

Gig Harbor Academy Health and Safety Practices

Version 8/23/21

Goal: Gig Harbor Academy is committed to providing the safest possible environment for in-person learning.

Gig Harbor Academy follows all requirements from WA Department of Health for the 2021-22 School Year which can be found here:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/820-105-K12Schools2021-2022.pdf>

This document highlights the aspects of these requirements that are applicable to our school. This document will be updated as the requirements are updated.

Face Coverings

Correct use of cloth face coverings or masks helps prevent the spread of COVID-19 and is required when indoors for all students ages 5+.

A face covering is strongly recommended for students ages 2-4.

Students may remove face coverings to eat and drink, and when they are outside.

A medical exemption may be approved if there is a documented disability that shows that a face covering may obstruct breathing. If an exemption is granted, a suitable alternative should be found such as a face shield with a drape or wrap.

Vaccination

Gig Harbor Academy is compliant with the Governors vaccine mandate for all school employees.

Any parent that wishes to volunteer with students must have their vaccine record verified by the office.

There is currently no vaccine approved for students aged under 12.

Screening for Symptoms of Covid-19

Parents should screen their children for symptoms of Covid-19 at home. These symptoms include Class A symptoms (Fever of 100.4 or higher, Persistent cough, Loss of sense of taste and/or smell,

Shortness of breath), and Class B symptoms (Fatigue, Headache, Muscle or body aches, Sore throat, Congestion or Runny Nose, Nausea or Vomiting, Diarrhea).

If a student develops:

- any of these symptoms, they should not be brought to school.
- any of these symptoms at school, they will be sent home early.
- any Class A symptom or 2 or more Class B symptoms, they need to be symptom free and present a negative Covid test before returning to school.

There is no online or paper screening form this school year. However, if faculty or staff observe a child with any of these symptoms they will not be allowed at school or if these symptoms develop during the day, they will be sent home.

Testing Positive for Covid-19

If a student tests positive for Covid-19, the parent should notify the school immediately. Any student that tests positive must isolate for 10 days from the beginning of symptom onset. The student may return to school after 10 days with a negative test and must be symptom free for 24 hours.

Quarantining for Close Contacts

A close contact is defined as someone that has been within 6 ft of an individual with confirmed Covid-19 for 15 minutes cumulatively over a 24-hour period. For the purposes of contact tracing at school, all individuals who have shared an indoor class space with an individual with confirmed Covid-19 will be considered a close contact.

If student has been identified as being a close contact, they must quarantine for a minimum of 7 days and must be symptom free and provide a negative test result to return to the classroom. Adults identified as a close contact who have been vaccinated do not need to quarantine, but should get tested 3-5 days after exposure.

Individuals who have been in close contact with other close contacts, or individuals who have symptoms do not need to quarantine, but testing is recommended.

There is no requirement for quarantining after travel, unless there has been a close contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19. Testing after travel is recommended for unvaccinated students.

Parents and Visitors on Campus

Parents and visitors are welcome on campus following the guidelines outlined here:

- Masks are required indoors for all parents and visitors.
- Masks are not required while outdoors.
- Parents and visitors that wish to volunteer in the classroom must submit vaccine verification to the office.
- For approved field trips, all parent volunteers must be fully vaccinated if they are transporting children other than their own, or if chaperoning students.