



Building strong bridges between dyslexia and academic success.

COVID Plan - 2021-2022

please note that this plan is subject to continuous review and changes could occur throughout the year as circumstances warrant

Lakes and Bridges Charter School took COVID seriously during the 2020-2021 school year, and we continue to take it seriously as we head into the 2021-2022 school year. We have taken, and will continue to take, the steps necessary to keep our students, faculty, and families as safe as we possibly can. We will continue to follow cleaning and safety guidelines for COVID in the building to include hand sanitation stations throughout the building, sanitizing throughout the day, and deep cleaning during the evenings. We follow the protocols established by SC-DHEC (SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration), and the CDC (the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

Whenever symptoms of COVID-19 appear at school, teachers will send students to the health room to be examined by the school nurse. If the school nurse believes the symptoms indicate the probability of COVID-19, parents will be notified and asked to pick up the student from school as soon as possible. Parents should update health records, emergency phone numbers, and provide the school nurse with the latest health information on students.

These **prevention strategies** remain critical to protect students, parents/families, teachers, and staff this year:

Vaccination - we encourage everyone eligible to be vaccinated. Please present a copy of your vaccination card (if applicable) to the school nurse if you do not want your child quarantined if the need arises

Mask use - see below

Physical distancing - see below

Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine - see detailed CDC guidelines outlined below

Staying home when sick and getting tested - see below and please let Nurse Wells know when your student is being tested (kwells@labcharterschool.org)

Screening COVID testing to promptly identify cases, clusters, and outbreaks - In partnership with DHEC and with parental consent, we will screen classes periodically to more quickly detect new cases and isolate cases, and to reduce the risk to in-person education.

Ventilation - The HVAC system circulates outside air throughout the building

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette - students will be encouraged to wash their hands for 20 seconds and sneeze into their elbow or tissue

Cleaning and disinfection - We will continue to follow cleaning and safety guidelines for COVID in the building to include hand sanitation stations throughout the building, sanitizing throughout the day, and deep cleaning during the evenings. We follow the protocols established by SC-DHEC (SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration), and the CDC (the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

Cohorting Classes – LABCS will start the year with the students following a schedule that has them moving class to class; however, if needed, we will move to cohorts where the students remain in the same class and the teacher rotates each period. We will notify parents as soon as that decision is made.

Masks

Masks are highly encouraged especially when we are in a high or substantial transmission period but are not mandated.

Masks are required in the nurse's office and while in the isolation room.

Physical Distancing

Six feet distance between people is ideal to prevent COVID spread and eliminate the need for quarantine with a positive case. However, three feet distance will help to keep others safe and is possible in most of our classrooms.

Contact Tracing

We will notify each family as soon as possible after a close contact at school is identified with the information for quarantine (see above). The school nurse will communicate with SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) with each case of COVID in students, faculty, or staff. The DHEC exclusion and guidance will be followed, along with the DHEC re-entry guidance when a child is ready to re-enter school. The school staff will comply with FERPA/HIPAA regulations in the handling of COVID-19 cases.

Staying Home When Sick

Please check your students before sending them to school. The following symptoms must be considered positive for COVID and need to go for testing before returning to school:

- shortness of breath
- new or worsening cough
- or loss of taste or smell

Do not send your student to school with any of those symptoms (unless it is determined to be related to something else). If they have any of the following symptoms, please seriously consider keeping them home until it is determined it is not COVID:

- congestion/runny nose
- fatigue
- muscle aches
- headache
- sore throat
- abdominal issues (vomiting/diarrhea)

Quarantining/Isolating

We follow the CDC/DHEC guidance as follows:

Quarantine

Quarantine if you have been in [close contact](#) (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, unless you have been [fully vaccinated](#). People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who had COVID-19 unless they have [symptoms](#). However, fully vaccinated people should get tested 3-5 days after their exposure, even if they don't have symptoms, and they should wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative.

Unmasked students who are within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period will need to be quarantined.

Masked students who are within 3 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period will need to be quarantined.

Parents/Guardians whose child have been determined to be in close contact to someone who is positive will be notified promptly of this and the potential need for quarantining. Parents/Guardians of other students in the school will be notified that someone in the building has been diagnosed positive with COVID. In both cases of notification, no identifying information of the student/teacher will be provided.

What to do?

- Stay home for 14 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
- Watch for fever (100.4°F), cough, shortness of breath, or [other symptoms](#) of COVID-19.

- If possible, stay away from people you live with, especially people who are at [higher risk](#) for getting very sick from COVID-19.

After quarantine

- Watch for symptoms until 14 days after exposure.
- If you have symptoms, immediately self-isolate and contact your local public health authority or healthcare provider.

Isolation

Isolation is used to separate people infected with COVID-19 from those who are not infected.

People who are in isolation should stay home until it's safe for them to be around others. At home, anyone sick or infected should separate from others, stay in a specific "sick room" or area, and use a separate bathroom (if available).

What to do?

- Monitor your symptoms. If you have an [emergency warning sign](#) (including trouble breathing), seek emergency medical care immediately.
- Stay in a separate room from other household members, if possible.
- Use a separate bathroom, if possible.
- Avoid contact with other members of the household and pets.
- Don't share personal household items, like cups, towels, and utensils.
- [Wear a mask](#) when around other people if able.

Learn more about [what to do if you are sick](#) and [how to notify your contacts](#).

I think or know I had COVID-19, and I had symptoms

You can be around others after:

- 10 days since symptoms first appeared and
- 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving*

**Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation*

Note that these recommendations do not apply to people with severe COVID-19 or with weakened immune systems (immunocompromised).

I tested positive for COVID-19 but had no symptoms

If you continue to have no symptoms, you can be with others after 10 days have passed since you had a positive viral test for COVID-19.

If you develop symptoms after testing positive, follow the guidance above for “I think or know I had COVID-19, and I had symptoms.” (see above)

Ventilation

Because of the recent renovations to the building over the last three years, our ventilation system meets or exceeds the recommendation for fresh air.

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

People should practice handwashing and respiratory etiquette (covering coughs and sneezes) to keep from spreading and getting COVID and other infectious illnesses.

All classrooms and hallways have either hand sanitizer dispensers or access to hand sanitizers.

Volunteers/Visitors/Parents

All volunteers/visitors/parents in the building will be required to wear masks when in the building. This does not fall under the proviso in the state legislation passed that affects this current school year since volunteers/visitors/parents are not employees or students of the school.

Virtual Learning

Virtual Learning will not be an option this year unless the building is shut down temporarily due to a widespread community event/infection. If a student has to quarantine or isolate, all learning will be asynchronous with review and reinforcement assignments placed in their teachers' Google Classrooms; teachers cannot teach virtually and in-person simultaneously due to state legislation passed that affects this current school year. Teachers will work with students individually upon return to school on getting them caught up. However, students will have the option to sign in through their Google Classroom to view direct and live instruction although there will be no interaction with the teacher and other students. They will be required to complete the asynchronous assignments in order to marked present during their quarantine/isolation. The student will be able to email the teacher for additional support.

approved by the board - 8/16/21