



THE CAMPHILL SCHOOL

*A community serving children with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1963*

# Health and Safety Plan

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**Effective Date: June 25, 2022**

Date of Last Update: June 17, 2022

This plan documents The Camphill School's plan for in-person instruction for all students. Our goal is to promote the health and safety of all students and coworkers as much as possible while ensuring The Camphill School meets its students' educational needs, and its students' and coworkers' social, emotional, spiritual, mental health, and other needs to the highest degree possible. This plan documents our COVID protocols and procedures, which have been developed based on reviewing applicable recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), and the Chester County Health Department, applying them to our specific setting, listening to the members of our community, and balancing the various needs to the best of our abilities. We will continue to review public health guidance and monitor local health data to assess implications for the operations of our school, including adjustments of this plan.

As individuals deeply interconnected in our community, we endeavor to create a culture of respect, empathy, understanding and kindness for each other. We strive to foster and deepen our human encounters and the health of our interpersonal relationships as the foundation of our community through listening openly to each other, with respect for the other's opinion and decisions especially if they are different from ours, with quiet attention and active reflection, while deferring personal judgement. This striving was also expressed by Karl König, the founder of Camphill, in 1965: *"Only support from person to person - the encounter of a self with another self - the awareness of another individuality without questioning the other's religion, convictions and political background – just the gaze from eye to eye between two personalities, creates this kind of curative education which can, in a healing way, counteract the threat to the core of humanity. However, this can only work on the strength of profound heart-knowledge."* We believe that our individual and communal striving towards this ideal is essential for the overall health and well-being of our community and its individual members.

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## 1 Processes

### 1.1 COVID Response Team

The COVID Response Team is responsible for reviewing applicable public health guidance, updating the Health and Safety Plan as indicated and communicating it with the members of the school community. Together with the Medical Office, it coordinates the response to COVID cases in the school community. In the table below, we have identified the members of the COVID Response Team and the stakeholder group they represent.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job title and stakeholder group(s) represented</b>
Sonja Adams	Co-Worker Admissions Coordinator, day program, High School Faculty, residential coworkers and volunteers, students of the Camphill Academy
Tobias Adams	Pedagogical Administrator, day program, High School Faculty, instructional coworkers, supporting coworkers, Parent Group
Guy Alma	Director of Development, Transition Program, Transition Program coworkers, Parent Group
Carsten Callesen	Director of Therapeutic Services, Medical Office, boarding program, residential coworkers, Early Childhood/Lower and Middle School Faculty
Raphael Knauf	School Physician, Medical Office
Elizabeth Sanders	Administrator, students of the Camphill Academy

Andreas Schuschke	Director of Programs, special education teachers, boarding program
Claus Sproll	Director of Finance, administrative coworkers
Haleh Wilson Janisch	Special Education Teachers, boarding program, Transition Program

## 1.2 Communication

All coworkers, parents and other stakeholders will be informed of the contents of this plan. The Health and Safety plan is posted on the school’s website and emailed to parents and coworkers when significant changes occur. All members of the school community have the possibility to share concerns or questions with the COVID Response Team or their supervisor.

## 2 Programming

We plan for the school to be **open for in-person instruction** following the strategies and procedures listed in this plan as long as there are no government mandates to close and as long as there are no COVID-19 outbreaks at our school that require us to temporarily close. In the case of closure of in-person classroom instruction, boarding students will remain on-campus to maintain opportunity of access to the educational program. The school will not offer a remote learning option at this point.

## 3 Prevention and mitigation strategies and procedures

### 3.1 Face masks

The wearing of face masks will be optional at The Camphill School. However, people present at the school within 7 days after exposure to someone with COVID or within 10 days of onset of symptoms after diagnosis of COVID should wear a well-fitting N95 mask or, if that is not possible, a surgical mask. People who become symptomatic while at school should similarly wear a face mask and follow the steps under 3.4.2.

Students who have a medical or mental health condition or disability that precludes the wearing of face masks are not required to do so. Due to the nature of their disabilities most of our students are currently unable to consistently and reliably wear face masks. Coworkers will work with all students on understanding the importance of face masks as well as practicing the wearing of face masks during the times indicated above. Coworkers who have a medical or mental health condition or disability, documented in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, that precludes the wearing of face masks or requires respective accommodations will be accommodated accordingly. In our residential house communities, the wearing of face masks may not be feasible depending on the specific situation and the people affected.

### 3.2 Spatial mitigation

In settings where multiple house communities or classes come together, students and coworkers should walk/sit/stand in house communities or classes as much as feasible. This is especially important in indoor settings. Excursions/field trips to crowded indoor settings should be avoided as much as possible.

### 3.3 Vaccination against COVID

Coworkers and parents have been informed of possibilities for vaccination against COVID. In general, it is the responsibility of parents to get their children vaccinated. The Camphill School encourages coworkers and students who have been vaccinated to submit proof of vaccination to the Medical Office. Submission of this information is voluntary.

### 3.4 Monitoring student and coworker health, testing, staying home and protocols for COVID-19 at the school

Please note that all personal medical information needs to be treated confidentially and must not be disclosed to unauthorized people or organizations. The Medical Office (phone 610-469-0862; email: [medical@camphillschool.org](mailto:medical@camphillschool.org)) will collaborate with the Chester County Health Department as indicated.

#### 3.4.1 Definitions

- **Symptoms of COVID-19** may be: Cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of smell or taste, fever (subjective or measured - axillary or temporal T 99.5° F or higher; oral T 100.4° F or higher) or chills, sore throat, runny nose or congestion, muscle or body aches, headache, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.
- **Screening positive for COVID-19** means symptoms of COVID-19 are present.
- **Diagnostic viral test** means a PCR/NAA or rapid antigen test for COVID-19.

#### 3.4.2 Screening

- All students and coworkers will be screened or screen themselves for COVID-19 at the beginning of the day. If screening is positive, they will stay home and notify the School and Medical Offices.
- Visitors and commuting volunteers will screen themselves or be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and are only allowed to enter the school premises if the screening is negative (i.e. no symptoms of COVID-19).
- If a student or coworker appears ill at school, they will be screened or screen themselves for COVID-19. People who screen positive should wear a well-fitting N95 mask or, if that is not possible, a surgical mask (exemptions apply per 3.1). If screening is positive, the person will return home (for boarding students this means their boarding home) and School and Medical Offices will be notified.
- 911 should be called if the situation of the ill person requires it (including but not limited to trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, and bluish lips or face).

#### 3.4.3 Testing for COVID-19

- Students and coworkers who screen positive for COVID-19 are expected to get a diagnostic viral test based on guidance by the Medical Office or a physician. This applies to everyone, independent of vaccination status.
- The Medical Office may recommend that people with recent exposure to someone with COVID-19 who remain asymptomatic should have a diagnostic viral test 5 days after exposure.

- Any positive tests of students or coworkers shall be immediately communicated to the Medical Office of The Camphill School. The Medical Office will communicate with the Chester County Health Department as indicated.

#### 3.4.4 Staying home when appropriate

- Students and coworkers need to stay home (for boarding students and residential coworkers this means their boarding school home) if they screen positive for COVID-19 or have tested positive for COVID-19.
- The Medical Office must be notified when these criteria are met.
- When showing symptoms of COVID-19 and/or having tested positive for COVID-19, the individual should limit contact with other people as much as possible. For direct interactions, personal protective equipment should be worn as much as possible by the provider of care. The ill individual should wear a mask during that time if possible. Good hand hygiene is essential.
- Boarding students and residential coworkers: Given the specific needs of our student population, time outdoors and outside of a person's room may be essential in the situations described in this section to avoid behavioral decompensation. The measures described in this section shall be implemented to the greatest extent possible. Physical distancing of at least 6 feet from people outside of the house community must be maintained and the school premises must not be left when screening positive or having tested positive for COVID, unless required for medical care.

#### 3.4.5 Case of COVID-19

- Any positive test result for COVID-19 shall be immediately communicated to the Medical Office, which will coordinate the response in collaboration with the COVID Response Team. If the person is present on school property when the school is notified of the positive case information, the person should be taken to a separate space to wait for pick up (if student) or return home (if coworker). The person in question should wear a well-fitting N95 mask or, if that is not possible, a surgical mask (exemptions apply per 4.1).
- The Medical Office will contact a student's parents or coworker with COVID-19, inform people with exposure at school and give instructions to those involved, to the best of its abilities. The individual who tested positive will not be identified in communications to the school community at large but may need to be selectively identified to identify exposure.

#### 3.4.6 Return to school

- After **screening positive for COVID-19 and having a negative diagnostic viral test for COVID-19** (PCR or rapid antigen, based on consultation with the Medical Office or a physician): Return to school will follow usual return-to-school criteria after acute infectious illness (symptoms are improved, fever-free without fever-reducing medications for at least 24 hours, no vomiting for at least 24 hours etc.).
- After being **diagnosed with COVID-19** or after **screening positive for COVID-19 and not getting tested**, the individual may return to school once **all** of the following criteria are met:
  - Individual has been fever-free for at least 24 hours without using fever-reducing medicines **and**
  - Symptoms are improved **and**
  - At least 5 days have passed after the day when symptoms first appeared (or after the date of test collection if completely asymptomatic). Depending on the staffing situation, coworkers may return to school earlier as part of contingency and crisis staffing. (Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay return to school. Different time

frames apply for people who had severe COVID-19 and/or who have severely weakened immune systems.) See 3.1 for masking requirements.

### 3.6 Home visits, pick-up from school for vacation and return to school after vacation and travel

If a boarding student visits with his/her family, both the family members should screen themselves or be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 (see 3.4.1) prior; if the screening is positive and the parents decide to follow through with taking their child home, return to campus will depend upon clearance by the Medical Office. Exposure of students to COVID-19 while with their families should be communicated to the Medical Office as soon as possible.

Pick-up from school for vacation will happen on the days indicated on the school calendar, independent of the COVID-19 situation at The Camphill School at that time. The Camphill School is not able to accommodate any arrangements for students remaining on campus past pick-up day or returning prior to drop-off days, as part of COVID related contingencies or otherwise. Families are encouraged to plan accordingly.

Prior to returning from vacations at home, students will be screened for symptoms of COVID-19. By having their child return to school, parents affirm that their child's screening is negative and that they do not know of any exposure of their child to COVID-19 in the 10 days preceding return to campus. Students and coworkers need to follow applicable CDC requirements for testing and self-quarantine after travel prior to return to school. Please see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/after-travel-precautions.html>. Coworkers are expected to not miss time at work due to these requirements.