

Renaissance School: COVID Protocols Phase IV

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Renaissance School: COVID Protocols Phase IV is designed to outline practices, protocols, and guidance to promote healthy and effective learning environments, safe operations, behaviors to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the well-being of students and staff and how Renaissance School will respond to COVID-19 exposure in our community.

Note: Families should use Phase IV to make sure homes have strong internet speed and access to a computer or tablet. This will ensure a quick and smooth transition should we need to return to Phase I or II (both include remote learning for all students).

Our Phase IV plan is subject to change based on the data and latest information.

Regularly used Apps

Google Classroom (all)

Google Calendar (all)

ThinkWave (all)

DataClassroom (sciences)

Padlet (all)

WordPress (seniors)

Adobe Photoshop (Digi Apps)

Terms

Student: Full-time enrolled students in grades 8-12

Faculty: Part-time teachers

Staff: Full-time, Part-time staff

Community: Students, faculty, and staff

PCR/ANTIGEN: Types of COVID testing

BRHD: Blue Ridge Health Department

VDH: Virginia Department of Health

CDC: Center for Disease Control

CAIS: Charlottesville Area Independent Schools

NAIS: National Association of Independent Schools

Important notes about Renaissance School

- Renaissance School does not provide lunches
- Renaissance School does not have a sports program
- Renaissance School has fewer than 60 students
- COVID planning is determined by the Head of School with advice from CDC, BRHD, VDH, RS Board of Directors, Charlottesville Area Independent Schools, National Association of Independent Schools, and Health Care Professionals.
- The Phase IV plan was created in consultation with the BRHD. Renaissance School will comply with VDH and BRHD on all procedures and recommendations
- Renaissance School will require evidence of vaccination and booster as part of health and immunization records
- Head of School will consider input from the faculty and leadership team.
- Renaissance School will follow all CDC recommendations at a minimum, without variances, and will submit all plans through the Virginia Department of Education
- Renaissance School will take additional precautionary measures to the CDC recommendations

GENERAL OVERVIEW

BUILDING UPGRADES

- Automatic temperature monitoring at the door prior to entering the office
- Second set of security doors to enter the building
- Upgraded HVAC throughout the building
- HEPA air filtration systems with UV-C and anion function in every classroom and common space
- After hours UV-C lamps with ozone bulbs
- Small class sizes with 3' spaced work areas
- Touch-less hand sanitizing stations on every floor
- Enhanced building cleanings
- Operable windows to allow for fresh air and fresh air flow

TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS AND TRAINING

- Internet infrastructure upgrade
- Faculty training on COVID safety measures with Dr. Denise Bonds, BRHD Director and Renaissance School alumni parent
- Daily health assessments via an online application

CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

- Each student and faculty member will be provided with mask in a back-to-school kit
- Masks required by all in the building at all times
- All plans are compliant with the CDC/VDH, and in consultation with our local health district, local health officials, the Board, CAIS, and NAIS
- Lunches will be outside year-round
- Classes will be encouraged to go outside, weather permitting
- All learning will be in-person.
- Should a student need to miss school for health reasons, the student will work closely with the Head of School and faculty to design a plan that will allow the student to keep up with assignments

GENERAL INFORMATION

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGIES

- Regular student and staff attendance will be kept at the front office
- Office Manager will establish a clear means of documenting attendance in and out of the building
- Clear and regular communication to parents, students, faculty, and staff will come from the Head of School. This communication includes prompt notification of updated protocols and cases.
- If a positive case or outbreak is confirmed in our community or discovered through contact tracing, the Blue Ridge Health District or the Head of School will notify identified at-risk students and their families.
- If a positive case or outbreak is confirmed in our community the Head of School will notify the school community via email.
- Renaissance School will work closely with the Blue Ridge Health District in communication and contact tracing. Additionally, Renaissance School will notify the Blue Ridge Health District of any positive cases to enable and support contact tracing measures.

PROMOTING EFFECTIVE BEHAVIORS AS A SCHOOL

- Renaissance School will submit Phase IV draft plan to BRHD for input prior to submitting to the Virginia Department of Education
- Head of School regularly collects updated information from CDC, BRHD, VDH, RS Board of Directors, Charlottesville Area Independent Schools, National Association of Independent Schools, and Health Care Professionals.
- School will check supplies of PPE materials daily and replenish as needed
- School faculty and staff will reinforce COVID protocols with students verbally and in modeling behavior

PROMOTING EFFECTIVE BEHAVIORS AS FACULTY

- Renaissance School faculty and staff met with Dr. Denise Bonds, Director at the Blue Ridge Health District and Ryan McKay, Senior Policy Analyst to cover recommendations and best practices
- Renaissance School students will have an opportunity to meet with the Blue Ridge Health District in order to address student-specific questions and concerns
- Staff will be provided training in cleaning, distancing practices, and mitigation strategies
- All faculty will participate in safe social distancing and safety measures as required by the school
- All teaching faculty will be provided masks

PROMOTING EFFECTIVE BEHAVIORS AS STUDENTS

- Students will be provided a thorough orientation of new procedures during the first days of school
- Community members will sign a document noting their full understanding and compliance with these protocols, and permitting RS to work with BRHD in contact tracing
- Students will be provided back-to-school kits with mask
- School will keep additional PPE materials at school for student, faculty, and staff use

OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM

BEFORE ENTERING THE BUILDING

- All students and faculty must agree and honor the protocols of the school. If a member of the community can not follow the protocols then they will not be permitted to enter the school building.
- Any community member showing symptoms of COVID will not be permitted in the building and must contact Head of School for a return-to-school plan
- Community members, vaccinated or unvaccinated, are required to wear a mask both in and around the school building (including outdoors) during school hours

UPON ENTERING THE BUILDING

- Office staff will monitor student temperatures before entering the building. If a student has a fever of 100 degrees or more they will be sent home and they must follow symptom guidelines (see below).
- Community members will be required to participate in daily health screenings prior to leaving for school and before 8am (see below).
- Students will be required to enter the building 6+ feet apart
- Students and faculty will use hand sanitizer upon entry and throughout the day
- Non-student or faculty guests will not be permitted in the building past the safety door unless successfully passing all forms of screening and cleared by the Office Manager, Admissions Director, or Head of School

DISTANCING

- Students will need to maintain 3' social distancing in the classroom
- When eating outside during lunch, between classes, in and around the school building, students must maintain a minimum of 6' social distancing

DAILY ROUTINES

GENERAL

- Classrooms and communal areas will be modified to support safe distancing
- School gatherings will consist of 60 people or fewer and will be spaced 3 feet apart with masks (this may change to 6' depending on the location and gathering)
- Event gathering capacity will be determined based on available interior space
- Water fountains will be turned off and not used
- Kitchen appliances and community dishes will not be used
- Hand dryers (air) will not be used
- Signs will be posted throughout school promoting safe practices including hygiene and social distancing

CLEANING

- Students, faculty, and staff will work together to clean surfaces (desks and chairs) periodically throughout the day
- School will provide cleaning service for weekly deep cleaning
- School may provide additional professional cleaning services weekly for high impact areas as needed

CLASSROOMS

- Students will be assigned seats that are at least 3' apart
- Each classroom will have a box of Nitrile Disposable gloves, hand sanitizer, and cleaning material
- Standing hand sanitizer stations will be available on each of the five floors of the school, with 2 stations on the main floor (entrance and kitchen)
- Students and faculty must wear masks while on school grounds including sidewalks around building
- Students must provide their own writing utensils and class supplies
- Students must provide their own laptop device as outlined by the school
- Teachers will conduct class outside as much as possible and/or open windows if possible
- Personal belongings will not be shared
- Windows and/or classroom door should be open when possible

CUBBIES

- Access to the cubbies will occur during focused study with no more than 5 students in the room at a time spaced 6' or more.
- Students will work with faculty to access their cubby during focused study time

RESTROOMS

- One person per restroom at a time
- After using the restroom, individuals must wash hands with soap for a minimum of 20 seconds
- If the bathroom door can be left open, please leave it open when exiting the space
- Masks must be worn the entire time in the restroom

LUNCH

- Lunch will be outdoors
- In inclement weather, lunch space will be spread through multiple rooms to allow for safe distancing of 6' or more
- Faculty and students will need to bring their own dishes and will not be permitted to wash dishes at school
- Faculty and staff may use indoor spaces for lunch. These spaces should be limited to classrooms and offices and faculty should be distanced 6' or more with windows opened
- All community members will have the responsibility to clean up their space with provided disinfectant
- Students will continue to work together in pairs to sweep the floors and wipe the kitchen counters. All cleaning will be done with gloves and masks
- The Office Manager will oversee the clean-up process
- Students will be permitted to leave the building for lunch unless otherwise informed
- Students on building restriction will be limited to the front stoop and will not be permitted to go downtown for lunch

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

- Renaissance School is committed to maintaining academic integrity and continuity
- All programs will be designed to support a remote learning model should we need to pivot
- All teaching faculty will be provided an iPad to allow for flexibility should programs need to pivot to remote learning
- All courses will be offered for in-person learning unless the faculty member is teaching remotely
- If a faculty member is teaching remotely, students will report to an assigned classroom where distancing and masks will be implemented

- Students missing school for health related reasons must form an academic and re-entry plan with the Head of School

SCHOOL CLUBS

- School activity clubs will be permitted to meet with all protocols in place
- If a faculty member is not present then students must sit 6' apart
- Clubs will not be permitted to cook or provide food during any meeting on school grounds

ARTS PRACTICUM

- Renaissance School will not partner with ACAC for the academic year 2021-2022
- Renaissance School will assess Spring community partner programs individually as well as explore opportunities outside of community partnerships.

NINTH WEEK

- Renaissance School is committed to continuing its use of this unique learning opportunity in the fall and spring, but will be seeking opportunities of outside activities
- The fall Ninth Week will not have an overnight component
- The Spring Ninth Week Program will be assessed at a later date
- Following the spring Ninth Week, Renaissance School will provide families with a refund option for any unused Ninth Week fees

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PLAN

POSITIVE COVID TEST IN THE COMMUNITY

- Community member will quarantine for 10 days from point of exposure and will be required to have a signed re-entry form from a medical professional. If the point of exposure is unknown, community member will quarantine 10 days from when symptoms were first displayed.
- School will notify BRHD to confirm points of contact (if applicable)
- School will conduct additional cleaning practices
- Renaissance School will send an email notifying parents, faculty, and students of a positive case in the community
- BRHD or Renaissance School will inform any community members in close contact (during school hours: within 3' for 15 minutes or more in the classroom, within 6' for 15 minutes or more outside of the classroom) with the positive case
- Privacy will be respected

POTENTIALLY EXPOSED

- If a non-vaccinated community member has been in close contact to COVID-19, they must get a test 5-7 days after exposure and must quarantine for 10 days from the point of exposure. Additionally, non-vaccinated community members must obtain a re-entry form from a medical professional prior to returning to school
- If a vaccinated community member has been in close contact to COVID-19, they must quarantine for five days and get a test 3-5 days after exposure. Vaccinated close contact students will follow the recommendations of BRHD with regards to a reentry plan.

- If a faculty member becomes sick, they must find a substitute (see faculty handbook). To support this, curriculum planning will need to be planned for the calendar year during the summer to ensure a smooth transition
 - Any outside-of-school substitutes (non RS faculty) must be approved by the Head of School and will be trained in our safety protocols and school policies
 - If a faculty member is in quarantine and wants to teach remotely, a sub must be secured to sit in the classroom with students while online learning is occurring.

TRACING GUIDELINES

- Renaissance School will follow the CDC contact tracing guidelines for general businesses
https://www.fisherphillips.com/resources-alerts-6-15-48-these-3-numbers-offer?click_source=sitepilot06!6433!c2!sdmVybWFuQG5haXMub3Jn

(UPDATED FLOWCHART TO BE ADDED)

STUDENT OR FACULTY WITH SYMPTOMS

- Community members with symptoms should stay at home and contact their medical professional.
- Community members should make decisions around symptoms according to whether they are having symptoms that are not explained by a known medical condition
- If a community member becomes sick during the day, they will be immediately separated from school community to a safe quarantined space
 - Staff will call family to pick up child to take to a pediatrician
- In case of an emergency, Renaissance School will call an ambulance
- The community member will not be permitted to re-enter school until cleared by a medical professional
- Renaissance School will provide community members with re-entry forms as needed. The forms will be filled out and signed by the medical professional prior to returning to school
- **All re-entry forms or negative test results should be sent directly to Head of School**
- Renaissance School does not have a fax machine, so forms will either need to be scanned and emailed or dropped off at school. The doctor's office can also call the school, but should only speak with Ms. Johnson.
- Privacy will be respected
- Renaissance School will send a letter notifying parents, students, and faculty of a positive case in the community
- We will follow the close contact flow chart when determining re-entry plans
- Sick community members should follow CDC-recommended steps
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>
- Community members may return when they meet criteria to discontinue home isolation
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>
- In case of a positive test, community members must quarantine for 14 days and a re-entry form from a medical professional prior to returning to school.
- Any community member with symptoms or possible exposure should contact the Head of School immediately. The Head of School is the primary contact person for all health related protocols while our Phase IV is in action.

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms include:

Fever or chills	Diarrhea
Cough	Nausea or vomiting
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	Congestion or runny nose
Fatigue	Inability to wake or stay awake
Muscle or body aches	Bluish lips or face
Headache	New Confusion
New loss of taste or smell	Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
Sore throat	

CLOSE CONTACTS

During the school day and in the classroom setting, close contacts are considered those within 3 feet for 15 minutes or more of a person with COVID-19, and within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more outside of the classroom including in the halls, cubby room, and during lunch. Individuals who are identified as close contacts must work with the Head of School on a reentry plan.

CLOSURE PLAN

- Should Renaissance School need to return to remote learning, we will implement a full synchronic learning model with a slightly modified schedule to allow for more breaks and balanced screen time
- Students should be prepared to take home all learning materials and have computer and internet access at home
- Renaissance School will allow for 1-2 school days to transition to remote learning at the Head's discretion

NOTIFYING HEALTH OFFICIALS

- In accordance with state and local laws and regulations, school will notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of any case of COVID while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with ADA
- Report to Blue Ridge Health District:
 - Kenneth Gordon, Acting District Epidemiologist: 434-326-2017
 - Aaron Silverman, Blue Ridge Health District: 804-584-0149

DAILY HEALTH SCREENINGS

- Recorded as pass or fail
- Will use screening protocols provided by VDH
- Renaissance School will use the online app. HealthyTogether. All community members coming to campus must fill out the app by 8am. The results will be submitted to the Office Manager
- Risk assessed by Head of School, in consultation with the BRHD, to determine risk exposure