyone who lives in your home and is not fully vaccinated should quarantine for 10 days from the last time they were in close contact with you during isolation.

### **If A Student Experiences Symptoms While at School**

If a student develops symptoms while on campus, the individual will be cared for by a designated employee and follow infection control practices to decrease the risk of transmission. The School will call parents and arrange for the child to be picked up immediately.

### **Quarantine Requirements After A School Exposure**

If you are exposed to someone at School who tests positive for COVID-19, you can continue to come to School if:

- You are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 (2 weeks after your final dose), OR
- You and the person who tested positive were both wearing masks, OR
- You have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days.

### **Standard Quarantine Protocol**

For anyone who does not meet the criteria above, the standard protocol after an exposure is to quarantine. Quarantine at home if you are exposed to COVID-19 and are not fully vaccinated. We consider anyone who was within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes, to be exposed. You should not go to school, work, group gatherings, or extracurricular activities. Isolate and get tested if you get symptoms of COVID-19 after you were exposed, even if you are fully vaccinated or recently had COVID.

Under the standard quarantine protocol, you can end quarantine:

- On day 10 without testing. You can end quarantine 10 days after the last time you had close contact with the person who tested positive if you don't have symptoms of COVID-19.
- On day 7 with a negative test result. You must wait at least 7 days after your exposure to be tested. You can end quarantine if your test is negative and you do not have any symptoms of COVID-19.

Although you can end quarantine after day 10 if you don't have symptoms or after day 7 if you test negative, you still need to take safety precautions and watch for symptoms for 14 days after you were exposed.

The best ways to stop diseases from spreading in school or throughout our communities are for everyone to be vaccinated and for those who have the disease or have been exposed to the disease to quarantine or isolate at home until they can no longer get other people sick.

### **Communications**

The School will transparently communicate as much information as possible about each case, while also remaining committed to protecting the privacy of the person(s) involved. Positive COVID-19 cases in the School will be communicated with families in the grade-level where the positive case occurs.

McGillis will maintain a weekly dashboard regarding COVID-19 and our community health, which will be accessible via the All School Family Canvas page and the Sunday Magpie Messenger.

### **Absenteeism**

Accommodations may be made for students who experience prolonged absences due to a positive COVID diagnosis, quarantine due to exposure to COVID, or a severe illness or injury that keeps them home for longer than one week in duration. Students who find themselves ill and not able to attend school may work asynchronously on school work if they are healthy enough, and will be caught up upon their return by their teacher(s).

### **School COVID-19 Response**

The McGillis School will be prepared for the rise in prevalence, or the risk of a rise in prevalence for COVID-19 in our School community. The School will continue to consult with our COVID Task Force to determine the appropriate action and response to a COVID-19 positive case. The response will be determined based on policy considerations from CDC, UDOH, SL County Health Department, and circumstances around each situation. Concurrent cases in our community will always lead the School to consider the best course of action, which could include in-person learning as usual for all students, remote learning for a grade level, classroom, or subgroup of students, or remote learning for our entire student population until the health of our community improves.

## **OTHER HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

### **Health Screening App**

McGillis will no longer utilize the AUXS health screening app. Absences for all reasons will be reported to the Front Office via phone or via email to [office@mcgillisschool.org](mailto:office@mcgillisschool.org). The School's Health Specialist will contact families as necessary to follow up on absences due to illness.

### **Classroom Seating**

Lower School classes may be divided into two sections versus the three sections utilized in the 2020/2021 school year. Enrollment numbers per grade level will dictate the number of sections in each grade level. Class sizes may range from 15-22 students per class, versus 12-17 students during the 2020/2021 school year.

### **Classroom Distancing**

Students' desks and tables will allow seating at a reasonable distance. The School will strive for 3 feet of distance whenever possible, however will not achieve this distance under all circumstances.

### **Classroom Mitigations**

McGillis will maintain air purifiers in each classroom and office space throughout the building. The School will continue to utilize a mix of seating and table arrangements (some small group, some individual) in classrooms. The School will no longer utilize plexiglass on tables where distancing falls below 3-6 feet. Students will share classroom supplies.

## **Lunch**

McGillis students will continue to eat lunch outdoors and will only eat indoors under challenging weather or air conditions. Lunch will be provided each day and will be provided in containers. Lunches brought from home should be nut free. McGillis will aim to return to our more typical lunch operations when it is safe to do so and in adherence to all current restaurant and kitchen recommendations from the SL County Health Department. Our community should anticipate another full year of eating lunch outdoors.

## **Water & Snacks**

McGillis students should come to school each day with a filled water bottle; there are 2 bottle fillers available for students to refill their bottles. Drinking fountains will remain disabled at the start of the school year, and will remain off until further notice. Students are also encouraged to bring their own nut free snack from home. All treats shared in School must be store bought and prepared in a professional kitchen.

## **Student Gatherings**

Students may gather indoors in groups organized by and supervised by faculty/staff in various areas where large groups can gather (MAC, Library, Gathering Space, Dining Hall, etc). The School will refrain from All-School in-person gatherings (grades K-8 combined) until it is deemed safe to do so. For example, for an event such as Shabbat, it's feasible the School may combine three grades together in a large space, but it will be some time before we return to All-School Shabbat with all the students in the MAC together. McGillis will carefully monitor the success and feasibility of larger student gatherings as the year progresses.

# **ATHLETICS, ACTIVITIES, & EVENTS**

## **Athletics**

McGillis intends to resume participation in our Athletics programs. The School will compete against other schools in our league, both traveling to other schools and hosting schools to play on our campus and in our MAC. Masks may be worn during competitions, depending on the current COVID climate and the advice of our community health experts. Indoor athletics attendance may be restricted to players and coaches only depending upon COVID climate and recommendations. More details will be shared for each sport in advance of the season's start, as protocols may vary depending on the season and indoor versus outdoor sports.

## **Field Trips & Class Trips**

McGillis will conduct field trips with regularity. Our buses will include 14 passengers and 1 driver and windows will remain open and masks worn when traveling. Class trips will resume as feasible according to the destination, the guidelines and practices of community partners, and the nature of the trip. Details for each trip will be shared in advance for the grade the trip pertains to.

COVID-19 vaccinations are required for all students and employees participating in overnight trips. Any exemptions will need to be approved by the Head of School.

According to the CDC, individuals are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.
- As your child becomes vaccinated, please update their medical profile in the Veracross Parent Portal. At this time, the only vaccine authorized for children 12 years of age or older is the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

The School will also implement a testing process for overnight class trips including:

- a required PCR test 72 hours prior to departure, AND
- the possibility of a rapid test 24 hours prior to departure.

### **Middle School Dances**

McGillis plans to conduct three Middle School dances throughout the year as long as it can be done in a safe manner based upon the COVID climate at that time. Dances will maintain typical COVID protocols as in the school day.

### **Library**

The Library will return to normal operations and procedures. The space will be open for classes to visit, Library as a specialty will return with regular classes, and books will be available for check out without any special procedures. The McGillis Library is open to students from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

### **Extended Care**

Morning Care, AfterSchool, and All Day Care will resume as normal. Please reference the Family Handbook on the All School Family Canvas page for details.

### **Drop Off & Pick Up**

Drop off and pick up will resume as normal. Please reference the Family Handbook on the All School Family Canvas page for details.

### **Limited Campus Access**

At this time and until further notice, parent/guardian entry into the School building will be restricted. New parents and parents of Kindergartners are welcome to come into the building to drop off their child(ren) between 8/24-9/03/21. Parents must wear a mask inside the School. Any parent spending time in the building beyond drop off and pick up should sign in and will also participate in a health screening.

Masks will be required for essential visitors who will access entry through our Main Entrance and report immediately to the Front Office, which will introduce a health declaration statement, and initiate a temperature and symptom check prior to giving permission to move to another part of the School.

### **Parent Volunteers**

Parent volunteer opportunities will arise and grow as the school year progresses. Any parent wishing to volunteer must be fully vaccinated and show proof of vaccination at the Front Office. The School will maintain a list of volunteers who are fully vaccinated.

### **In-Person Community Events**

Our McGillis community is eager to gather in-person again for events. We anticipate offering in-person events that will be modified according to the current COVID climate and advice from our health experts. At this time, our Back To School Night will be virtual given it's a larger community event, and we intend to host our Grade Level Socials this fall in-person. As the year progresses, we will determine our ability to gather in-person for other events.

## Vaccinations

Vaccinations are incredibly effective in preventing COVID-19 transmission in our community. The School strongly recommends vaccinations for all parents and age eligible students and siblings. McGillis will be reviewing recommendations from the CDC, State of Utah, and other agencies regarding recommendations and guidelines for future school vaccination requirements.