

Urban Dove Team Charter School Reopening Plan Beginning September 13, 2021

Due to COVID-19, Urban Dove Team Charter School (UD Team) will continue its school practices to ensure, to the extent possible, that we are providing a high quality education to our students while at the same time protecting the health and safety of all our stakeholders. The following plan was created using guidelines from New York State Department of Health, New York State Department of Education, New York City Department of Health/Mental Health and New York City Department of Education and the Center for Disease Control.

Adjusting the Original Plan - Communicating with Stakeholders

UD Team engaged a wide variety of stakeholders in developing its reopening plan. The leadership carefully tracked and accumulated all of the guidance issued by the Charter School Office of the NYSED, and the NYS Department of Health. The guidance along with the survey results informed this adjusted plan that was then shared with the Board of Trustees. The Board recognizes that changes to the plan are inevitable and a vote is not required to make each change to the plan. This plan has been sent to all parents and staff via email and hard copy in both English and Spanish, and is posted on the school's website in both English and Spanish. Copies are available in any other language upon request.

Executive Summary

UD Team will return to full time in person instruction for all students beginning September ,13 2021. Details of all aspects of the plan follow throughout this document, but for quick review, the plan will include:

- Any unvaccinated student or staff members exposed to someone with a positive test and deemed a “close contact” will revert to full remote instruction for 10 days
- Any student or staff who receives a positive test will revert to full remote instruction for 10 days and follow a “return to school” protocol
- Classrooms will be set up to ensure all students remain three feet apart and that all staff remain three feet apart as often as possible
- All students and staff will be required to wear masks at all times in the building (mask breaks will be provided)
- Three feet of social distancing will be kept during lunch and any other times when wearing masks is not possible.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

In order to protect the health and safety of our students, staff, families and extended UD Team family to the best extent possible, we will institute the following measures:

Students and staff will be required to notify a UD Team staff member if they develop symptoms during the school day. All staff members will be instructed to convey this information to the school leadership immediately. Once in school, any staff member experiencing symptoms will be sent home. Once in school, any student experiencing symptoms will be sent to the nurse. If

symptoms cannot be attributed to any specific cause other than COVID-19, the student will be sent home and be required to quarantine for 10 days and engage in remote-only schooling. A student that needs to be picked up by a parent will wait in the isolation room, monitored by a staff member, until the parent arrives. If the school nurse is not available, they shall be sent home or isolated until the school nurse is available.

In order to return to school after showing symptoms, the student/staff member must meet the criteria of the Return to School Protocol which can include any of the following three scenarios:

- Individual showing symptoms received a positive COVID-19 test AND
- Isolated for 10 days AND
- Presents clearance from a healthcare provider AND
- The individual has been symptom free for 24 hours without the use of medication.

OR

- Individual showing symptoms received a negative COVID-19 test AND
- The individual has been symptom free for 24 hours without the use of medication.
- UD Team, following DOH guidelines, will determine which students were in close contact with the person who tested positive and will alert their families of the need to quarantine for 10 days.

All students and staff will be required to wear face coverings at all times (“mask breaks” will be provided if necessary) except during meals.

If any student or staff member requires school-sponsored transportation, social distancing will be maintained and face coverings will be worn at all times.

Signs instructing students and staff on proper hand washing and respiratory hygiene will be prominently displayed throughout the school

Signs instructing students and staff to maintain social distancing of at least three feet whenever possible and to wear face coverings will be prominently displayed throughout the school.

UD Team will ask all students and staff to come to school with face coverings and any other PPE they feel necessary. Any student or staff that is not able to procure a face covering, or who forgets to bring one, will have one provided by school staff before entering school premises.

UD Team’s contracted cleaning vendor will follow all CDC guidance on cleaning and disinfecting the school facility multiple times on a daily basis, including after each group of students completes their in-person schedule. If required, UD Team will provide appropriate PPE to all custodial staff working in the building.

UD Team will provide adequate supplies in bathrooms, classrooms, offices and other areas, including tissues, soap, hand hygiene supplies, cleaning supplies, etc. and will check supplies daily. Staff will have a request form they can submit to the COVID-19 coordinator for replenishment of any supplies needed.

UD Team will continue to conduct all required school safety drills, including Fire Drills, with modifications to ensure social distancing between all students and staff.

UD Team will designate a COVID-19 safety coordinator (administrator) whose responsibilities include continuous compliance with all aspects of the school's reopening plan, as well as any phased-in reopening activities necessary to allow for operational issues to be resolved before activities return to normal or "new normal" levels.

UD Team will have a school nurse, provided by the Department of Health and the Department of Education. UD Team will have a dedicated room for the nurse where healthy students can obtain medication and meet with the nurse for treatments or consultations. Disposable equipment and supplies will be used in this office to the extent possible, and PPE will be provided to any staff member working in this room as required. An additional room will be available for isolating ill persons as needed.

Signage will be placed throughout the school reminding individuals to:

- Stay home if they feel sick.
- Cover their nose and mouth with an acceptable face covering
- Properly store and, when necessary, discard PPE.
- Adhere to social distancing instructions.
- Report symptoms of, or exposure to, COVID-19.
- Follow hand hygiene, and cleaning and disinfection guidelines.
- Follow respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette.

UD Team will instruct students and staff in the correct methods of maintaining hand hygiene and place signage throughout the facility reminding students and staff to practice good hand hygiene to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. UD Team will ensure that:

- There is time in the school day schedule to allow for hand hygiene.
- Any student or staff unable to use alcohol-based hand sanitizers for health reasons will be permitted to wash their hands with soap and water
- Adequate facilities and supplies for hand washing including soap and water will be available
- Paper towels or touch free paper towel dispensers will be available where feasible
- Alcohol based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol or disinfectant hand wipes will be available and all Alcohol-based Hand-Rub Dispensers which are installed in any locations will be done so in accordance with FCNYS 2020 Section 5705.5.

Parents/guardians can inform the school that they do not want their child to use alcohol-based hand sanitizers by sending a written notice to the school. Schools must provide

accommodations for students who cannot use hand sanitizer, to allow for their use of handwashing stations.

Medically Vulnerable/High-Risk Groups

UD Team recognizes that some students, staff, or family members may be at increased risk for complications from COVID-19 and may need added or alternative provisions for social distancing. UD Team will make accommodations for any such student or staff member whenever feasible.

UD Team will communicate with families to identify any student with special needs or student who is medically fragile and may not be able to maintain social distancing, hand or respiratory hygiene, or wear a face covering or mask. UD Team will work with families and their child's healthcare providers so that an informed decision can be made on how best to meet the child's needs at school while protecting their health and safety.

Cloth Face Coverings

UD Team will provide acceptable face covering to employees (and students if they forget their own) and have an adequate supply in case of need for replacement. UD Team will ask that all employees wear their own face covering and will provide one to any employee who needs it. Employees with healthcare provider documentation stating they are not medically able to tolerate face covering will not be required to do so.

Management of Ill Persons

Students and staff with symptoms of illness will be sent to the health office where the school nurse is available to assess individuals, as chronic conditions such as asthma and allergies or chronic gastrointestinal conditions may present the same symptoms as COVID-19 but are neither contagious nor pose a public health threat.

If a school nurse is not available, UD Team will isolate and send home any student or staff member who has a fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 that are not explained by a chronic health condition for follow up with a health care provider.

UD Team staff will be given instruction on the symptoms of [Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children \(MIS-C\) associated with COVID-19](#) which is a serious condition associated with COVID-19 in children and youth. UD Team will notify the parent/guardian if their child shows any symptoms and recommend the child be referred for immediate follow up with a healthcare provider:

Health Physicals and Screenings

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the effect it is having on healthcare providers, the Department released the memo [Health Examinations in Light of COVID-19 Pandemic](#), which provides direction to schools when students are delayed in obtaining required health physical examinations, along with information on the required health exam form [Required NYS School](#)

[Health Examination Form.](#)

The memo states:

- Schools are to continue to accept proof of a health examination regardless of the form it is completed on for exams conducted on or before January 31, 2021;
- Parents/guardians are provided with additional time to provide the completed health exam to the school;
- Student athletes are able to participate in the fall 2020 sports season even if they do not have a current health examination if they meet certain criteria;
- Beginning February 1, 2021 health examinations for schools are to be completed on the NYS Required Health Examination Form or an electronic health record equivalent form. This directive may change depending on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic in the fall;
- Hearing, vision, and scoliosis screenings will be waived for the 2020-2021 school year due to the COVID-19 crisis, unless such screening has otherwise been deemed necessary, pursuant to an amendment to Commissioner's Regulations section 136.3(e).

FACILITIES

UD Team will utilize all rooms in its facility to ensure that social distancing is practiced to the greatest extent possible. Multiple exits and entrances will be utilized to prevent students and staff from gathering, and multiple stairwells will be used to keep the flow of traffic in a one-way directions.

CHILD NUTRITION

UD Team will provide meals for all students. UD Team will ensure all health and safety guidelines are followed, including social distancing, hand hygiene and cleaning/disinfecting of any spaces used for meals. Students and staff will be instructed to wash their hands before and after meals, will be discouraged from sharing food and beverages and will be reminded of social distancing protocols during meals.

UD Team will rely on NYCDOE School Food to ensure that service personnel follow all appropriate guidelines for safety as recommended by the NYCDOH. The school will train school staff as needed to reinforce the protocols adopted by food service and custodial personnel to ensure healthy, safe meals and the least disruption to the instructional day.

TECHNOLOGY

UD Team will ensure all students have adequate technology to engage in remote instruction during a quarantine if needed.