



## **COVID-19 Guidelines - 2022/2023**

***Issued 8/23/2022***

We are excited to welcome you back to campus for the 2022-23 school year. As the start of the new school year approaches, we want to update you on our COVID-19 mitigation strategies and safety protocols, knowing that we must remain flexible should CDC Guidelines change or evolve.

### **General Guidelines**

Students and employees will be given rapid antigen tests after school breaks, and masks will be required indoors for the first five days that school is back in session for fall, winter and spring break. After the five-day period, masks will be optional for everyone in the community.

Conditions may arise throughout the year, such as an increase in the number of cases on campus or an increase in the number of cases in our area of Riverside County, that require community members to be masked indoors for some period of time. Other increased precautions may be put into place depending on the situation and any guidance we receive from the local and state health departments.

COVID-19 vaccinations are not required, but are strongly encouraged. Our health center staff can work with families to arrange vaccinations for any family who would like their child to receive one after arriving on campus.

### **Masking**

After the 5 day period, masks are optional for employees, students and visitors, and their decision will be respected by our school community. This is subject to change based on the general guidelines above.

Below are some great resources for staff and families to help students understand and ease fears and anxiety they may be experiencing:

§ [Coping with Anxiety as Mask Mandates Lift](#) (Michigan Health)

§ [How to Deal With Bullying Over Face Masks in School](#) (Boston Children's Hospital)

### **Hand Washing**

All community members will be consistently reminded to wash their hands frequently and well, according to [CDC guidelines](#). Hand sanitizer stations are located throughout the campus.

### **Responding to Positive Test Results**

If your child tests positive, they will need to:

- Isolate for at least 5 days after the start of symptoms (or after the date of first positive test if no symptoms).
- Isolation can end after Day 5 if symptoms are not present or are resolving and a rapid test collected on Day 5 or later tests negative.
- If testing positive on Day 5 (or later), isolation can end after Day 10 if fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- If fever is present, isolation should be continued until 24 hours after fever resolves.
- If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving, continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after Day 10. If symptoms are severe, or if the infected person is at high risk of serious disease, or if they have questions concerning care, infected persons should contact their healthcare provider for available treatments.
- During the infection period, you are required to wear a mask, if around others.
- If deemed necessary, we might call upon domestic parents to pick-up their child from campus during the course of quarantine.

### **Students with COVID-19 Symptoms**

Students who feel sick should go to the Health Center immediately where they will be assessed by one of our nurses and scheduled for an appointment with a doctor at one of our local clinics, if necessary. If a student is suspected of having COVID-19, they will be isolated from the community while awaiting further evaluation and/or test results.

Students who are considered close contacts will be contacted by the Health Center and will be given guidance on testing and isolation requirements.

### **Employees with COVID-19 Symptoms**

Employees who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, should notify their manager(s) and stay home from work. Employees should test for COVID-19. If test results are positive or employees are symptomatic with a known close contact, employees should email the Health Center and Human Resources and will be given guidance on testing and isolation requirements.

Employees and students who are considered close contacts will be contacted by the Health Center and will be given guidance on testing and isolation requirements.

### **Notification Policy**

In the event of a positive student case, Idyllwild Arts will reach out to those who have been in close contact with that student, along with the corresponding parents. We will continue to adhere to state and county guidelines as it is updated in this regard.

### **Visitor Policy**

Parents and families are encouraged to attend student performances and shows on campus. Masks are recommended, but not required. There will be several events throughout the year, like mainstage performances, that are open to the public. Prospective families who would like to tour campus should contact our Admission Office at [admissionteam@idyllwildarts.org](mailto:admissionteam@idyllwildarts.org) to schedule a visit.

All buildings, including the dorms will be open to current families at this point, upon appointment. To schedule a visit with your child, please contact Maggie Lam (Assistant Dean of Students) at [mlam@idyllwildarts.org](mailto:mlam@idyllwildarts.org).

All visitors on campus are expected to follow any COVID-19 precautions in place at the time.