Fall 2021 COVID-19 Safety Plan

Dear New Village Students and Families:

Working in close partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Los Angeles County Office of Education, the Governor’s Office, and experts in the scientific community, we are monitoring changing health conditions in our community in order to modify plans and respond accordingly, based on public health data.

The safety of students and staff is always the New Village Girls Academy’s priority and of paramount importance during the current pandemic. The following summary describes the school’s comprehensive approach to preventing and containing the spread of COVID-19 on our school campus. The full plan can be found on our school website.

Symptom Check Before Students Leave Home for School

Please ensure that your student is feeling well and does not have any of the following symptoms before arriving to school:

- Fever of 100 degrees or greater
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Fatigue (new or severe)
- Any of the following not due to a chronic condition:
  - Cough
  - Congestion or Runny Nose
  - Muscle or Body Aches
  - Headache
  - Sore Throat
  - Nausea/Vomiting
  - Diarrhea
  - Loss of Taste or Smell

If the student is not feeling well or has one or more symptoms, they will not be allowed to enter the school.

Who to Contact at the School if Students Have Symptoms or May Have Been Exposed

Please contact the school Main Office at (213) 385-4015 to report any symptoms listed above, or
if your student may have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19. You will receive further instructions at that time.

**Required Use of Face Coverings**

New Village Girls Academy requires that all students, employees and visitors while on school property and on a school bus, wear a face covering and follow the school’s protocol. This includes parents who are dropping off or picking up children. A face covering or mask will be provided to any student or employee who does not have one.

**Temperature Checks**

Temperature checks may also be taken at the check-in point for students, staff and visitors. If the individual has a temperature of 100°F and above, they will be given an opportunity to step aside and wait a minimum of 5 minutes to cool down and get their temperature checked again. If the temperature for the individual remains at 100°F and above during the second attempt, the individual will not be allowed on campus unless he or she is an unaccompanied student.

Students who screen positive at entry, have a temperature of 100°F and above or who experience symptoms at any point during the school day will be given a surgical mask and accompanied to the designated isolation area where they can remain while arrangements are made for their return home.

**Social Distancing**

All classrooms have been reconfigured to maximize space between students where possible. Based upon the recommendation of the CDC and DPH guidance, student workstations are spaced to provide a distance separating students that is 3 feet when feasible.

Social distancing will be maximized to the greatest extent possible. Other mitigating factors may be used when social distancing is not feasible, such as clear plastic or solid surface barriers that can be cleaned often. Signage will be posted to maintain 6-foot distance between office personnel. Tape, signs or other markings will be used to define a 6-foot radius around reception desks or counters. Workstations will be arranged to permit 6 feet between individuals sharing a space or between office personnel and students.

**COVID-19 Testing On Site**

All staff and students will be administered a PCR COVID-19 test (saliva sample) each Monday. Antigen testing (nasal swab) will be performed throughout the school year, as needed. Both testing will be conducted to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to contain any possible outbreaks.
Isolation & Quarantine

In compliance with LACDPH, New Village Girls Academy must have a dedicated isolation area and a dedicated quarantine area separate from the Main Office for suspected COVID cases.

Any student or staff member who becomes ill at school with COVID-19 symptoms must be separated from others immediately.

Students who screen positive or experience COVID symptoms will wait in the isolation area until picked up by parent/guardian or transferred to a healthcare facility. All students in the isolation area will be supervised by a staff member. The staff member will be provided with a surgical mask and face shield. Social distancing of six feet or greater will be maintained in the isolation area. A separate bathroom will be designated for use by anyone utilizing the isolation area.

Students who have had close contact with an individual that has a confirmed COVID-19 case will be quarantined in a designated area, preferably outdoors, until picked up by a parent/guardian. Students will be grouped by stable groups and not intermingled when possible in this area. Social distancing of 6 feet or greater will be maintained. All students in the quarantine area will be supervised by a staff member. This space must remain separate and apart from the isolation. If an entire stable group must be quarantined, they may remain in their classroom as a group.

Changes in School to Meals to Avert Risks

Students will be consuming meals outdoors whenever possible. When eating indoors, space between tables and/or chairs will be increased to 6 feet or marked off. Barriers between tables and chairs may also be utilized when 6 feet distance is not possible.

If students will need to line up to pick up food, tape or other markings will be used to assure a 6-foot distance between students. Staff supervision will be exercised during this period to remind students of physical distance requirements. Buffet and family style meals have been eliminated.

Visitors

Visits to the school by individuals other than students and staff shall be avoided whenever feasible and limited to those who are essential for the school’s operation. Parents of enrolled students are encouraged to conduct business with school personnel remotely. All visitors must check-in and provide their name, phone number and email address, so that they can be contacted if there is an exposure during their visit. Visitors will be encouraged to come by appointment and alone. If a visitor must be accompanied by another person (e.g., for translation, visitor is a minor or has minor students), then their information needs to be captured in the visitor log as well.
Emergency Contact Information

It is important to provide up-to-date emergency contact information, including multiple parent contact options, in the case of an emergency, if a student displays any symptoms listed above, or becomes ill while in school.

Resources for Families

Students ages 12 and up can visit any one of the LAUSD run school-based clinic sites to receive a COVID vaccination. Please note that parents/caregivers will need to accompany children ages 12-15 years of age when they are vaccinated. All children eligible to receive the COVID vaccine who are 17 years of age and younger will require a signed parent/guardian consent. The accompanying adult may also be offered the COVID vaccine. Student appointments can be made by calling 213-202-7590. Additional information can be found at https://achieve.lausd.net/sms#spn-content.

Thank you for your support in the implementation of these guidelines. Please reach out to the school if you have any questions or concerns at (213) 385-4015.

Stay safe and healthy,

Ms. Jennifer Quinones
Principal
New Village Girls Academy