



1.3.2022

Happy New Year, Charter Arts Families!

We would like to make you aware of the new guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH).

As previously communicated, **Charter Arts will continue to require masks for all students, employees, and visitors until further notice. Additionally, effective tomorrow, January 4, 2022, Charter Arts will be adhering to the new CDC guidelines on quarantine and isolation, which are highlighted below for your convenience and to alleviate any questions you may have.**

Anyone who is identified as a close contact or who is experiencing symptoms, regardless of vaccination status, is recommended to test on day 5.

Anyone who tests POSITIVE for COVID regardless of vaccination status (using a PCR, Rapid, or at Home Test) MUST:

- Isolate at home for 5 days. Please note that the first day of symptoms or positive test is considered DAY 0.
- A person with COVID-19 who either has no symptoms or has resolved or improved symptoms (including fever) after Day 5 of isolation can return to work/school on day 6 provided they continue to mask and socially distance, to the maximum extent possible, days 6-10.
- Proof of a positive test result or report will be needed to process and excuse student absences and should be submitted to nurse@charterarts.org.

Individuals Who Do NOT Need to Quarantine After EXPOSURE to COVID-19:

- People who received a booster vaccination and more than 2 weeks have passed
- People who have completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months and thus are not yet eligible for the booster vaccination
- People who have completed the primary series of the J&J vaccine within the last 2 months
- People who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 90 days and have subsequently recovered and remain without COVID-19 symptoms

Individuals Who NEED to Quarantine After EXPOSURE to COVID-19:

- People who have completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and have not received a booster vaccination (or are not two weeks past their booster date)
- People who have completed the primary series of the J&J vaccine over 2 months ago and are not boosted (or are not two weeks past their booster date)
- People who are not vaccinated
- Individuals who are categorized into these groups must quarantine at home for 5 days and then wear a mask around others for an additional 5 days
- ** See note about household exposures below

**** Individuals who share a household with someone who has tested positive and were exposed:**

- Individuals who are household contacts and are fully vaccinated and boosted (i.e. two weeks past their booster date) do not need to quarantine and are recommended to test on day 5.
- Unvaccinated individuals, as outlined above, should isolate for 5 days, test on day 5, and quarantine for 5 days, which totals 10 days of quarantine. These individuals should then continue with mask wearing and social distancing, to the maximum extent possible, for at least 5 additional days once released from quarantine.

Please submit any and all booster updates and new vaccination records for your child by [CLICKING HERE](#). (If you have already submitted this documentation to us and don't have new information to share, then you do not need to do this.) **To reiterate, per the updated CDC guidance, if your child originally received their two vaccine doses over 6 months ago (or received J&J over two months ago) and have NOT yet gotten their booster shot, your child will be considered unvaccinated for purposes of the need to quarantine and isolate.** In order to accurately conduct contact tracing and communicate with families, our health team needs the most up-to-date information about your child's vaccination status.

If your child is symptomatic, has been identified as a close contact (out of school or in home), or has a positive test result, please fill out the form to notify Charter Arts, by [CLICKING HERE](#). If you complete this form, your child should NOT come to school until you hear from a member of our health team, which includes our Certified School Nurse and Athletic Trainer.

If you or your child need or want to get a booster, IU20 will be hosting a booster clinic on January 6th at Colonial Academy. You can register here: [Colonial IU 20 COVID Vaccine Clinic](#)

**Please note this clinic is open to all community members seeking a booster dose or their 2nd dose of the vaccine. Pfizer is the vaccine that is being offered.*

To access an updated COVID daily symptom monitoring information sheet [CLICK HERE](#). All students, employees, and visitors are required to utilize this daily screener prior to coming to school.

Should you have questions about the CDC guidance, please refer to the CDC website [CLICK HERE](#). If you have questions about the PA Department of Health guidance, please call your local health department or 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258). Further, specific questions for our School Nurse can be emailed to nurse@charterarts.org.

PDE may provide K-12 schools with updated information in the coming days, and we will continue to keep our families updated as we get new information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Carise Comstock
Superintendent & CEO

Andrea Castellano
Certified School Nurse