

BACK TO SCHOOL

A Reopening Plan for Innovation Charter High School

For the Innovation Community: Students,
Parents, Staff, and Partners

Revised 10-11-21



INNOVATION

Charter High School

Health & Safety Measures



Daily

- a. [Masks & PPE](#)
- b. [Ventilation & Cleaning.](#)
- c. [Health Screening / Temp @ Entrance](#)
- d. [Social Distancing & Masking](#)

Emergency

- a. [Suspected Infection Protocol](#)
- b. [Testing](#)
- c. [Quarantines & Closures](#)
- d. [Contact Tracing](#)



1. Introduction: Equity, Safety & Respect



Introduction: Responsible Parties



- This plan was developed with the assistance and input of school stakeholders, including staff, students, parents, members of the board of trustees, and Manhattan East Middle School and Harlem Success Academy (the schools co-located with Innovation).
- This plan is premised upon a full return to in-person learning; a limited remote learning option is available for a small number of students who are at higher risk due to COVID-19 infection or are required to quarantine
- Communication with stakeholders is an ongoing process and includes regular meetings with staff, with students and parents, with the board, and with the Building Council (composed of our co-located neighbor schools).
- Innovation's website includes this Reopening Plan, academic resources, and COVID-19 related resources.
- The Responsible Parties for the implementation of this Reopening Plan are Stephen Falla Riff, Executive Director (stephen.fallariff@innovationhighschool.org), and Starlight Serra, Associate Director of Operations and HR (starlight.serra@innovationhighschool.org)

Our Commitment to Safety:

COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing



- Innovation will follow the New York City Department of Education and Department of Health & Mental Health procedures for testing students periodically
- All Innovation staff must be vaccinated against COVID-19 unless they obtain a reasonable accommodation on the grounds of disability or sincerely held religious belief
- In addition, we encourage all school-based staff to get tested periodically (at least once per month), regardless of vaccination status
- We strongly encourage all Innovation students to get vaccinated
- Innovation offers a \$50 Amazon gift card incentive to students vaccinated on or after 8/30/21
- Innovation offers a 2,000 i-Bucks commendation to students vaccinated on or before 8/29/21



Our Commitment to Safety: Contact Tracing



- All staff and students are surveyed and screened daily, prior to entering the building or at the building entrance
- All confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be investigated by the New York City Situation Room (a partnership with the DOE, Department of Health & Mental Health, and the Test & Trace Corp)
- Staff and parents will be alerted upon confirmation of a COVID-19 case
- Family members in close contact with a confirmed case will be advised to quarantine for 10 days
- Non-vaccinated staff members and students who were in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case will be required to quarantine for ten days, though they may take a PCR test after 5 days and return after 7 days if the test is negative
- The COVID-19 Situation Room will conduct contact tracing of all “CLOSE CONTACTS” as defined by City policy and regulation

3. Health & Safety



Health & Safety (See Appendix for more details)



The health & safety of the Innovation community is our top priority. We have collaborated with the schools co-located in our building to develop common safety procedures to address community safety and health concerns.

Daily Safety Protocols

Daily screenings: All staff and students are encouraged to use the screening tool found at <https://healthscreening.schools.nyc>; all others will be screened in the building entrance lobby

Social Distancing: Three (3) feet per person of distancing in classrooms and hallways will be monitored and class transitions will be facilitated by staff.

Hygiene: Students & staff are required to wear **masks** or other face covering. Hand cleaning & face hygiene will be monitored.

Cleaning: Cleaning procedures in accordance with DOH, DOHMH, DOE, SED, & CDC guidance occur daily after school dismissal. HEPA air filters will be running in every classroom and office. Doorknobs & railings will be cleaned during the day.

Medical Care Protocols

Isolation & Care: Students who are ill will be isolated in a designated area until they can be sent home safely or receive medical care.

Quarantine: Following a COVID-19 exposure or illness, an unvaccinated staff member or student must quarantine for 10 days prior to return to school (or may test back in by testing after 5 days and returning after 7 days)

Cleaning: Cleaning, disinfection, and decontamination procedures in accordance with DOH, DOHMH, DOE, SED, and CDC guidance will be followed.

Health & Safety: Daily Health Screenings



- Innovation has implemented mandatory health screenings, including daily temperature checks, of all staff, students, and visitors who do not complete the [NYC DOE Health Screening Form](#)
- In addition, staff and students are encouraged to conduct temperature checks at home and to stay home if they have a fever of 100F or higher.
- Staff conducting in-person screening activities are provided with PPE, including masks and gloves, to protect them from exposure
- All staff and students are strongly encouraged to complete the [NYC DOE health screening survey](#) and to do a temperature check prior to coming to the school building. Anyone not taking the survey are screened at the building entrance

Health & Safety: A Daily Survey for Staff & Students



- Have you experienced a fever of 100 degrees F or greater, a new cough, or shortness of breath in the past 10 days?
- Have you received a positive result from a COVID-19 test that tested saliva or used a nose or throat swab in the past 10 days?
- Have you been in close contact (within 6 feet for at least 10 minutes) with anyone while they had COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, or shortness of breath) in the past 10 days?
- Are you considered fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by CDC guidelines OR were you recently (within the past three months) diagnosed with COVID-19 and finished isolation in the past 90 days?

People with the following symptoms may have COVID-19, [according to the NYC DOH](#):

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

Health & Safety:

Maintaining Social Distance & Mask Wearing



- Innovation will monitor the maintenance of social distance of at least 3 feet among staff, students, and visitors
- Wearing a face mask is required, and acceptable close-fitting face coverings must be worn - the only exception is for students who produce documentation verifying that they are unable to tolerate a face covering (and these students must maintain social distance at all times)
- Face masks, gloves and hand sanitizer are readily available to all staff and students

Health & Safety: Ventilation, Disinfection & PPE



- All classrooms are equipped with medical grade HEPA air purifiers, which are effective at removing ultra-fine particles from the air
- Innovations' facilities staff members use an electrostatic spray gun to clean and disinfectant classrooms and hard to reach areas
- All classrooms are equipped with hand sanitizer dispensers, which are wall-mounted for easy access
- Gowns, N95 face masks, face shields, and gloves are available for higher-risk situations

Health & Safety: Caring for Students with COVID-19 Symptoms



- Innovation will provide care to students who develop COVID-19 symptoms at school, while shielding other students and staff from possible exposure to the virus:
 - These student will be taken to the isolation area until they can return to class, go home, or be taken to a health-care facility
 - Every student will be examined by the school nurse
 - Students will be supervised by a staff member who has been provided with appropriate PPE until they are either able to return to class, are picked up by a parent or guardian, or taken for medical care
 - The isolation area will be cleaned and disinfected after it is used



- Innovation's Associate Director of Operations notifies the COVID Response Situation Room - a multi-agency partnerships with the DOE, the NYC DOHMH, and the Trace & Test Corp, of a suspected COVID-19 case
- The situation room provides notices to distribute to the school community and to co-located schools
- "Close contacts" are notified directly by the Situation Room
- The student or staff member's identity is not disclosed in these notices

Our Commitment to Safety: COVID-19 Contact Tracing & Quarantine



- All confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be investigated by the NYC Situation Room, which will conduct contact tracing of individuals who may have been exposed to the virus.
- Unvaccinated staff and students who were in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case must quarantine for 10 days (or present a negative test after 7 days and then return)
- Fully vaccinated staff and students are not required to quarantine but are recommended to be tested 3-5 days after exposure, and to wear masks at all times, regardless of whether they have symptoms
- Staff and students who have recovered from laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 during the previous 3 months are not required to quarantine but should be tested 3-5 days after exposure, & wear masks at all time, regardless of whether they have symptoms

What does it mean to be in close contact with someone with COVID-19?

- Someone who was within 3 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 10 minutes or more over a 24 hour period was in close contact and may be required to quarantine
- This definition does not apply to students who were within 3 to 6 feet of another infected student if both the infected student and the exposed students correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time
- Someone who has been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 should quarantine unless they are fully vaccinated or have recently recovered from the illness



4. Facilities



1. Our Space
 - a. Entrances & Exits
 - b. Stairwells
 - c. Bathrooms
 - d. Lockers
 - e. Room Capacity
 - f. Hallways
 - g. Cafeteria
 - h. Chromebooks



Facilities: Our Space



NEW Entrances & Exits

- Using 99th Street Entrance where daily screenings (health survey & temp checks take place) take place upon entry
- A minimum of 2-3 Inno staff will be present
- Students who show up early will go to the cafeteria

Stairwells

- Innovation staff and students will only use stairwells E/F

Bathrooms

- One student in the bathroom at a time ensured by hall monitors and management of students leaving the classroom.

Lockers

- Lockers off-limits Marking Period 1. Distributed beginning in Marking Period 2.
- Specific time for using lockers (Morning, before/after lunch, afterschool)
- Students lose lockers if they used them outside of designated time

Facilities: Our Space



Room Capacity

- Classroom desks and rosters will be limited to the number of staff and students we can safely accommodate according to DOE & NYSDOH guidelines

Hallways

- Three (3) feet per person of distancing in classrooms and hallways will be closely monitored and class transitions will be facilitated by staff.

Cafeteria & Lunch

- 9th & 10th grade will remain in during lunch
- 11th & 12th grade can go out for lunch
- Students show screening survey when returning from lunch
- Families may request for students to stay on campus during lunch

Chromebooks

- Classes will use chromebooks daily. Chromebooks will be wiped clean with disinfectant wipes after each use and prior to the next student's use

TOUR



- Entrance @ 99th Street
 - Screenings & Masks
- Up Stairwell E/F
- Cafeteria
 - Capacity
 - Lunch & Monitoring
 - Going out for lunch
- 2nd Floor Landing
 - Wall Hand Sanitizers
 - Lockers
 - Staff/Faculty in Hallways
- Classrooms
 - Capacity
 - Ventilation
 - Desks & Social Distance
 - Cleaning & Chromebooks
 - Students Leaving
- Bathrooms
 - One at a time
 - Locked
- Exit @ 99th Street

- Emergency Protocols
 - Suspected Infection Protocol (+sld 9)
 - Escorts
 - Auditorium
 - Testing
 - Quarantines & Closures (+sld 9)
 - Contact Tracing

Essential COVID-19 Resources



- Centers for Disease Control: [Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Schools](#)
- NYS Dept. of Health: [Interim Guidance for Classroom Instruction 2021-2022](#)
- NYS Education Dept: [Health & Safety Guide for the 2021-22 School Year](#)
- NYC Dept. of Health: [COVID-19 Health & Safety in Charter Schools](#)
- NYC Depart. of Education: [DOE Fall 2022 COVID-19 Guidance](#)
- NYS Dept. of Health: [COVID School Report Card](#)
- NYC Dept. of Health: [COVID Data](#)
- CDC: [COVID Data Tracker](#)
- American Academy of Pediatrics: [COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools](#)