

# **The New York Child Learning Institute**

## **COVID Reopening and Operating Plan**

**(Revised May 2021; December 20, 2021; August 29, 2022;  
September 22, 2022)**

In an effort to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff at the New York Child Learning Institute (NYCLI), the Institute has developed policies and procedures in accordance with applicable law, regulation, and guidance from, amongst other sources, the New York State Education Department (SED), the Department of Health (DOH), the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC). The school engaged with school stakeholders and community members, including NYCLI administrators, staff, students, parents/legal guardians, local health departments, and health care providers when developing our reopening plans, as applicable. All staff, students, parents and visitors that attempt to enter the school building will be required to operate in accordance with the policies and procedures herein.

NYCLI has designated Susan M. Vener, Ph.D., S.A.S., Director/Principal as the COVID-19 safety coordinator whose responsibilities include continuous compliance with all aspects of the school's reopening plan, to allow for operational issues to be resolved before activities return to normal or "new normal" levels.

The following is a description of NYCLI's plan to (1) maintain in-person instruction, (2) monitor health conditions, (3) contain potential transmission of the 2019

novel coronavirus (COVID-19), and (4) close the school facility and in-person intervention if necessitated by widespread virus transmission.

This Plan includes NYCLI's discretionary policy decisions and best practice considerations for schools for the 2022-2023 school year to help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 among students and staff.

**Vaccination:** COVID-19 vaccinations are not currently required for students.

Vaccination, however, is the best way to reduce COVID-19 risk, and NYCLI encourages up to date COVID-19 vaccination for all students 2.7 years or older. You are considered “fully vaccinated” when at least two weeks have passed after a single dose of a vaccine that requires only one dose or the second dose in a two-dose series. NYCLI also recommends getting boosters when eligible to maintain the best protection. For more information on who is eligible for boosters, please see [At-A-Glance COVID-19 Vaccination Schedules \(cdc.gov\)](#) (Open external link)<sup>[1]</sup><sub>SEP</sub>.

For more information on where to get vaccinated, please see [NYC Vaccine Finder](#) or call 877-VAX-4-NYC).

**Vaccination Requirements:**

Vaccination is still required for all NYCLI employees.

Vaccination is still required for other individuals who work in the NYCLI school building.

Acceptable proof of vaccination is one of the following:

- A CDC Vaccination Card ([Open external link](#)); a photo or photocopy is also acceptable.
- A NYC Vaccination Record ([Open external link](#)) or other official immunization record from within or outside the US, including from a health care provider. A photo or photocopy of this card is also acceptable.
- NYC COVID Safe App on:
  - [Android \(Open external link\)](#) or [iOS \(Open external link\)](#).
  - [Excelsior Pass or Excelsior Pass Plus \(Open external link\)](#).
  - [DOE COVID-19 Vaccine Portal \(Open external link\)](#).

Additionally, students and staff participating in internships at vocational sites may be required by the site to be fully vaccinated and/or to wear masks. More information regarding this may be obtained from the vocational site.

### **Daily Health Screener**

NYCLI no longer requires a daily health screen to enter the school building.

### **Illness at School**

Staff who arrive at school with symptoms of COVID-19, or who develop symptoms over the course of the school day, should return home immediately.

Students should be kept home when that are sick. However, students who do develop symptoms of COVID-19 at school will be directed to wear a well-fitted mask and will be kept isolated and under the supervision of one staff member, who must also wear a

well-fitted mask. The parents/guardians of the student will be contacted to come and pick up the student.

Students and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 should remain at home for 48-hours. They may return after their symptoms begin to dissipate and they have received two negative antigen tests 48-hours apart.

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, they must follow the isolation guidance below.

### **Stay Home if Sick**

Students and staff should stay home if they show any symptoms of COVID-19 or other illnesses and get tested for COVID-19.

### **Isolate if COVID-19 positive**

Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate for 5 days and can return to school on day 6 if they have no symptoms or symptoms are improving. They must wear a well-fitted mask until day 10 after symptom onset or date of positive test, whichever is earlier. Students and staff who are unable to wear a well-fitted mask and have approval from NYCLI not to, can return to school after day 6 and prior to the 10<sup>th</sup> day after receiving two negative antigen tests taken at least 48-hours apart.

### **Get tested if exposed to COVID-19**

Students and staff who are exposed to COVID-19 must get tested.

Exposed individuals should take two tests, at least 24 hours apart on day 4 and day 5 of their exposure. All exposed individuals should monitor for fever and other COVID-19 symptoms for 10 days after their exposure. If symptoms begin, they should not attend school and should isolate and get tested for COVID-19 again right away.

### **Testing**

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 should immediately report it to the school and begin isolating. No proof of a negative result is required in order for students or staff to enter the school building.

In-school PCR surveillance testing will not be a part of the 2022-23 school year.

### **Masking- Face coverings are strongly recommended to be worn when indoors.**

Masks will be made available at NYCLI for all those who need/want them.

Students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a well-fitted mask when:

- Returning to NYCLI on the sixth day after testing positive for COVID-19, through day 10 after symptom onset or date of positive test, whichever is earlier, including when traveling on a school bus.
- Exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 at school.

Students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, are strongly recommended to wear a mask:

- When they were exposed to someone with COVID-19, whether the exposure occurred in school or outside of school. The person should wear a mask for 10 days after their last day of exposure and get tested at least 24 hours apart on day 4 and day 5 of their exposure.
- When they are moderately-to-severely immunocompromised, and masking is recommended by their healthcare provider.
- In crowded indoor settings.

During in-home instruction, all people in the room where programming occurs must wear a mask throughout the visit. This applies to both adults and children two-years and older, regardless of vaccination status. All masks worn must be well-fitted and cover both the nose and mouth at all times, except when eating or drinking.

Visitors are required to wear a well-fitted mask that covers the nose and mouth while in the school building.

### **Ventilation**

At least two air purifiers will be in every classroom.

NYCLI will monitor ventilation in building on a daily basis and perform any required work in a timely manner.

NYCLI will provide HVAC upgrades in alignment with CDC guidance.

### **School Building Cleaning**

Routine cleaning of surfaces will be maintained. All classrooms and common areas, such as the cafeteria, bathroom, and gym will have hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes available.

### **School Closure**

NYCLI in-person instruction will be closed only when it is determined by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) that there is widespread transmission in the school. With the health and safety measures in place, we expect that school closures will be limited.

- To learn about what to do if your child tests positive see the [Home Rapid Test Kits](#) page.
- View the [Daily COVID-19 Case Map](#).

### **Remote Learning**

NYCLI will continue to offer remote instruction to children who are asymptomatic and/or well enough to participate in instruction if they are unable to attend in-person instruction due to a quarantine, isolation mandate, or positive COVID-19 test result.

## **Outdoor Learning**

NYCLI will continue to use outdoor space to provide additional space for learning.