



Forest Charter School

A Personalized Learning Program

Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges

COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP)

Charter Council Approve: January 12, 2021

This CPP is designed to control exposures to the SARS-CoV-2 virus that may occur in our workplace.

Authority and Responsibility

Peter Sagebiel has overall authority and responsibility for implementing the provisions of this CPP in our workplace. In addition, all managers and supervisors are responsible for implementing and maintaining the CPP in their assigned work areas and for ensuring employees receive answers to questions about the program in a language they understand.

All employees are responsible for using safe work practices, following all directives, policies and procedures, and assisting in maintaining a safe work environment.

Identification and Evaluation of COVID-19 Hazards

We will implement the following in our workplace:

- Conduct workplace-specific evaluations using the Appendix A: Identification of COVID-19 Hazards form.
- Evaluate employees' potential workplace exposures to all persons at, or who may enter, our workplace.
- Review applicable orders and general and industry-specific guidance from the State of California, Cal/OSHA, and the local health department related to COVID-19 hazards and prevention.
- Evaluate existing COVID-19 prevention controls in our workplace and the need for different or additional controls.
- Conduct periodic inspections using the Appendix B: COVID-19 Inspections form as needed to identify unhealthy conditions, work practices, and work procedures related to COVID-19 and to ensure compliance with our COVID-19 policies and procedures.

Forest Charter staff will continuously evaluate the risk of COVID-19 hazards by monitoring traffic flow and number of people in each office space. FCS is working with staff to work from home on a rotating basis to minimize exposure.

Employee Participation

Employees and their authorized employees' representatives are encouraged to participate in the identification and evaluation of COVID-19 hazards by:

All employees are trained to look for signs of symptoms in others on campus by monitoring for symptoms, and by ensuring everyone who comes to campus has completed the COVID-19 Daily Symptom Checklist. If they have not completed the checklist, FCS staff can do it themselves on site, or the Supervising Teacher or other staff can conduct the checklist.

Employee Screening

All employees who report to work (in-person) are required to perform a self-administered wellness check for COVID-19 symptoms before leaving home for work. Any employee who has a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher and/or any of the COVID symptoms is directed to remain home, notify his or her supervisor and await instructions. If employees don't have access to a thermometer at home, FCS has several no-touch thermometers at each learning center. If there is follow up needed, we have trained staff who will contact employees to do additional contact tracing/health screening.

Correction of COVID-19 Hazards

Unsafe or unhealthy work conditions, practices or procedures will be documented on the Appendix B: COVID-19 Inspections form, and corrected in a timely manner based on the severity of the hazards, as follows:

- o Notify the county public health department immediately
- o Notify all staff and families in the school community of any positive COVID-19 case while maintaining confidentiality as required by state and federal laws.
- o Close off areas used by any sick person and do not use before cleaning and disinfection.
- o Investigate the COVID-19 illness and exposures and determine if any work-related factors could have contributed to risk of infection.
- o Update protocols as needed to prevent further cases in accordance with CDPH Guidelines ("Responding to COVID-19 in the Workplace").
- o Implement communication plans for exposure at school and potential school closures to include outreach to students, parents, teachers, staff and the community.
- o Include information for staff regarding labor laws, information regarding Disability Insurance, Paid Family Leave and Unemployment Insurance, as applicable to schools.
- o Provide guidance to parents, teachers and staff reminding them of the importance of community physical distancing measures while a school is closed, including discouraging students or staff from gathering elsewhere.

Controls of COVID-19 Hazards

Physical Distancing

Where possible, we ensure at least six feet of physical distancing at all times in our workplace by:

To help with physical distancing, all supervising teachers and instructors are able to work from home during COVID-19. There is an online campus schedule for those who have poor internet access at home which ensures physical distancing while on site. We have re-evaluated work stations to make sure that all office staff has their own work space. We have moved some staff to different offices, and some staff are on a rotating schedule between coming to the office and working from home to ensure physical distancing. We have installed plastic sneeze guards at all front office desk stations. We have placed physical distancing signs on the floor, and on bulletin boards on walkways. Additionally, we have directional signage on staircases and hallways to aid with traffic flow, and we are allowing visitors on a need only basis to limit the number of people on campus at any given time.

Individuals will be kept as far apart as possible when there are situations where six feet of physical distancing cannot be achieved.

Face Coverings

We provide clean, undamaged face coverings and ensure they are properly worn by employees over the nose and mouth when indoors, and when outdoors and less than six feet away from another person, including non-employees, and where required by orders from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) or local health department.

Following CDPH Guidelines, all staff and visitors are required to wear a face covering when on campus. We have disposable face coverings available in every room at our learning centers. Additionally, we have 500 reusable cloth masks for students available to hand out. There are signs located around campus showing the proper use of face coverings. Additionally, all employees have gone through training on proper use and care of face coverings.

The following are exceptions to the use of face coverings in our workplace:

- When an employee is alone in a room.
- While eating and drinking at the workplace, provided employees are at least six feet apart and outside air supply to the area, if indoors, has been maximized to the extent possible.
- Employees wearing respiratory protection in accordance with CCR Title 8 section 5144 or other safety orders.
- Employees who cannot wear face coverings due to a medical or mental health condition or disability, or who are hearing-impaired or communicating with a hearing-impaired person. Alternatives will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Specific tasks that cannot feasibly be performed with a face covering, where employees will be kept at least six feet apart.

Any employee not wearing a face covering, face shield with a drape or other effective alternative, or respiratory protection, for any reason, shall be at least six feet apart from all other persons unless the unmasked employee is tested at least twice weekly for COVID-19.

Engineering controls

We implement the following measures for situations where we cannot maintain at least six feet between individuals:

For situations where we cannot maintain at least six feet between individuals we have either installed plastic sneeze guards, or we have several portable sneeze guards that can be used, and we require face coverings be worn.

We maximize, to the extent feasible, the quantity of outside air for our buildings with mechanical or natural ventilation systems by:

We have installed MERV 13 filters where possible in our learning centers and we have increased the fresh air intake through our HVAC systems where possible. We are researching portable HEPA air filters to put in classrooms when we have students on campus in locations where we couldn't increase the efficiency of the HVAC systems.

Cleaning and disinfecting

We implement the following cleaning and disinfection measures for frequently touched surfaces:

FCS will provide regular professional cleaning at each learning center which includes disinfecting. Disinfecting wipes are available in each room and all staff are instructed to wipe their workstations and frequently used surfaces before and after each use. Frequently used areas include but are not limited to phones, door handles, light switches, copiers, tables, chairs, handrails, sinks, restroom surfaces, toys, and instructional materials. Hand sanitizer is available in each room and in general areas and staff are instructed to use hand sanitizer before beginning work. Additionally, staff are instructed to not share computers or other equipment (phones, desks, pens, etc.), and to maintain clutter free surfaces and workstations for efficient and regular cleaning and disinfecting.

Should we have a COVID-19 case in our workplace, we will implement the following procedures:

- o Notify the county public health department immediately
- o Notify all staff and families in the school community of any positive COVID-19 case while maintaining confidentiality as required by state and federal laws.
- o Close off areas used by any sick person and do not use before cleaning and disinfection.
- o Investigate the COVID-19 illness and exposures and determine if any work-related factors could have contributed to risk of infection.
- o Update protocols as needed to prevent further cases in accordance with CDPH Guidelines (“Responding to COVID-19 in the Workplace”).
- o Implement communication plans for exposure at school and potential school closures to include outreach to students, parents, teachers, staff and the community.

- o Include information for staff regarding labor laws, information regarding Disability Insurance, Paid Family Leave and Unemployment Insurance, as applicable to schools.
- o Provide guidance to parents, teachers and staff reminding them of the importance of community physical distancing measures while a school is closed, including discouraging students or staff from gathering elsewhere.

Shared tools, equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE)

PPE must not be shared, e.g., gloves, goggles and face shields.

Items that employees come in regular physical contact with, such as phones, headsets, desks, keyboards, writing materials, instruments and tools must also not be shared, to the extent feasible. Where there must be sharing, the items will be disinfected between uses by:

FCS will incorporate the CDPH and CDC Guidance for Cleaning, Disinfection and Ventilation as appropriate to maintain a high level of cleanliness throughout the year and reduce the risk of exposure to and spread of COVID-19 at the school site.

- Custodial staff will perform thorough cleaning when students and staff are not present.
- FCS will ensure proper ventilation during cleaning and disinfecting. Staff are encouraged to introduce fresh outdoor air as much as possible, by opening windows where practicable.
- All frequently touched surfaces in the workplace, such as chairs, desks, tables, keyboards, telephones, handrails, light switches, sink handles, bathroom surfaces and door handles, will be routinely disinfected. FCS will provide disinfecting wipes in all rooms and common areas.
- Students and employees are discouraged from sharing desks, computers, books, phones, pens, art supplies, or other work tools and equipment, including playground equipment, when possible. When shared use is allowed, the items and equipment will be cleaned and disinfected between uses.
- To the extent feasible, site resources that necessitate sharing or touching items (e.g., drinking fountains) will not be used and replacement items (e.g., reusable water bottles) will be used to the extent practicable.

Hand sanitizing

In order to implement effective hand sanitizing procedures, we:

- FCS has instructed that students and staff wash or sanitize hands frequently, including upon arrival to campus, after using the restroom, after going outside and returning to work, before and after eating, and after coughing or sneezing.
- Staff will teach and reinforce proper handwashing technique, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, using a tissue to wipe the nose, and covering coughs and sneezes.
- FCS shall make soap, tissues, no-touch trashcans, face coverings, water and paper towels or dryers for hand washing available. Students and staff should wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application.
- If soap and water are not readily available, FCS has made available fragrance-free alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is at least sixty percent (60%) ethyl alcohol.
- We have placed posters conspicuously that encourage hand hygiene to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) used to control employees' exposure to COVID-19

We evaluate the need for PPE (such as gloves, goggles, and face shields) as required by CCR Title 8, section 3380, and provide such PPE as needed.

When it comes to respiratory protection, we evaluate the need in accordance with CCR Title 8 section 5144 when the physical distancing requirements are not feasible or maintained. [reference section 3205(c)(E) for details on required respirator and eye protection use.]

We provide and ensure use of eye protection and respiratory protection in accordance with section 5144 when employees are exposed to procedures that may aerosolize potentially infectious material such as saliva or respiratory tract fluids.

Investigating and Responding to COVID-19 Cases

This will be accomplished by using the Appendix C: Investigating COVID-19 Cases form OR FCS's own internal tracking system.

All employees are offered free COVID-19 testing through our local testing facility, as well as no dock for time off to get tested. In addition to our local testing facility, our County office of Education is offering free testing on site for symptomatic staff beginning in late January.

System for Communicating

Our goal is to ensure that we have effective two-way communication with our employees, in a form they can readily understand, and that it includes the following information:

- Who employees should report COVID-19 symptoms and possible hazards to, and how:

Employees are instructed to notify their supervisor, the business director, and our contract tracing staff when they have COVID-19 symptoms and/or exposure.

- That employees can report symptoms and hazards without fear of reprisal.
- Our procedures or policies for accommodating employees with medical or other conditions that put them at increased risk of severe COVID-19 illness.
- Where testing is not required, how employees can access COVID-19 testing:

Our local testing center is offering (at the present moment) free COVID testing, which all of our employees have access to.

- In the event we are required to provide testing because of a workplace exposure or outbreak, we will communicate the plan for providing testing and inform affected employees of the reason for the testing and the possible consequences of a positive test.
- Information about COVID-19 hazards employees (including other employers and individuals in contact with our workplace) may be exposed to, what is being done to control those hazards, and our COVID-19 policies and procedures.

Safety protocols and equipment are regularly reviewed and updated as needed.

Training and Instruction

We will provide effective training and instruction that includes:

- Our COVID-19 policies and procedures to protect employees from COVID-19 hazards.
- Information regarding COVID-19-related benefits to which the employee may be entitled under applicable federal, state, or local laws.
- The fact that:
 - COVID-19 is an infectious disease that can be spread through the air.
 - COVID-19 may be transmitted when a person touches a contaminated object and then touches their eyes, nose, or mouth.
 - An infectious person may have no symptoms.
- Methods of physical distancing of at least six feet and the importance of combining physical distancing with the wearing of face coverings.
- The fact that particles containing the virus can travel more than six feet, especially indoors, so physical distancing must be combined with other controls, including face coverings and hand hygiene, to be effective.
- The importance of frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and using hand sanitizer when employees do not have immediate access to a sink or hand washing facility, and that hand sanitizer does not work if the hands are soiled.
- Proper use of face coverings and the fact that face coverings are not respiratory protective equipment - face coverings are intended to primarily protect other individuals from the wearer of the face covering.
- COVID-19 symptoms, and the importance of obtaining a COVID-19 test and not coming to work if the employee has COVID-19 symptoms.

FCS mandated the following COVID related trainings through Public SchoolWorks: COVID-19: How to Protect Yourself and Others, and The California Healthy Schools Act Training. All trainings were completed within the first two weeks of the beginning of the school year. Additionally, we do procedural updates, trainings, and/or reminders at staff meetings and through email messages.

Exclusion of COVID-19 Cases

Where we have a COVID-19 case in our workplace, we will limit transmission by:

- Ensuring that COVID-19 cases are excluded from the workplace until our return-to-work requirements are met.
- Excluding employees with COVID-19 exposure from the workplace for 14 days after the last known COVID-19 exposure to a COVID-19 case.
- Continuing and maintaining an employee's earnings, seniority, and all other employee rights and benefits whenever we've demonstrated that the COVID-19 exposure is work related. This will be accomplished by

FCS will follow all Department of Labor laws to ensure that our staff are covered during COVID-19. Employees will be able to work from home during any quarantine or home isolation period, and if necessary, all benefits through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act will be available.

- Providing employees at the time of exclusion with information on available benefits.

Reporting, Recordkeeping, and Access

It is our policy to:

- Report information about COVID-19 cases at our workplace to the local health department whenever required by law, and provide any related information requested by the local health department.
- Report immediately to Cal/OSHA any COVID-19-related serious illnesses or death, as defined under CCR Title 8 section 330(h), of an employee occurring in our place of employment or in connection with any employment.
- Maintain records of the steps taken to implement our written COVID-19 Prevention Program in accordance with CCR Title 8 section 3203(b).
- Make our written COVID-19 Prevention Program available at the workplace to employees, authorized employee representatives, and to representatives of Cal/OSHA immediately upon request.
- Use the **Appendix C: Investigating COVID-19 Cases** form to keep a record of and track all COVID-19 cases. The information will be made available to employees, authorized employee representatives, or as otherwise required by law, with personal identifying information removed.

Return-to-Work Criteria

- COVID-19 cases with COVID-19 symptoms will not return to work until all the following have occurred:
 - At least 24 hours have passed since a fever of 100.4 or higher has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medications.
 - COVID-19 symptoms have improved.
 - At least 10 days have passed since COVID-19 symptoms first appeared.

- COVID-19 cases who tested positive but never developed COVID-19 symptoms will not return to work until a minimum of 10 days have passed since the date of specimen collection of their first positive COVID-19 test.
- A negative COVID-19 test will not be required for an employee to return to work.
- If an order to isolate or quarantine an employee is issued by a local or state health official, the employee will not return to work until the period of isolation or quarantine is completed or the order is lifted. If no period was specified, then the period will be 10 days from the time the order to isolate was effective, or 14 days from the time the order to quarantine was effective.

Appendix A: Identification of COVID-19 Hazards

All persons, regardless of symptoms or negative COVID-19 test results, will be considered potentially infectious. Particular attention will be paid to areas where people may congregate or come in contact with one another, regardless of whether employees are performing an assigned work task or not. For example: meetings, entrances, bathrooms, hallways, aisles, walkways, elevators, break or eating areas, cool-down areas, and waiting areas.

Evaluation of potential workplace exposure will be to all persons at the workplace or who may enter the workplace, including coworkers, employees of other entities, members of the public, customers or clients, and independent contractors. We will consider how employees and other persons enter, leave, and travel through the workplace, in addition to addressing fixed work locations.

Person Conducting the

Evaluation: Date:

Name(s) of Employees and Authorized Employee Representative that Participated:

Interaction, area, activity, work task, process, equipment and material that potentially exposes employees to COVID-19 hazards	Places and times	Potential for COVID-19 exposures and employees affected, including members of the public and employees of other employers	Existing and/or additional COVID-19 prevention controls, including barriers, partitions and ventilation

Appendix B: COVID-19 Inspections

Date:

Name of Person Conducting the Inspection:

Work Location Evaluated:

Exposure Controls	Status	Person Assigned to Correct	Date Corrected
Engineering			
Barriers/Partitions			
Ventilation (amount of fresh air and filtration maximized)			
Additional room air filtration			

Exposure Controls	Status	Person Assigned to Correct	Date Corrected
Administrative			
Physical distancing			
Surface cleaning and disinfection (frequently enough and adequate supplies)			
Hand washing facilities (adequate numbers and supplies)			
Disinfecting and hand sanitizing solutions being used according to manufacturer instructions			

Exposure Controls	Status	Person Assigned to Correct	Date Corrected
PPE (not shared, available and being worn)			
Face coverings (cleaned sufficiently often)			
Face shields/goggles			
Respiratory protection			

Appendix C: Investigating COVID-19 Cases

All personal identifying information of COVID-19 cases or symptoms will be kept confidential. All COVID-19 testing or related medical services provided by us will be provided in a manner that ensures the confidentiality of employees, with the exception of unredacted information on COVID-19 cases that will be provided immediately upon request to the local health department, CDPH, Cal/OSHA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), or as otherwise required by law.

All employees' medical records will also be kept confidential and not disclosed or reported without the employee's express written consent to any person within or outside the workplace, with the following exceptions: (1) Unredacted medical records provided to the local health department, CDPH, Cal/OSHA, NIOSH, or as otherwise required by law immediately upon request; and (2) Records that do not contain individually identifiable medical information or from which individually identifiable medical information has been removed.

Date:

Name of Person Conducting the Investigation:

Employee (or non-employee*) name:		Occupation (if non-employee, why they were in the workplace):	
Location where employee worked (or non-employee was present in the workplace):		Date investigation was initiated:	
Was COVID-19 test offered?		Name(s) of staff involved in the investigation:	
Date and time the COVID-19 case was last present in the workplace:		Date of the positive or negative test and/or diagnosis:	
Date the case first had one or more COVID-19 symptoms:		Information received regarding COVID-19 test results and onset of symptoms (attach documentation):	

Results of the evaluation of the COVID-19 case and all locations at the workplace that may have been visited by the COVID-19 case during the high- risk exposure period, and who may have been exposed (attach	
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Notice given (within one business day, in a way that does not reveal any personal identifying information of the COVID-19 case) of the potential COVID-19 exposure to:			
All employees who may have had COVID-19 exposure and their authorized representatives.	Date:		
	Names of employees that were notified:		
Independent contractors and other employers present at the workplace during the high-risk exposure period.	Date:		
	Names of individuals that were notified:		
What were the workplace conditions that could have contributed to the risk of COVID-19 exposure?		What could be done to reduce exposure to COVID-19?	
Was local health department notified?		Date:	

*Should an employer be made aware of a non-employee infection source COVID-19 status.

Additional Consideration #1

Multiple COVID-19 Infections and COVID-19 Outbreaks

This section of CPP will stay in effect until there are no new COVID-19 cases detected in our workplace for a 14-day period.

COVID-19 testing

- We will provide COVID-19 testing to all employees in our exposed workplace except for employees who were not present during the period of an outbreak identified by a local health department or the relevant 14-day period. COVID-19 testing will be provided at no cost to employees during employees' working hours.
- COVID-19 testing consists of the following:
 - All employees in our exposed workplace will be immediately tested and then tested again one week later. Negative COVID-19 test results of employees with COVID-19 exposure will not impact the duration of any quarantine period required by, or orders issued by, the local health department.
 - After the first two COVID-19 tests, we will continue to provide COVID-19 testing of employees who remain at the workplace at least once per week, or more frequently if recommended by the local health department, until there are no new COVID-19 cases detected in our workplace for a 14-day period.
 - We will provide additional testing when deemed necessary by Cal/OSHA.

Exclusion of COVID-19 cases

We will ensure COVID-19 cases and employees who had COVID-19 exposure are excluded from the workplace in accordance with our CPP **Exclusion of COVID-19 Cases** and **Return to Work Criteria** requirements, and local health officer orders if applicable.

Investigation of workplace COVID-19 illness

We will immediately investigate and determine possible workplace-related factors that contributed to the COVID-19 outbreak in accordance with our CPP **Investigating and Responding to COVID-19 Cases**.

COVID-19 investigation, review and hazard correction

In addition to our CPP **Identification and Evaluation of COVID-19 Hazards** and **Correction of COVID-19 Hazards**, we will immediately perform a review of potentially relevant COVID-19 policies, procedures, and controls and implement changes as needed to prevent further spread of COVID-19.

The investigation and review will be documented and include:

- Investigation of new or unabated COVID-19 hazards including:
 - Our leave policies and practices and whether employees are discouraged from remaining home when sick.
 - Our COVID-19 testing policies.
 - Insufficient outdoor air.
 - Insufficient air filtration.
 - Lack of physical distancing.

- Updating the review:
 - Every thirty days that the outbreak continues.
 - In response to new information or to new or previously unrecognized COVID-19 hazards.

Additional Consideration #2

Major COVID-19 Outbreaks

This section of CPP will stay in effect until there are no new COVID-19 cases detected in our workplace for a 14-day period.

COVID-19 testing

We will provide twice a week COVID-19 testing, or more frequently if recommended by the local health department, to all employees present at our exposed workplace during the relevant 30-day period(s) and who remain at the workplace. COVID-19 testing will be provided at no cost to employees during employees' working hours.

Exclusion of COVID-19 cases

We will ensure COVID-19 cases and employees with COVID-19 exposure are excluded from the workplace in accordance with our CPP **Exclusion of COVID-19 Cases and Return to Work Criteria**, and any relevant local health department orders.

Investigation of workplace COVID-19 illnesses

We will comply with the requirements of our CPP **Investigating and Responding to COVID-19 Cases**.

COVID-19 hazard correction

In addition to the requirements of our CPP **Correction of COVID-19 Hazards**, we will take the following actions:

- In buildings or structures with mechanical ventilation, we will filter recirculated air with Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) 13 or higher efficiency filters if compatible with the ventilation system. If MERV-13 or higher filters are not compatible with the ventilation system, we will use filters with the highest compatible filtering efficiency. We will also evaluate whether portable or mounted High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filtration units, or other air cleaning systems would reduce the risk of transmission and implement their use to the degree feasible.
- We will determine the need for a respiratory protection program or changes to an existing respiratory protection program under CCR Title 8 section 5144 to address COVID-19 hazards.
- We will evaluate whether to halt some or all operations at our workplace until COVID-19 hazards have been corrected
- Implement any other control measures deemed necessary by Cal/OSHA.

Notifications to the local health department

We will comply with the requirements of our **Multiple COVID-19 Infections and COVID-19 Outbreaks- Notifications to the Local Health Department**.