

Returning to School

2020-2021

The mission of the Weingarten Children's Center is to transform lives of children who are deaf and hard of hearing, teaching them to listen, speak, and learn. During these unimaginable times, we have been working diligently to carry out this critical mission thanks to the tremendous efforts put forth by our children, families and staff. It is through such dedication, flexibility, perseverance and patience that we will continue to progress and maintain a path forward. While we cannot know for certain how the future will look as we approach the start of the school year, we are preparing to provide a learning environment that is both productive and effective.

Following the recommendations of public health officials, as well as local, state, and federal requirements, and with the absolute priority of safeguarding the health and well-being of our students and staff, WCC's intention is to welcome students and teachers back to campus, in-real-life (IRL), as soon as circumstances and conditions allow. The return to on-campus learning may happen in phases and may include a combination of in-real-life and virtual offerings throughout the year.

In the event new developments and/or public health guidelines require campus closures throughout the school year, we will continue to provide instruction via distance learning (DL).

The Weingarten Children's Center is committed to maintaining the services established on each student's IFSP or IEP. Both IRL and DL offer the same evidence-based instruction, including:

- Academic learning, following California state standards
- Individualized learning

- Social-emotional learning
- Progress monitoring
- Parent coaching and education

General Health & Safety Measures



Protocols for screening, monitoring, and reporting, and responding to illness for students, staff, and essential workers.



Enhanced sanitation and cleaning procedures throughout the building and campus



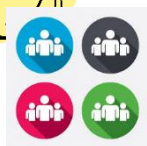
Changes to campus access for visitors and parents



Required face coverings in public settings as recommended by CDC guidelines



Modification of food service practices



Pod system to separate classes and reduce possible transmission.



Modification of programs and events in compliance with limits on crowd sizes and social distancing measures

Campus Arrival & Screening

- Upon arrival at their pod's designated entrance to the school, each student will remain separate from other students and receive a temperature check before entering the building.
- First adult in a pod will check themselves and then the other pod members.
- The checker will wear a mask or face shield, smock and gloves, and will use a touchless thermometer.
- Only individuals without a fever (below 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit) may enter the building.
- A child with a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher will be sent home.
- If a fever is the only COVID symptom, the student or staff member may come back to school when their temperature is below 100.4 for at least 24 hours.
- If a child has multiple COVID symptoms, they must have a clean (negative) COVID test after two days of first showing those symptoms before returning to school.
- Family members or transportation persons will not be allowed to come inside the buildings.
- Children will wash hands immediately after coming into the building.
- Children in all classes, except the toddler groups, will be required to wear either a mask and/or face shield.
- Children will maintain 6' social distance separation (including between classroom desks and chairs.)
- Each child will bring snacks/lunch from home and will place their belongings in their own designated space inside hallway cubbies or the classroom.



Social Distancing

- At this time, no family member or off-site visitors, except for essential workers, will be allowed on campus.
- Families will not be allowed on playground.
- Health and safety signage and floor guidelines about social distancing will be present.
- Class size will be limited to room size and social distancing requirements.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Parent, staff and essential workers/visitors (e.g., deliveries) will be required to wear masks or face shields in public areas or within six feet of others.
- Staff will wear smocks and gloves when cleaning surfaces or toys and when taking arriving students' temperatures
- Staff and students must wear face coverings when traveling throughout the building, in confined spaces such as workrooms and breakrooms, in all common areas and gathering spaces such as classrooms, hallways, and lobby areas, and in locations where others are presents.



Separation by “Pods”

- Each class will constitute a “pod” that will be kept strictly separate from anyone else on campus that is not in that pod.
- Pods will not overlap in their use of any common spaces.
- Floor markers and guidelines are present have been installed.
- Accordingly, each pod will use its own unique:
 - Entrance to the building
 - Pathway to its classroom
 - Pathway to the playground
 - Bathroom Area
 - Sink
 - Section of the playground
 - Recess time
- Adults in each pod will similarly remain apart from anyone outside that pod.



Classrooms and Bathrooms

- Teachers will configure classrooms for optimal separation of students.
- Each student will have their own designated chair and table area at least 6' from any other child.
- Each student will have their own designated place for backpack/snack.
- Each student will have their own kit with school supplies (e.g., pencils, crayons, scissors, etc.)
- Teachers will make every effort to maximize classroom ventilation, including the use of outside spaces for instruction, where practicable and feasible.
- All pod members (including adults) will use their pod's designated bathroom and sink.
- Multi-purpose room (MPR/Music room) will not be used to congregate for music or to combine classes. It may be designated for a larger classroom of students to maintain social distancing.



Sick Policy

- If a student or family member gets COVID, the student must quarantine at home. They will not be allowed on campus.
- If a student gets COVID, their entire pod will stay home and go to distance learning.
- No member of the infected pod may return to school until each pod member tests negative for COVID and they are symptom free for 14 days.
- School administration may determine that the entire school returns to distance learning.

COVID Symptoms-when to send a child home

- Any of these symptoms:
 - Fever/Chills
 - Nausea/Diarrhea
 - Loss of smell or taste
 - Sore throat

- Multiple or strong of these symptoms:
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Headache

Staff COVID tests

- Monthly
 - Testing during the second full week of the month (i.e., first of the month fell on or before Monday of the preceding week)
 - Get results to Lela by the following Monday
 - 2-day grace period if there's a logistical delay

Quarantine Space

- If a child is showing symptoms *while at school*, they will be quarantined away from others. They will remain with a staff member wearing full PPE, until the parent picks them up. *We ask that you pick-up your child as soon as possible, preferably not to exceed one hour.*



Cleaning and Disinfecting Practices

- Handwashing upon arrival at the school, after using toilet, and periodically as determined by the teacher.
- Adults in pods will frequently wipe down surfaces.
- Limited shared materials/toys (e.g., 2 toys/child per day)
- Shared materials/toys will be separated and disinfected by adult pod member (e.g., dirty/clean bins)
- Disposable changing table covers will be used.
- Cribs and high-chairs will be child-specific, disinfected and sanitized after each use.
- Newly contracted janitorial services will be on site nightly.
 - Different smock, gloves, and masks will be used for each pod's area
 - Thorough cleaning of common areas such as: bathrooms, sinks, work surfaces, railings, furniture, kitchen, etc.
 - Minimize exposure to the school (e.g., clean only areas used)
 - Check list with supervisor for signoff

As conditions and public health orders change, the content in this document may change, as well.



We are all in this together.

Help keep our campus open!

We are depending on everyone in our community to follow required health and safety measures to stop the spread of the Corona virus.

Thank you!