

**Updated as of: 07/22/22**

# **Southern Avenue Charter Elementary School of Academic Excellence and Creative Arts**



**COVID-19 PLAN 2022-2023**

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# Southern Avenue CHARTER SCHOOL

## 2022-2023 REOPENING PLAN FOR SACS STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

As we prepare to re-enter, our main goal is to protect everyone as we continue to provide a nurturing environment and educate our students at Southern Avenue Charter School during the most unusual of circumstances. While we are in the business of educating, our priority is the safety of our students and our employees.

We desire to offer in-person learning for parents with enhanced safety and cleaning procedures. We must be proactive and be prepared during these ever-changing times to continue educating our students if circumstances change, as predicted, throughout the year related to the health and safety of our students and employees. Please **note that this reopening plan is subject to change** based on the health situation in Shelby County and changes in guidance or orders from the Shelby County Health Department, local, county, or state government, or state or federal law. Our mission is to protect students and teachers as we continue to provide a nurturing environment and educate our students. We hope that the safety restrictions can be less restrictive as the situation improves over the school year. The local impact of the COVID-19 is serious, and necessary additional changes to our plans will be communicated to our students and families as they are made.

### NEW VARIANTS

New variants such as the B.1.617.2 variant had been found in 54 countries, but according to the World Health Organization, the variant remains uncommon in the US. Highly infectious variants such as the Omicron BA.4, BA.5 and Delta are still a public health concern. However, Southern Avenue Charter School is taking steps to prevent COVID-19 such as wearing masks, prioritizing outdoor time for students, COVID-19 testing students by consent only, organizing classroom furniture and activity stations at least 3 ft. apart, keeping students at least 3 ft. apart at all times, prohibiting non-essential movement, utilizing our SACS Clinic on a daily basis, and keeping sick students home if they are not feeling well. Even though new variants may cause a surge of new COVID-19 cases, Southern Avenue Charter School will remain COVID-19 free with our daily safe practices.

## STUDENT VACCINATION

Vaccines have been defined as safe by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. While Southern Avenue Charter School is not requiring scholars to be vaccinated for registration, we highly recommend it. Before a new vaccine is ever given to people, extensive lab testing is done. Once testing in people begins, it can sometimes take years before clinical studies are complete and the vaccine is licensed. Once a vaccine is licensed, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), CDC, National Institutes of Health (NIH), and other federal agencies routinely monitor its use and investigate any potential safety concerns. Vaccines can prevent serious diseases that once killed or harmed many infants, children, and adults. Without vaccines, your child is at risk for serious illness or even death from diseases.

Today's vaccines use only the ingredients they need to be as safe and effective as possible. All ingredients of vaccines play necessary roles either in making the vaccine, triggering the body to develop immunity, or in ensuring that the final product is safe and effective. Some of these include:

- Adjuvants(a-juh-vnt) help boost the body's response to a vaccination. (Also found in antacids, buffered aspirin, antiperspirants, etc.)
- Stabilizers help keep a vaccine effective after it is manufactured. (Also found in foods such as Jell-O® and resides in the body naturally)
- Formaldehyde (fr-mal-duh-hide) is used to prevent contamination by bacteria during the vaccine manufacturing process. It resides in the body naturally (more in body than vaccines). (Also found in the environment, preservatives, and household products.)
- Thimerosal (thai-mur-uh-sl) is also used during the manufacturing process but is no longer an ingredient in any vaccine except multi-dose vials of the flu vaccine. Single dose vials of the flu vaccine are available as an alternative. No reputable scientific studies have found an association between thimerosal in vaccines and autism.

## SACS CLINIC

SACS offers free clinic visits for sick students throughout the day. Students will be seen by the nurse on duty while exhibiting any symptoms stated in the Sick Student Policy. If deemed necessary or urgent, all scholars will be sent home and will need a doctor's statement to return to school.

Clearance letters will also be needed for any scholars that continue to test positive for COVID-19. Please see the Staff and Student Reporting Protocol located below in attachments. Please note, SACS Clinic is only for students and staff, and the clinic only assesses students that get sick throughout the day. Please do not send scholars to school sick. The Clinic is free of charge, and appointments are prohibited. Please note SACS Clinic cannot diagnose students or staff. Please see a medical professional to receive a proper diagnosis. **This is subject to change** based on the health situation in Shelby County and changes in guidance or orders from the Shelby County Health Department, local, county, or state government, or state or federal law.

## TRAINING

Southern Avenue Charter School faculty and staff participated in a week-long COVID-19 informational training regarding universal (standard) precautions, an overview of Coronavirus (general overview, ways to remain free of the virus, public health components, contact tracing, and epidemiology), and key hygiene practices for protecting themselves and others to safely re-enter school through on-site tours and demonstrations of safe practices. The information presented was based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Memphis and Shelby County Health Department,

Tennessee Department of Health, Tennessee Department of Education, and the American Academy of Pediatrics. This training was facilitated by a group of consultants who not only have an infectious disease certification and a public health background, but also a pediatric healthcare provider who focused on safety, cleaning, and hygiene practices. This training was presented to SACS's parents, students, administrators, sanitation staff, and other staff members at SACES. Below you will find the link to all training material that was covered:

[SACES Plan](#)

### **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

At this time, Southern Avenue Charter School will continue to operate according to the 2022-2023 Shelby County School calendar approved by the Tennessee Department of Education. You can find the calendar here: <http://www.scsk12.org/calendar/>. Please **note that the calendar is subject to change** based on the health situation in Shelby County and changes in guidance or orders from the Shelby County Health Department, local, county, or state government, or state or federal law.

**Southern Avenue Charter School will offer in-person instruction only this school year.** Please **note that this reopening plan is subject to change** based on the health situation in Shelby County and changes in guidance or orders from the Shelby County Health Department, local, county, or state government, or state or federal law. Our mission remains to provide a safe learning environment for our students and teachers, and we hope that safety restrictions can be less restrictive as the situation improves over the school year. Necessary additional changes to our plans will be communicated to our students and families as they are made.

**The first day for students in K-5th grade is August 8, 2022.** Those students entering Kindergarten will start school on a staggered schedule one day during the first two weeks of school and will be notified of their first day by the teacher and school directly. Students who attend school in-person, Monday through Friday (unless otherwise noted on the approved school calendar); they will continue to adhere to the normal school hours for school, which are 8:00 a.m. – 3:01p.m.

## CLASS SCHEDULES

Students at Southern Avenue Charter School will be assigned to classes the same as in previous years. Because social distancing requirements will limit the number of students in each room, some classes will be required to be broken up to adhere to the social distancing requirements. When applicable, students will stay in their assigned classrooms while other teachers will come to them to provide classroom instruction and lessons throughout the day (intermediate grades).

*Families have the option to enroll their child for In-person learning Monday-Friday. This Re-entry Plan will be reevaluated every nine (9) weeks.*

## COMMUNICATION PLATFORMS

Southern Avenue Charter School will keep all parents in the loop and notify them of any changes via:

1. RoboTexts
2. Newsletters
3. ClassDojo/Class Tags

These forms of communication will make it easier for teachers to send out assignments, reminders, and progress reports and communicate with parents and students about any changes. **Please note that schedules, calendars, or events are subject to change based on the health situation in Shelby County and changes in guidance or orders from the Shelby County Health Department, local, county, or state government; or state or federal law.**

## BUS TRANSPORTATION/DAYCARE BUS TRANSPORTATION

Southern Avenue Charter School has the option to offer parents bus transportation. Therefore, we will offer solely on these requirements/procedures below:

- Students must wear a mask before entering the bus.
  - Students may sit two (2) to a seat.
  - Students must exit the bus one at a time.

Students will then have their temperature checked again once arriving at school. Please check with office staff to see bus requirements. Parents may sign up for bus transportation throughout the school year. Please **note that this reopening plan is subject to change** based on the health situation in Shelby County and changes in guidance or orders from the Shelby County Health Department, local, county, or state government, or state or federal law. Our mission remains to provide a safe environment for our students

and teachers. Please note that it may NOT be possible to accommodate all transportation requests. If we don't feel we can safely transport all students requesting transportation, we may have to develop an alternative system to determine who will receive bus services.

### **SCREENING FOR STUDENTS**

We are asking parents to check the temperatures of their child(ren) every morning before sending them to school. Any student who has a temperature at or above 100.4 degrees should not attend school that day. In addition, our staff will have access to no-touch thermal thermometers and may conduct temperature screenings on any student at any time. If students have a temperature, other COVID-19 related symptoms, or other illnesses, a SACS COVID-19 team member will place the student in the isolation room. The team will then notify the COVID-19 Coordinator to call parents. If the student tests positive, the Health Department will be notified and all students' and teachers in contact, per CDC guidelines, will be quarantined for 5 days. We will then follow proper CDC and SCHD protocols as it pertains to returning. Please see the attachments below.

### **SCREENING FOR TEACHERS**

Teachers will be screened by a COVID-19 team member. We will follow the proper protocols as outlined by the CDC and SCHD for those who display symptoms of COVID-19. If teachers have a temperature, other COVID-19 related symptoms, or other illnesses, the teacher will be sent home to be tested. Please see the reporting protocol below.

Southern Avenue Charter School will follow the "SACS Reopening Plan."

### **ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL**

#### *Arrival*

Each student will wait in their vehicle until an appointed staff member comes to remove the student from the car. Before the student is removed from the car, we will ask the parents and students these specific questions below:

1. Have you had a fever of 100.4 degrees within the last 14 days?
2. Have you had any coughing or shortness of breath?
3. Have you recently had pneumonia or the flu?
4. Have you traveled out of the country within the last 14 days to a level 2 or 3 country as determined by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention? (Please refer to the website below to confirm these countries).  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>
5. Have you had contact with anyone who has lab confirmed novel coronavirus within 5 days of symptom onset?

If they answer "no" to all questions, the student may then exit the vehicle. Before entering the building, the student will receive a temperature check, mask if needed and hand sanitizer at the hand sanitizer pump. There will be hand sanitizing stations at each entryway. Students may not enter if their temperature is at or above 100.4 degrees or if they answer yes to any of the questions. All late students after 8:01 a.m. (grades K-5th) will have to check in at the main office of each building. We will follow the same screening protocol for late students and secretaries will escort younger students to their classrooms.

### Dismissal

Dismissal will begin at 3:01 p.m. and end at 3:15 p.m. Students will be dismissed from their classroom one at a time. Students' names will be called on the walkie talkie. As we call students and escort them to their vehicle, we will ensure that scholars remain 3ft. apart and follow all CDC guidelines as it pertains to social distancing.

Parents CANNOT get out of their cars or sit in their cars and talk with staff, all non-essential movement is prohibited. All parents will have to set an appointment time before staff can acknowledge any concerns. Students will be dismissed from the building one at a time.  
Staff will also remain 3ft. apart during dismissal.

## **SOCIAL DISTANCING**

Our "**SACS 2022- 2023 Reopening Plan**" is based on our belief that maintaining social distance will do more than anything to reduce the potential spread of COVID-19 among our students and staff. Southern Avenue Charter School feels that we can consistently maintain a social distance of at least 3ft. between students and staff throughout the school day with NO exceptions. Therefore, we will enforce social distancing of 3ft. or more throughout the day. While we understand that this requirement will be particularly challenging for certain groups of students (younger students and students with special needs), we will work consistently to maintain this distance to the best of our abilities. All students and staff must wear masks throughout the school day. Masks will be required in ALL spaces and in areas (including but not limited to arrival, dismissal, transitions between classes, support classes, activities, etc.).

Excess classroom and school building furniture has been removed to accommodate the maximum number of students possible in each class and hallway to maintain three feet of distance. When applicable, students will stay in their assigned classrooms while teachers will move from classroom to classroom to deliver instruction rather than having students move from class to class. There will also be special signage at our school to emphasize social distancing and other health and safety guidelines.

## FACIAL MASKS

Following Governor Bill Lee's Executive Order No. 55 (released on July 31, 2020), Southern Avenue Charter School has updated recommendations for face coverings by students and staff. Southern Avenue Charter School will require a facial covering for all students and staff. We will allow age-appropriate mask breaks during breakfast lunch and recess, as well as maintaining social distancing.

- All students (grades K-5th) attending school in-person will be provided a disposable mask each day if they do not already have one.
- Only essential visitors will be allowed to enter the building upon prior approval. Anyone entering the building, including the Central Office, are required to wear a facial covering.

Mask Mandatory Letter to parents:

[Mask- Mandatory](#)

## BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAM

### Breakfast

Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria. While students are in the cafeteria eating breakfast, we will ensure that scholars remain 3ft. apart and follow all CDC guidelines as it pertains to social distancing.

Scholars will start arriving at 7:30 a.m. Students will then be screened before entering the building. While the screeners are outside receiving the students, the monitors will be in the cafeteria monitoring the students, making sure they are 3ft. apart while eating breakfast. There will be signage on each table to maintain social distancing. All students will remain 3ft. apart per CDC guidelines. The students will not be able to move for any reason unless there is an emergency. If an emergency takes place, we will escort the students out of the cafeteria, one at a time. Once students are done eating, Custodial Staff will clean up and throw away all trash. When students are ready to transition to class, teachers will escort their students. Teachers will maintain and follow the social distancing guidelines while escorting students to the classroom. There will be mandatory signage in each cafeteria to maintain and follow proper COVID-19 protocol and procedures.

Breakfast will last from 7:30 a.m. -7:59 a.m. Teachers will sign in and pick students up starting at 7:45 a.m. At 8:01 a.m. screeners will come into the building and close all entry ways. COVID-19 team members will then transition to their main post. The parents will sign late scholars in at the Main Office in both buildings after a COVID-19 team member has screened the scholar and parent.

Classroom visits are prohibited. Only late check-ins are allowed after 8:01 a.m. in the main office. Please **note that this is subject to change** based on the health situation in Shelby County and changes in guidance or orders from the Shelby County Health Department, local, county, or state government, or state or federal law.

## Lunch

Lunch will be served in the cafeteria. While students are in the cafeteria eating lunch, we will ensure that scholars remain 3ft. apart and follow all CDC guidelines as it pertains to social distancing. There will be staggered lunch to maintain social distancing. The total capacity in the main building is 246, and the total capacity in the Academy cafeteria is 232. We will only use a third of the capacity to ensure social distancing. All students will remain 3 ft. apart per CDC guidelines. The students will not be able to move for any reason unless there is an emergency. If an emergency takes place, we will escort the students out of the cafeteria, one at a time. **Custodial staff will clean up and throw away all trash, NOT the student.** While eating, if any student shows signs of sickness, they will be removed by a COVID-19 team member and re-screened. We will then follow proper protocol to ensure safety within the school. Please **note that this is subject to change** based on the health situation in Shelby County and changes in guidance or orders from the Shelby County Health Department, local, county, or state government, or state or federal law.

## **FOOD DELIVERIES, PARENT LUNCHESES, & SPECIAL TREATS**

At this time, **parents may not deliver fast food lunches or send fast-food meals to school with students.** Parents may only pack a personal lunch in a clear lunch bag if they wish for students to have different food items. For the safety of our students, parents are not allowed to eat lunch with students unless approved by a school administrator, as non-essential visits are currently prohibited. In addition, parents should not send birthday cupcakes or cakes for their child's class. Only individually wrapped snacks are allowed at this time. Please **note that this is subject to change** based on the health situation in Shelby County and changes in guidance or orders from the Shelby County Health Department, local, county, or state government, or state or federal law.

## **ALLERGENS**

Parents should prepare meals for their children that are in accordance with any allergy restrictions for that classroom. Teachers will communicate any dietary requirements to all the parents in that class. Allergy lists will be sent home and posted in each cafeteria according to MCSC guidelines.

## **OUTDOOR AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES**

Southern Avenue Charter School is committed to providing both physical education and recreational activities for our students, even while implementing social distancing requirements. While the use of the playground and other equipment may be limited or unavailable, students will have the opportunity for physical activity and recess with their cohorts. Students and teachers must follow social distancing procedures when implementing or conducting any outside or physical activities here at the school.

Please see the procedures above.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

Field trips will proceed for the 2022-23 SY. Southern Avenue Charter School may NOT be able to accommodate all field trip requests. If we don't feel we can safely transport all students, we may have to develop an alternative system to determine what field trips will be approved. All students must follow bus rules, SCHD and CDC procedures/guidelines.

## **CLUBS & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The Central Office and the Administration team will work with their school's club sponsors to determine which clubs and activities may be safe to hold before and after school. The minimum requirement for conducting an activity will be the ability to provide 3ft. of social distance between participants consistently.

## **SCHOOL VISITORS**

Non-emergency or non-essential visitors to the school are prohibited beyond the door at this time.

Essential visitors are defined as those whose visits are necessary to achieve the operational or educational missions of the school or school system. Teachers will notify the Principal and COVID-19 coordinator when setting conference times for parents. All visitors are required to wear face masks while in the school buildings. Parents are allowed to attend in-person IEP meetings or other meetings with school staff or administration, by appointment only to conduct official educational business but must adhere to the health and safety guidelines set forth by Southern Avenue Charter School and the SCHD. Please contact your child's school to make arrangements or appointments.

## **SANITIZING & DISINFECTING**

Sanitizing and disinfecting will be performed regularly using a schedule that will be implemented by our Covid-19 team. Custodial staff will clean every three (3) hours and as needed. Frequently touched items will be emphasized in disinfecting routines. Also, the practice of sharing school supplies will not be allowed.

In addition, hand sanitizing stations will be readily available around the school and in common areas. Students will have scheduled opportunities to wash their hands throughout the day. Hand washing

routines and expectations will be taught to students and reinforced appropriately.

The School's COVID- 19 Coordinator will address any questions about sanitizing and disinfecting.  
Please call our office at 901-743-7335 for any questions, comments, or concerns.

## **BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Our before and after school care programs will continue to operate on its regular schedule with social distancing requirements in place. We will follow the plan below to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

### **Encourage staff to take everyday preventive actions to prevent the spread of respiratory illness.**

- Wash hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
  - Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
  - Supervise all children when they use hand sanitizer to prevent swallowing alcohol.
    - Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
      - Cover cough and sneezes.
  - Cover mouth and nose with a cloth or disposable face covering when going out in public.

### **Require sick children and staff to stay home.**

- Communicate to parents the importance of keeping children home when they are sick.
- Communicate to staff the importance of being vigilant for symptoms and staying in touch with COVID-19 members if or when they start to feel sick.
  - Keep sick children and staff separate from well children and staff until they can be sent home.
- Sick staff members should not return to work until they have met the criteria to discontinue home isolation.

### **Plan if someone is or becomes sick.**

- Have an isolation room or area.
  - Follow CDC guidance on how to disinfect the building or facility if someone is sick.
- If a sick child has been isolated in the facility, clean and disinfect surfaces in the isolation room or area after the sick child has gone home.
  - If COVID-19 is confirmed in a child or staff member:
    - Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
    - Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area.
    - Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before you clean or disinfect to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning and disinfecting.
    - Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms, and common areas.
    - If more than 5 days have passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection are not necessary.
      - Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.

### **Monitor and Plan for Absenteeism Among Staff**

- We will bring in another staff member in the event of increased staff absences. We will also coordinate with other local childcare programs and reach out to substitutes to determine their anticipated availability if regular staff members need to stay home if they or their family members are sick.

### **STUDENT SERVICES**

In-person students will be receiving their own personal mask and bottles of water each day. All water fountains are covered and CANNOT be used at this time.

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

### *Emergency Drills*

When conducting any drill, scholars will move quickly, but remain 3ft apart. During a Fire Drill, we will take the route located on classroom evacuation maps. More than one entry way will be used going out and coming back in. All classroom doors should be closed and the lights turned off. Teachers **MUST** carry their attendance books out with them in case students need to be located. When the alarm sounds, everyone must leave the building regardless of weather conditions. If the primary route is not accessible, use the secondary route. Students will remain outside the building until an announcement is made to re-enter the building. Upon re-entry, scholars and staff members will be given informal temperature checks. If anyone's temperature displays 100.4 degrees or higher, they will be sent home and be asked to follow the reporting protocol for COVID-19.

## **\*Attachments\***

### **COVID-19 SYMPTOM SCREENING CHECKLIST**

Intended for students who enter Southern Avenue Charter School

1. Please answer the following questions.

- Have you had a fever of 100.4 degrees within the last 5 days?
  - Have you had any coughing or shortness of breath?
  - Have you recently had pneumonia or the flu?
- Have you traveled out of the country within the last 14 days to a level 2 or 3 country as determined by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Please refer to the website below to confirm these countries. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>
- Have you had contact with anyone who has lab confirmed novel coronavirus within 14 days of symptom onset?

\*If the answer to any of the questions above is YES, you should stay home, self-isolate, and call the Shelby County Health Department (SCHD) COVID-19 Hotline 833-943-1658, and your Primary Care Provider.

2. Have you been diagnosed with COVID-19?

- Yes\*
- No

\*If you have been diagnosed with COVID-19, have COVID-19 symptoms without a COVID-19 diagnosis, you should stay home, self-isolate until you have met the following criteria:

- It has been at least 5 days since the onset of COVID-19 symptoms,
- It has been at least 3 days without a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medicines, and
- It has been at least 3 days since the COVID-19 symptoms have improved

3. Have you been in close contact, 10 minutes or more in less than 3 feet, with someone who has a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the last 5 days?

- Yes, you should stay home for 10 days, self-isolate, and call the Shelby County Health Department and your Primary Care Provider.
- No; your child(ren) may enter the school if your child(ren) has no COVID-19 symptoms.

**Anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or who may have been exposed to COVID-19 should not attend school.**

For more information on COVID-19, please visit the [Shelby County Health Department](#), [Tennessee Department of Health](#), and the [CDC](#).

Spanish Resources:

- [Lainformaciónpuedecambiaramedidaqueaprendemosmás.Porfavorconsulte www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov paraobtenerlainfo](#)
- [¿Cómopuedosabersiheestadoexpuesto?Comuníqueseconeldepartamentode saludpública Entre en cuarentenaDéseguimien](#)

Please Note: Testing for COVID-19 and COVID-19 Vaccines are now available at no cost for anyone. Testing sites are located throughout Shelby County. If you suspect that you have been exposed to someone who has confirmed COVID-19 and are experiencing mild to moderate symptoms, please call your healthcare provider, the Shelby County COVID-19 hotline at 833-943- 1658, or contact one of the available testing sites to make an appointment.



**Southern Avenue Charter Elementary Staff and Student School's Reporting Protocol**

**People with COVID-19 have a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-3 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19.**

<b><u>Contact the Coordinator &amp; Principal to report ASAP)</u></b>	<b><u>Return to School</u></b>	<b><u>Required Documentation</u></b>
Positive COVID-19 Test	<p>After 5-day quarantine AND 24 hours without fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement in symptoms.</p> <p>If positive after 5-day quarantine, please provide a clearance letter from a medical professional.</p>	Submit documentation of Negative COVID-19 Results to the COVID-19 Coordinator before returning. If positive after 5-day quarantine, please provide a clearance letter from a medical professional.
Close contact (within 3 ft., ≥ 15 minutes & mask down) with an individual with	<p>If fully vaccinated, no quarantine needed.</p> <p>After a 5-day quarantine, if an individual never develops</p>	Submit documentation of COVID-19 Testing and COVID-19 Results to the COVID-19 Coordinator before returning.

<p><b>confirmed COVID-19</b></p>	<p>symptoms, you may return.</p> <p>If symptoms develop, an individual must complete isolation as above or return upon negative COVID-19 testing results.</p>	
<p>COVID-19 symptoms with a confirmed alternative diagnosis</p>	<p><b>Per medical provider guidance if the fever has resolved for ≥ 24 hours and symptoms are improving, no quarantine will be needed.</b></p>	<p>Submit written documentation from a licensed medical provider that symptoms were caused by a condition other than COVID-19. Diagnosis of respiratory and viral conditions such as upper respiratory tract infection (URI), pneumonia, pharyngitis without positive strep test, viral illness, etc. <b>DO NOT</b> exclude the diagnosis of COVID-19.</p>
<p>COVID-19 symptoms AND NO positive COVID-19 test AND negative COVID-19 test after symptom onset</p>	<p>After the fever has resolved without fever-reducing medications and symptoms, and has been improving for at least 24 hours, no quarantine will be needed.</p>	<p>Documentation of a negative COVID- 19 test obtained after the onset of symptoms</p>



Updated as of 7/22/22

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Southern Avenue Charter School will be following the **“mask mandatory”** route. This means that the wearing of a face mask and/or covering will continue to be mandatory.

Students and staff **MUST** wear face coverings in all indoor common areas such as corridors, when moving around school and in all social spaces. This is for the safety of us all. Students are not required to wear face coverings whilst eating or drinking in the cafeteria.

### Exemptions

Some individuals are exempt from wearing face coverings. This applies to those who:

- cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment or disability
- speak to or provide assistance to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expression to communicate

Please note we have an emergency supply of disposable masks **ONLY**, if students break their masks that they bring from home each day. Students are free to wear their own masks, but all masks must be appropriate to a school setting.

Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Main office: 901-743-7335 ext. 1

COVID-19 Coordinator's office: 901-666-1405

COVID-19 Coordinator's cell: 901-554-3441

Sincerely,

Southern Avenue Charter School



## **EXAMPLE**

### SOUTHERN AVENUE CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENT EXPOSURE LETTER

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to notify you that a case of COVID-19 has been reported at Southern Avenue Charter School. **Please note that the positive case did not contract COVID-19 from any scholar, faculty, or staff member at Southern Avenue Charter School.**

It has been determined your child was in close contact with that student. Our school district follows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Tennessee Department of Health guidelines for the management of individuals who have been diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19. Our school district follows these strict guidelines to protect the safety of our other students, families, and staff.

We will continue to do everything in our power to ensure the safest environment possible while providing continuity of education to our students at Southern Avenue Charter School. When we can work quickly and collaboratively with the Tennessee Department of Health to identify and advise ill and exposed students and staff, we can avoid the need to close our school.

#### **As you have been exposed to COVID-19:**

- **Your child must QUARANTINE AT HOME for 5 days. Return with a clearance letter from a Medical Professional if the student(s) continues to test positive.**
- **Your child MAY NOT return to Southern Avenue Charter School or participate in any school activities while in quarantine.**
- **Your child should not leave your home except to obtain a medical evaluation.**
- **Your child must complete their Instructional Packet for a grade and attendance credit.**

Quarantine start date: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarantine end date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you know we offer rapid testing? Scholars can get tested with parents consent. Please see Ms. Pace.**

While the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19 does not cause illness in every person who becomes infected, it is highly contagious. The virus spreads through the air by coughing and sneezing. You are at risk of getting sick for up to 14 days after your last contact with an infected person.

If you become ill during this period of quarantine, contact your medical provider for guidance. It is not necessary to obtain a COVID-19 test unless you develop symptoms of COVID-19. **A negative COVID-19 test does NOT alter this quarantine period.**

***Parents, for the sake of your children, please get vaccinated.***

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# **SOUTHERN AVENUE**

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## **CHARTER SCHOOL**

OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND CREATIVE ARTS

### **Southern Avenue Charter School**

#### **Hand Washing**

Proper hand washing technique:

1. Get your hands wet and cover your hands and wrists with soap.
2. Briskly rub the front and back of your hands, fingers, and under your fingernails for at least 20 seconds. (You can sing “Happy Birthday” two times.) To clean nails, put a pool of soap in your palm and, using a circular motion, work soap under the nails of your opposite hand.Repeat.
3. Clean between your fingers.
4. Rinse your hands thoroughly.
5. Dry your hands at the hand dryers located in the bathrooms. Do not shake water off of your hands.

(Niosh,2014).