

2021-22 COVID-19 Protocols

Established in 1970, Princeton Chinese Language School (PCLS) is committed to provide a structured and nurturing environment for learning Mandarin and culture. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, PCLS has gone virtual since March 2020. Experience from the virtual learning and parent feedback indicated the majority of students will benefit more with in-person learning. As New Jersey prepares to return back to school in person, PCLS also plan to conduct classes in person at Princeton Day School (PDS) as soon as PDS made the facility available. This document summarizes our COVID-19 prevention and response protocols for returning back to PDS.

PCLS follows the COVID-19 prevention strategies and the guidelines set forth by [CDC](#) as well as resources provided by [PDS Together](#). The strategies (adopted from CDC) are:

- 1) Promoting vaccination
- 2) Consistent and correct mask use
- 3) Physical distancing
- 4) Screening testing to promptly identify cases, clusters and outbreaks
- 5) Ventilation
- 6) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- 7) Staying home when sick and getting tested
- 8) Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine
- 9) Cleaning and disinfection

PCLS will continue to stay up to date with the latest DOH and CDC guidelines and update these protocols as necessary.

PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF RETURNING TO IN-PERSON LEARNING

(Tentatively scheduled for Sunday, Oct 10, 2021). The following individuals must be fully vaccinated by September 25, 2021. People are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after their second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or 2 weeks after a single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine. A request for a medical or religious exemption will be evaluated on a case by case basis. PCLS will require attestation of full vaccination against COVID-19 from the following individuals by Oct 3:

- All language and culture teachers
- All teaching assistants
- All operational team members

Additionally, we strongly encourage all students 12 and older and parents to be fully vaccinated. This message will be communicated via PCLS school newsletters.

DURING NORMAL SCHOOL OPERATION STARTING OCT 10, 2021

HEALTH SCREENING

1. PCLS student assistants, teachers and family members entering PDS buildings during PCLS school time (Sunday between 1:45 – 5:45pm) must complete a COVID-19 health screening form prior to entering the building.
2. Anyone entering PDS buildings will have temperatures checked upon entry. We will follow CDC guideline which considers a person to have a fever when he or she has measured temperature of 100.4°F (38°C).

INDOOR MASK MANDATE

3. PCLS student assistants, teachers and family members entering PDS buildings during PCLS school time (Sunday between 1:45 – 5:45pm) must wear a mask when indoors regardless of vaccination status.
4. All students are required to wear masks in the classrooms.
5. Masks can be taken off temporarily for water breaks and snack time when outside.
6. Only vaccinated teachers may take off their masks to demonstrate pronunciation or as needed for teaching purpose.

CLASSROOM ARRANGEMENT

Students will be assigned seats and teachers will keep seating charts for their classes. Social distancing will be practiced whenever and wherever it is possible. Windows will be open if weather permitting to improve ventilation in classrooms. All windows will be closed after class.

HANDWASHING AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

PCLS will continue to promote the proper handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds in its weekly newsletter. Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom.

IF COVID SYMPTOMS WHILE AT SCHOOL

Any PCLS member (student, teacher, and administrative staff) who presents with COVID-19 Symptoms while at school must notify PCLS Principal (principal@pcls.org) as soon as the onset of symptoms. The person also must be tested as soon as possible.

1. If the symptomatic person tests positive,
 - the PCLS member must notify Principal as soon as the test result is available
2. All those determined to be close contacts cannot be at PDS for in-person learning for a full 14 days from the date of last contact with the symptomatic person unless tested negative for

COVID-19. (Note that if the initial test is negative, a repeat test should be performed about 5 days out. This is due to the incubation period which typically is 5-7days and to avoid false negative result from those that get tested too early.)

3. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone with the virus (or in this case someone symptomatic for the virus) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period.
4. PCLS Principal will notify PDS the positive COVID-19 case immediately upon receipt of this information.
5. PCLS Principal will notify the local health department of the COVID-19 case so contact tracing can be initiated.

IF A STUDENT OR ANY HOUSEHOLD MEMBER IS SYMPTOMATIC OR AWAITING COVID-19 TEST RESULTS

1. The student must NOT come to PDS for in-person learning.
2. The sick individual must then be tested and entire household must quarantine until a negative COVID-19 viral test (nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs) or antigen tests) result is available.
3. A negative test from the symptomatic individual would allow the student to be readmitted to in-person learning.
4. If the test result is positive, the 14-day quarantine must be completed and must notify Principal the result.
5. PCLS Principal will notify PDS the positive COVID-19 case immediately upon receipt of this information.
6. PCLS Principal will notify local health department of the COVID-19 case so contact tracing can be initiated.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

PCLS operates under the assumption that cleaning and disinfection after the use of PDS facility is the responsibility of PDS. In the event that a COVID-19 positive case is present at school, PCLS will notify PDS the exact location of the person to allow for proper cleaning and disinfecting of the facility.