



DEEP ROOTS CHARTER SCHOOL
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2023-2024 Annual Health and Safety Policy

The goal is to welcome back all students safely to the 2023 - 2024 school year. All students are required to participate in full in- person learning five days a week unless otherwise noted in a 504 medical plan. The plan will continue to prioritize student learning while maintaining the physical and mental health and safety of students and staff.

At the beginning of the school year, after Thanksgiving, winter and spring breaks all students and staff may be required to wear a mask for ten days upon returning to school.

For the first 10 days of the new school year – from August 31 through September 11 – all students and staff will be required to wear masks while in school. This is an extra precaution for everyone’s health and well-being since increased end-of-summer social gatherings may heighten the risk of exposure to COVID-19.

Masking	<p>Masking will be <i>optional</i> for students and staff except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- for the first 10 days of the new school year – August 31 through September 11.- - in specific instances where universal masking may be required, regardless of the COVID-19 Community Level, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- classroom- or school-wide outbreak,- or upon return from extended breaks and holidays when increased social gatherings may heighten the risk of exposure to COVID-19. <p>Students and staff who have been exposed to COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, are no longer required to quarantine at home unless COVID-like symptoms are present. Instead, they may return to school but are required to wear a mask for 10 days.</p> <p>April 2024 Update - Unless mandated by the City of Philadelphia, Deep</p>
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	<p>Roots will not require masks for staff, students, and visitors in the school building or on buses. Deep Roots will support all individuals who prefer to continue to wear a mask.</p>
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<p>Isolation</p>	<p>Students who test positive for COVID-19 are required to isolate at home for at least 5 calendar days and participate in virtual learning. Day 1 should be the day after the individual became symptomatic. If the individual has no symptoms, day 1 is the day of the actual test.</p> <p>Parents/guardians must also notify their school nurse at 267-399-3727. If symptom-free after 5 days of isolation, students and staff may return to school but must wear a mask for an additional 5 days and must eat in a designated area.</p>
<p>Student Testing</p>	<p>School nurses will provide COVID-19 testing for students who begin to show symptoms during the school day if the nurse has parent consent..</p>
<p>General Health and Hygiene</p>	<p>All schools will be equipped with masks and hand sanitizer, to further promote healthy learning environments. Families are asked to monitor their child’s health and keep them home if they are sick, and practice proper hand-washing and mask-wearing with their child.</p>