

COCHECO THE ACADEMY OF ARTS

Dear CATA Community,

We are so excited about welcoming our students back to school for in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year. It is our goal to remain full-time in-person throughout the year and keep everyone safe and healthy. Below is our current plan.

Recommendations in this plan are based on the review of CDC and NH-DHHS Guidance in conjunction with current local and state COVID data. Both organizations update their guidance on a regular basis. We will review this plan on a monthly basis moving forward. You will be contacted if there are any drastic changes and a copy of this information will be posted on our website.

Indoors- Masks will be mandatory for everyone entering the school. We have not implemented a mask break policy. This will be at the discretion of classroom teachers depending on social distancing availability in their classrooms.

Outdoors- Based on recommendations from the Department of Health and Human Services, we will not require masks to be worn outside.

Classroom Social Distancing - Our current recommendation is to continue classroom social distancing at 3 feet. This allows us to return most of our classes to enclosed classrooms. All of our rooms have windows with the exception of the gym (room 10) and the small gym (room 10A) which both have outside doors and good ventilation. This will fully accommodate an all-in return model. Depending on CDC and other health guidelines the recommended social distance may change.

Visitors - All visitors, regardless of vaccination status, entering the building will need to wear a mask.

Lunch - Based on current guidelines, lunch times should maintain 6-foot social distancing if eating indoors. While the weather permits some students will be able to eat outside on the front and side lawn. We have staggered our lunch so that half our students will have lunch and then advisory during a one hour block while others will have advisory then lunch in the same one hour block.

Cleaning - DHA will be taking over the cleaning of our building. All students and staff will be cleaning their workspace after use with disinfectant similar to last year's model. All classrooms with the exception of those listed above, have windows with outdoor air available. All classrooms have portable air filtration systems and all rooms, including the gym, have air conditioning with the gym having a new HVAC system. This has greatly enhanced the fresh air in the building.

Restrooms - Students will be allowed in the restroom one at a time. This prevents lines from forming in the hallways and inside the bathroom. There are signs on each bathroom with Stop (red) or Go (green) printed on them. A stop sign means the bathroom is occupied and you'll need to return in a few minutes. Go means the bathroom is available to use.

Health Screening - Before leaving home, students and staff will complete the following steps:

- Take their temperature. If above 99.9 please email attendance@cochecoarts.org and stay home.
- Fill out remainder of health questionnaire
- Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms? ■ Fever and chills ■ Cough ■ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing ■ Fatigue ■ Muscle or body aches ■ Headaches ■ New loss of taste or smell ■ Sore throat, congestion, or runny nose ■ Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea?
- Have you had close contact with someone who is suspected or confirmed to have had COVID-19 in the past 10 days?
- Have you, during the previous 10 days, traveled internationally or by cruise ship?

Answering Yes to any of the above questions will mean you need to stay home.

Reporting and Communicating Exposure and Positive Cases of COVID-19 - If a student or staff member is exposed to COVID-19 (unless fully vaccinated or have previously tested positive for active COVID-19 infection by PCR or antigen testing in the last 90 days), or who report one of the travel-related risk factors, will be asked to self-quarantine for 10 days from their last exposure or return from travel.

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the individual will need to stay out of school.

- Contact tracing will be done in cooperation with the NH-DHHS and will follow their most updated protocols and procedures.

As per the present Bureau of Infectious Disease Control protocol, the The Administrative Team will notify in writing, via email, the staff members and families of students that have been identified as close contacts. The sharing of this information, as it pertains to students, is deemed an appropriate exception under the health and safety provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The information that is shared is limited to being a close contact names of students and staff are not shared.

- Symptom-based criteria are met for coming out of isolation: At least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and - At least 72 hours have passed since recovery, with recovery being defined as the resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, and - Other COVID-19 related symptoms have abated.

Documentation from a primary care physician (PCP) clears the individual to return to work/school.

Conditions where the Board of Trustees would consider reducing restrictions and precautions:

- If public health agencies declare an end to the COVID 19 pandemic.
- If the number of circulating cases is extremely low, as evidenced by zero new cases in Dover, Barrington, Rochester and Somersworth for at least 2 weeks and fewer than 95 new cases statewide in the last 7 days (corresponds to <1 per 100,000 per day, “Low Risk” per covidactnow.org).
- If schools obtain the authority from the State to maintain record as to which student and staff are vaccinated and can use that information to manage potential exposure risk.

Conditions where the Board of Trustees would consider increasing restrictions and precautions:

- Unable to maintain staffing due to COVID-19 cases.
- Changes in FDA or CDC guidance regarding vaccination limitations (i.e. need for a booster injection or emergence of a variant that renders vaccines ineffective).
- Local active COVID-19 cases rise significantly.

The recommendations in this plan are based on the review of current CDC and NH-DHHS Guidance in conjunction with current local and state COVID data as of August 10, 2021. Both organizations continuously update their guidance on a regular basis. This plan will be reviewed monthly, as necessary. It will take all of us working together to make this plan work.



The Admin Team

Kelly Baker, Brenda McCartney, Britt Treichel, Natalie Talbot and Lili Whitaker.