

Central Linn School District

Communicable Disease Management Plan

2023-2024



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Introduction

The purpose of this plan is to provide a guidance process during a novel viral pandemic. This plan will lay out Central Linn’s communication protocol, screening protocol, isolation measures and protection measures.

Essential actions that can aid in the reduction of disease transmission of viruses such as COVID-19, outside of vaccination, are called Non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs). The use of NPIs are outlined below. While more is learned every day, there is still a lot that is unknown about COVID-19 and the virus that causes it. The transmission of disease goes beyond the school setting, and the school district can only account for NPI’s in the school setting and at school-sponsored events.



The image contains three vertical informational cards with a light yellow background. Each card features a blue icon at the top and a text block below. The first card shows a single person icon and describes personal NPIs. The second card shows a group of seven people icons and describes community NPIs. The third card shows a hand being washed with water and soap icons and describes environmental NPIs.

Personal NPIs are everyday preventive actions that can help keep people from getting and/or spreading flu. These actions include staying home when you are sick, covering your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and washing your hands often with soap and water.

Community NPIs are strategies that organizations and community leaders can use to help limit face-to-face contact. These strategies may include increasing space between students in classrooms, making attendance and sick-leave policies more flexible, canceling large school events, and temporarily dismissing schools.

Environmental NPIs are surface cleaning measures that remove germs from frequently touched surfaces and objects.

(Image: CDC)

Everyday NPI Measures

Control measures to limit the spread of communicable diseases should be an active part of the school comprehensive and preventative health services plan. Routine control measures include:

- Wear a cloth mask in public.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Cover your cough and sneezes with a tissue or use the inside of your elbow.
- Wear a cloth mask in public.
- Stay home when you are sick and until 24 hours fever free, without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Practice social distancing (for example, avoiding crowded gatherings and staying at least six feet from others).

Routine Infection Control Practices

When public health has deemed a virus a pandemic threat, planning will need to be initiated to prevent the possible event of school closure.

Personal NPI's	Community NPI's	Environmental NPI's	Communication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase routine hand hygiene. ● Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when hand washing is not an option. ● Masks/shields/face coverings ● Cover coughs/sneezes, throw away tissues at each use, wash your hands. ● Stay home when ill for at least 24 hours after fever free <i>without the use of fever-reducing medication.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify baseline absentee rates to determine if rates have increased by 20% or more. ● Increase communication and education on respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene in the classroom. ● Teachers can provide age-appropriate education. ● Communicable Disease surveillance - monitoring and reporting student illness. ● Increase space between students in the classroom. ● Instruct students in small groups as feasible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase sanitizing of flat surfaces and shared surfaces ● Devise prevention and post-exposure sanitizing strategies based on current recommendations. ● Isolate students who become ill at school with febrile respiratory illness until parents can pick up. ● Discourage the use of shared items in the classroom. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide communications to families based on the current situation, general information, and public health guidance. ● Provide communication to staff of the current situation. ● Provide communication to immunocompromised student families to defer to personal providers in regards to attendance.

Watch for Symptoms

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19 though this list does not include all possible symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Many symptoms of COVID-19 are also present in common illnesses

Symptoms of COVID-19	Strep Throat	Common Flu	Flu	Asthma	Seasonal Allergies
Fever or Chills	X		X		
Cough		X	X	X	X
Sore Throat	X	X	X		X
Shortness of Breath				X	
Fatigue		X	X	X	X
Nausea or Vomiting	X		X		
Diarrhea	X		X		
Congestion or Runny Nose		X	X		X
Muscle or Body Aches	X	X	X		

Note: The table above does not include all COVID-19 symptoms (Source: CDC)

When to Seek Emergency Medical Attention:

Look for **emergency warning signs*** for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, **seek emergency medical care immediately:**

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

*This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who has or may have COVID-19.

Protocol for Hand Hygiene

- 1) Upon entry into school building, students will have access to the following:
 - Handwashing station (sinks in the bathroom) with soap and water

Handwashing strategies will be taught and signs explaining the best way to wash hands will be displayed in bathrooms.
 - Alcohol based hand sanitizer (with 60-95% alcohol) stations
- 2) Prior to going to lunch, students will be required to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer.
- 3) Students will be required to wash their hands after restroom use.
 - Handwashing strategies will be taught and signs explaining the best way to wash hands will be displayed in bathrooms.

If your child is sick:

Follow the steps below to care for yourself and to help protect other people in your home and community.

- **Stay home.** Children who are ill should not plan to attend school.
- **Take Care.** Provide rest and plenty of liquids for your child to be hydrated.
- **Symptom Monitoring.** Do not return your child to school until they are symptom free for 24 hours.
- **Stay in touch with your doctor.** When needed, reach out to your health care provider. If you need assistance, the School District can offer resources and support for students. Please contact the school office for more information.

Isolation and Quarantine

- If a student or staff has tested positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, they cannot attend school or school activities for at least 5 days
- Individuals who had close contact with someone who has COVID-19 will NOT be required to quarantine regardless of vaccination status or

Students who are positive for COVID-19 may return after 5 full days if they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, and other symptoms have improved.

Protocol for Isolation Measures

Central Linn School District is committed to the safety of our students, staff and visitors at all times. Under the circumstances there is a necessity to isolate a person who is ill,

1) Designated space to isolate students or staff members who are ill will be in the health room at each school. There will be supervision of students in the isolation room until students can go home.

a. School nurse will be involved in the development of further protocols and the assessment of symptoms when needed.

Cleaning Plans

Under the supervision of CLSD Facilities Coordinator, facilities technicians will provide routine cleaning and disinfecting followed by CDC cleaning and disinfecting guidance to all surfaces where staff and students interact. Cleaning and disinfecting supplies will be located in each building's custodial storage closet and in each classroom.