



## Health and Safety Plan

Please provide the LEA's detailed plan to implement each of the following mitigation strategies to minimize COVID-19 transmission in the school setting.

### Face Masks

1. Schools should consider flexible, non-punitive policies and practices to support individuals who choose to wear masks regardless of the COVID-19 Community Level.
2. At a high COVID-19 Community Level, universal indoor masking in schools and ECE programs is recommended, as it is in the community at-large.

### DC Health Guidelines for Schools

In accordance with the DC Health Mask Guidelines, DC Scholars will implement a flexible, non-punitive policy in support of individuals who choose to wear masks regardless of the COVID-19 Community Level.

DC Scholars holds the position that all students, staff and visitors (with a few exceptions) will have a choice on whether or not to wear face coverings while on school grounds (including the physical school building, the outer school premises, and vehicles being used for school events) during the school day and during any school-sponsored activity.

#### **Details of policy as follows:**

- Adults: Masks optional
  - Not fully vaccinated staff must wear masks
  - Anyone in Test to Stay protocol (close contacts) must wear masks - Required
  - All staff will be advised if a class is in Test To Stay and staff who touch that class may opt to wear a mask
- Students
  - Mask optional
  - Anyone in Test to Stay - required

The COVID POC ( Charise Brown, HR Manager (Staff) and Ralph Shorter, Operations Specialist (Students)) or designee, along with all school-wide leadership team members, will be responsible for ensuring that all students, staff and visitors have been informed of this updated policy.

Please note that DC Scholars may implement a mask mandate policy if community spread levels increase to “high.”

If there is a reversion to a mask mandate, either at a cohort level or for all, the below referenced requirement will take effect.

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR STAFF

- All staff members will be required to wear a face covering while on DC Scholars property except for circumstances outlined below in the “Exceptions” section.
- The usage of/need for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in addition to face coverings will be determined by role and consistent across staff. Considerations will include potential level of exposure, including enhanced PPE for the isolation room (gown, head covering, face shield)

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS

- All DC Scholars students will be required to wear a face covering while on DC Scholars property except for circumstances outlined below in the “Exceptions” section.
- All students will receive instruction in the use of face coverings.

#### EXCEPTIONS

At DC Scholars, we recognize that wearing face coverings may not be possible in every situation and/or for all individuals. There are some situations when wearing a face covering may aggravate a pre-existing physical or mental health condition, lead to a medical emergency, or introduce significant safety concerns. Any exception to the requirement of a face covering requires the specific direction or approval of a Director or the Covid-19 POC.

- Such an exception may be made only when safe to do so and when students are appropriately distanced, such as when eating and drinking, or when exercising under the supervision of DC Scholars staff .
- In the event the parent/guardian, student or school official believes a student’s health condition, communication impairment, or disability requires an on-going exemption from the face covering requirement for some portion of face-to-face instruction, this request must be reviewed and approved by school officials, including the student’s teacher and the School Director, who may permit the exemption only where sufficient public health protections can be implemented without unreasonably interfering with the instructional program.
- Any student seeking an exemption from the face covering requirement must provide a physician’s statement confirming that not wearing a face covering is necessary. The statement does not need to specify the underlying medical condition or diagnosis.

- Upon receipt of a physician’s statement or automatic exemption without a physician’s note the Covid POC will review the ADA Face Mask Accommodations Policy to assess our ability to implement mitigating measures during the school day and determine under what conditions the student’s face covering exemption can be implemented safely and effectively while at school and/or during transport, if applicable.
- Staff requesting an exemption from wearing a face covering while on DC Scholars property shall be directed to submit a physician’s statement that not wearing such a face covering is medically necessary and make a request for accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act due to a medical condition to Human Resources.

**Provide the LEA’s policies and procedures in the event that a student, staff member, or visitor is unable or unwilling to wear a face mask at all times.**

In the event that a mask mandate takes effect during SY 22-23 (either at the cohort or schoolwide level) the following steps will be put in place for a student, staff or visitor that is unable or unwilling to wear a mask.

For students who are unable or unwilling to wear a face covering at all times, the following procedure will be followed: If students who are not exempt from the face covering requirement are unwilling to wear a mask, DC Scholars will take steps to educate the student on safety compliance, implement positive behavior interventions, and if possible, recommend alternative face coverings and, when appropriate, consult with the student’s parent or guardian.

Only as a last resort will a student who is unwilling to wear a mask be excluded from in-person instruction. If a student is excluded, DC Scholars will provide the student with the opportunity to receive educational services virtually during the exclusion and then return the student to in-person instruction when the student is able to comply with the mask guidelines. Students who are unable to consistently wear a face covering due to sensory, behavioral, or other disabilities will not be disciplined or denied access to in-person educational services.

Staff or visitors who are unable or unwilling to wear a face covering will not be allowed in the building. There may be some limited exceptions related to specific student needs or personal emergencies. DC Scholars will have a supply of disposable masks in the office for any visitors who arrive without one, in addition to other personal protective equipment (PPE), as discussed later.

**Physical Distancing**

Based on the current phase of the pandemic, available data, and existing prevention measures, CDC and the Department of Health’s school guidance focuses on layering prevention strategies. That includes increasing ventilation and preventing crowding. Below is a list of Physical Distancing strategies that were implemented in SY 21-22 and may be implemented in SY 22-23 based on specific cohort, grade level or school-wide needs. If the community spread level increases to “high” any or all of the following strategies may be employed at that particular cohort, grade level, grade band or school-wide level.

List of possible Physical Distancing strategies to implement by cohort or school-wide if community spread level increases to “high.”

- Desks to face in the same direction to reduce transmission caused from virus-containing droplets (e.g. from talking, coughing, sneezing).
- If the room is equipped with tables, sit students on one side of the table with appropriate distance in between. Use visual cues and signage to illustrate where participants may sit to adhere to social distancing.
- Tape or other markings to be used on the floor to designate the furniture arrangement necessary for maintaining maximum social distancing.
- Carpets and excess furniture to be removed from all spaces except in ECE classrooms. Additional carpets to be used to maximize student distancing.
- Encourage and support meetings to take place via video or teleconferencing with individuals who are not typically on school grounds (e.g., external stakeholders).
- Set aside several meeting spaces and conference rooms for staff use. Staff are expected to maintain six feet of distance in these spaces.
- Recreational activities (e.g. outdoor play) would be designated among our 4 available spaces and be staggered to prevent social interactions between groups.
- DC Scholars would use outdoor spaces for instruction and activities to the extent that is feasible and as weather permits.

Student arrival and dismissal would take longer than usual and we would adjust our normal procedures as follows:

- Additional doors for entry and exit to avoid funneling all students through a single point of entry. Specifically, there would be separate entrances for:
    - Early Childhood and 3rd-5th grade
    - Kindergarten-2nd grade
    - 6th-8th grade
  - Arrival and dismissal are a part of our Big 5 routines and specific protocols from SY21-22 would be built out in keeping with health guidelines and in coordination with our culture team.
  - Creating clear space delineations for student lines as students enter and exit school as well as inside the school building (e.g. create and mark line spots in hallways and outdoors, mark one-way flow of hallways).
  - No congregation of students if there are late pickups. Students would be expected to maintain social distancing requirements in accordance with DC Health guidance.
3. Provide the LEA’s policies and procedures regarding the use of cohorts for students and/or staff, including steps to minimize interactions between cohorts, as applicable.

In the event of a community spread level rating of “high,” our LEA will create cohorts by classroom. Cohort mixing may occur by grade level (for example, recess) and in rare cases grade span (for example, school events). In these cases, plans will be reviewed and approved by the School Director.

To limit cohort mixing, we will implement the following procedures:

- Multiple entry and exit points (described above in Q3).
- Designated bathrooms by grade span (adult supervision to limit interactions across cohorts, scheduled bathroom breaks).

### **Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette**

**Provide the LEA's policies and procedures to support handwashing and respiratory etiquette including frequent, proper handwashing strategies and encouraging covering coughs and sneezes.**

Our policy for handwashing and respiratory etiquette for SY 22-23 is as follows:

- Staff and students will have hand sanitizer readily available in classrooms, bathrooms, and offices. Classrooms will receive a broader set of supplies that includes spray, wipes, hand sanitizer, gloves, tissues, and disposable masks.
- School staff will reinforce frequent, proper handwashing strategies by staff and students, to include washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- School staff will reinforce respiratory etiquette to include sneezing in the arm, with tissue covering, and handwashing afterwards.
- Children will be supervised when they use hand sanitizer to prevent ingestion and to ensure that they are using it properly.
- Posters with handwashing steps will be located near sinks and throughout the building.

In addition to reinforcing frequent, proper handwashing strategies, DC Scholars will use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol throughout the school. We will ensure all students and staff have the opportunity to wash hands or, if not readily available or if it would compromise cohort isolation practices, use hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol at the following times:

- Before and after eating;
- Before and after group activities or student centers;
- After going to the bathroom;
- After removing gloves;
- After blowing noses, coughing, or sneezing.

**Provide the LEA's plan to make available adequate supplies (e.g., soap, paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissues) to support healthy hygiene practices including, as relevant, in classrooms, bathrooms, offices and common spaces.**

DC Scholars will provide the following PPE and cleaning supplies to all classrooms:

- Disinfectant spray
- Disinfectant wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Gloves
- Tissues
- Disposable masks

We will have soap and paper towels in every bathroom. All building entrances and common spaces will have hand sanitizer available for use. Hand sanitizer supplies in classrooms, building entrances, and common spaces will be checked and replenished if needed on a weekly basis.

### **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

**Provide the LEA's policies and procedures to acquire, distribute and support the appropriate use of PPE including gowns/coveralls, gloves, surgical masks, eye protection (face shield or goggles) and N95 masks, as relevant and necessary.**

In the event of a community spread level of "high," DC Scholars will implement its PPE policy and follow procedures as outlined below. The COVID POC will ensure adequate, timely and appropriate communication and work with the School Director to ensure that procedures are implemented.

Our PPE is kept in the 1st floor storage room and is managed and distributed by Ralph Shorter, Operations Specialist.

Throughout the school year, regardless of the community spread level, the following proactive/preventative strategies will be implemented to prevent the spread of COVID.

**Acquire** - DC Scholars will review the supply of PPE on a weekly basis and complete a full inventory and restock on a monthly basis. During the inventory process, the COVID POC will review supplies on hand and ensure that PPE is always in stock and never dips below a 1 week supply.

**Distribute** - PPE will be distributed to all classrooms on a weekly basis. We will purchase PPE by quarter and do weekly checks to monitor PPE usage and levels, refilling and restocking as necessary.

**Support appropriate use of PPE** - DC Scholars will support the appropriate usage of PPE by doing the following:

- Lead by example: DC Scholars leaders will at all times use appropriate PPE
- Educate Employees on the Importance of PPE: DC Scholars will ensure that employees know why they need to use each specific type of PPE for their job.
- Maintain Open Communication: DC Scholars will solicit feedback from employees about how the use of PPE is working for them and what, if any, recommendations they have to improve effectiveness. DC Scholars will address any concern or complaint promptly.
- Enforce Policies: DC Scholars will make sure that our PPE policy is accessible by all employees. On a regular basis, leaders will check in on employees to ensure they are using their PPE properly and consistently.

### **PPE Inventory**

**Provide the LEA's policies and procedures to acquire, distribute and support the appropriate use of PPE including gowns/coveralls, gloves, surgical masks, eye protection (face shield or goggles) and N95 masks, as relevant and necessary.**

We will purchase PPE by quarter as needed and do weekly checks to monitor PPE usage and levels, refilling and restocking as necessary. This process includes basic classroom cleaning supplies (e.g., wipes and gloves). Our cleaning is done by BusyBee Environmental Services. Our agreement with BusyBee confirms that their staff will wear gloves while cleaning and disinfecting spaces throughout the building. Furthermore, BusyBee is responsible for purchasing and maintaining their cleaning supplies. DC Scholars leadership will actively monitor BusyBee staff to ensure compliance with PPE and cleaning requirements.

### **Maintain Clean and Healthy Facilities**

**Provide the LEA's cleaning and disinfecting protocols in the event that (1) a student, staff member, or visitor develops symptoms of possible COVID-19 while in the school; or (2) if the LEA is notified that a student, staff member or visitor who tested positive has been in the school. Include the LEA's plan to comply with specific required protocols for scenarios when it has been 24 hours or less since the sick person was in the school, as well as when it has been more than 24 hours but less than 3 days since the sick person was in the school.**

In the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case in a student or staff member, DC Scholars will follow the cleaning, disinfection and sanitization guidance from the CDC.

If three days or fewer have passed since the person who is sick used the facility, DC Scholars will follow these steps:

1. Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
2. Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area. Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle.
3. Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as classrooms, bathrooms, and common areas.

If more than three days have passed since the person who is sick used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary. Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.

**Provide the LEA's plan to perform necessary maintenance to ventilation and water systems and features (e.g., sink faucets, drinking fountains, decorative fountains) so that they are ready for use and occupancy and are adequately maintained throughout the operating period.**

Prior to reopening after any prolonged shutdown, the school will engage with the HVAC vendor to ensure the systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible. Windows and doors will be opened where possible to maximize air quality for occupants while considering safety and health risks such as risk of falling, outdoor air quality triggering asthma symptoms, building fire safety, and security. DC Scholars has changed and upgraded all air filters to Merv 11 or 13 air filters.

## **Response to a Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 Case**

**Describe the LEA's policies and procedures to:**

- a. Comply with the requirement to not admit or to dismiss any student, staff member or visitor who is COVID-19 positive or otherwise meets criteria for exclusion, per OSSE's guidance**

Our COVID POC is responsible for overseeing our school response to COVID-19 concerns. DC Scholars will provide written notification to staff or families who have had a possible exposure to anyone with COVID-like illness symptoms or a positive case of COVID-19.

### **Screening Testing:**

- To ensure ongoing screening, test kits will be sent home with families during August Orientation. DC Scholars' also reserves the right to request that a COVID-19 test is administered to students before returning from extended breaks. The decision will be made based on the rate of spread at the classroom, cohort, grade level, grade band or school-wide level.
- DC Scholars' also reserves the right to make updates to screening processes and requirements based on updated mandates by the Department of Health.

In the event that DC Scholars is informed of a case of COVID-19 or possible COVID-19 exposure, the school will follow the guidance of OSSE and CDC for notification of staff and families, quarantines, closures, reopening and any other requirements.

**Provide the LEA's plan to comply with the requirements to:**

- b. Identify a staff member as the COVID-19 point of contact (POC) to whom families, staff, contractors and vendors should report a positive case of COVID-19 and who is responsible for reporting positive cases of COVID-19 to DC Health;**
- c. Not exclude students or staff with pre-existing health conditions that present with specific COVID-19-like symptoms on the basis of those specific symptoms, if a healthcare provider has provided written or verbal documentation that those specific symptoms are not due to COVID-19.**

Our COVID-19 point of contact is Ralph Shorter, Operations Specialist (students) and Charise Brown, Human Resources Manager (staff.) Our rationale for this POC is that the Operations Specialist under the supervision of the Director of Operations and Finance are responsible for any health and safety concerns of students at DC Scholars. The Manager of Human Resources will work directly with staff cases, questions and concerns due to the level of confidentiality required in these interactions. All possible and confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 should be reported to the Operations Specialist (students) and the Human Resources Manager (staff.) Staff, students and their families will receive a communication prior to the start of school to contact the COVID-19 POC and how to do that in the case of a positive test result.

The COVID-19 POC will be able to receive calls and emails throughout the day and into the evening hours. The COVID-19 POC may also proactively reach out to families of students, staff, and visitors who had symptoms or have been absent to inquire about their health status.

In the event of a positive case, DC Scholars will be implementing a Test to Stay (TTS) protocol which allows asymptomatic unvaccinated school-based close contacts (e.g. students, teachers, school staff) to avoid school exclusion (but not other restrictions of quarantine) by testing negative through serial testing using rapid or antigen tests during a seven-day period following exposure.

**Describe how the LEA will notify the school community, as appropriate, of the positive case and corresponding actions taken by the LEA/school.**

In the event a student, staff member, or DC Scholars partner (e.g., a contractor) tests positive for COVID-19 positive, DC Scholars will take all appropriate safety measures, including cleaning and disinfecting the affected areas, to ensure the safety of staff and students.

DC Scholars will personally notify individuals believed to have been in close contact with the infected person about the positive case by phone and email, so that they may engage in the Test to Stay protocol, quarantine and/or take any other precautions. In the spirit of transparency, DC Scholars will send a broader notification via our school wide broadcast system if the person with COVID-19 was in a DC Scholars building during the two day period preceding their COVID-19 symptoms or their test.

**COVID-19 Testing and Vaccines**

If applicable, describe the LEA's current or planned COVID-19 testing protocol for symptomatic and/or asymptomatic students and/or staff, including steps the LEA will take to encourage participation in the testing program. Please include the LEA's plan to ensure that results of such testing programs are reported to DC Health per DC Health's COVID-19 reporting requirements: [dchealth.dc.gov/page/covid-19-reporting-requirements](https://dchealth.dc.gov/page/covid-19-reporting-requirements).

To minimize the amount of instructional time that students miss due to illness unrelated to COVID and to ensure rapid response to students who have COVID and exhibit symptoms, DC Scholars makes symptomatic testing available for students with the oversight of parents and our Registered Nurse at the time that they are picked up.

**Provide the LEA's plans to support COVID-19 vaccination of staff and students, as eligible, including efforts to encourage participation in public and community-based vaccination opportunities.**

Consistent with its duty to provide and maintain a workplace that is safe and free of recognized hazards, DC Scholars has adopted the following policy to safeguard the health and well-being of employees and their families; our scholars and families; others who spend time in our facilities;

and the community from infectious conditions that may be mitigated through an effective COVID-19 vaccination program. This policy is intended to comply with all state and local laws.

For SY 22-23 in order to be up to date at DC Scholars for COVID-19 vaccinations:

- If a new staff member is eligible for a booster as of February 15th, 2022, the individual must receive a COVID-19 booster and upload the updated vaccination card into TalentEd by August 26th, 2022.

There will be a vaccination clinic on August 3rd and staff members will be able to be vaccinated on that day.

Employees not in compliance with this policy will be placed on unpaid leave until their employment status is determined by Human Resources and School Leadership.

All staff who are not fully vaccinated and have therefore received an exemption must continue to take COVID-19 tests and submit results weekly.

This policy applies to all full-time and part-time staff, contractors, interns, and volunteers working in person at DC Scholars for SY 22-23 unless otherwise notified.

### **Staff**

Staff are fully vaccinated when they have received the 1st booster within 30 days of being eligible for booster. Anyone who has not received the booster must receive it before the start of school.

### **Students**

Beginning in the 2022-23 school year, student immunization requirements include the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine for all students of an age for which there is a fully approved vaccine by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), per the *Coronavirus Immunization of School Students and Early Childhood Workers Amendment Act of 2021*.

On July 8, 2022, the FDA fully approved the COVID-19 vaccine commonly known as the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for individuals 12 to 15 years old.

The approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for individuals 12 to 15 means that, **unless exempted, any student age 12-15 at the start of the 2022-23 school year must have received the primary COVID-19 vaccine series or have started receiving the shot by Sept. 16, 2022.**

**Accordingly, all DC Scholar's students ages 12-15 must be vaccinated by September 16, 2022.**

At least 1 dose must be administered by September 16, 2022 and shared with the school in the immunization record and/or vaccine card to [COVID@dcscholars.org](mailto:COVID@dcscholars.org). The second dose must be administered by November 30, 2022.

To ensure that families are aware of the new vaccination requirement for 12-15 year olds, families will be informed via Dojo, Robocall, and flyers sent home. For students who are still not vaccinated as of September 9th, individual phone calls will be made home to remind families and to ensure that they are on track or have a plan to meet the September 16th deadline.

Students 12-15 years old will also be made aware of the August 3rd vaccination clinic as well as other COVID-19 vaccine opportunities. Families are encouraged to visit [vaccinate.dc.gov](https://vaccinate.dc.gov) or call the COVID-19 Call Center at 1-855-363-0333. For deaf/hard-of-hearing individuals, dial 711 for TTY service. For any questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccine program, please email [vaccinatedc@dc.gov](mailto:vaccinatedc@dc.gov).

### **Students with Disabilities**

**Provide the LEA's plans to provide appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities with respect to its health and safety policies and procedures.**

If a student attending DC Scholars requires adjustments and accommodations to our health and safety policies and procedures, the family will work with our school nurse and/or Manager of Student Support to share any medical documentation and create a plan to provide any waivers/adjustments/accommodations to support the student's needs. Opportunities to request accommodations will be shared as needed during enrollment and parent inquiries and in parent orientations. Additionally, and aligned to our Response to Intervention Process and our Child Find processes, teachers and staff can submit students to the process if they have identified a suspected need for the student support and/or 504/IEP team to review and address.

The school team (depending on student and need could be 504 team, IEP team, or Operations, Manager of Student Support, nurse, teacher) will meet with the family to review the documentation and needs. The team will determine if the waiver/adjustment/accommodation is reasonable and necessary to support student engagement, attendance, safety, and/or learning and create a plan in response.

### **Training, Technical Assistance, and Monitoring**

**Please provide the LEA's plan to provide training and technical assistance on its policies and procedures to safely reopen schools in accordance with the DC Health Guidance for Schools and the OSSE Health and Safety Guidance for Schools, including:**

- A. who will receive training and technical assistance**
- B. the topics that the training and technical assistance will address; and**
- C. how and by whom the training and technical assistance will be delivered.**

Audience	Topic	Trainer/ TA provider	Date Range (if available)
DC Scholars Leaders (iDirectors, Assoc Directors, Coaches,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaders will be able to describe mission-critical aspects of the health and</li> </ul>	Kimberly Lucas, Director of Finance and Operations	July / August 2022

Special Ed Leaders, Deans, Counselors, and Managers)	<p>safety plan for the upcoming school year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaders will be familiar with the contents of the health and safety plan and be able to access it on their own</li> </ul>	Charise Brown, Human Resources Manager	
All Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will be able to describe mission-critical aspects of the health and safety plan for the upcoming school year</li> <li>• Staff will be familiar with the contents of the health and safety plan and be able to access it on their own</li> <li>• Staff will discuss challenges in holding each other and students accountable and their role in ensuring accountability to our health and safety plan</li> </ul>	<p>Kimberly Lucas,, Director of Finance and Operations</p> <p>Charise Brown, Human Resources Manager</p>	August 2022 during all staff “August Orientation” (specific dates TBD)

**Provide the LEA’s plan to monitor the implementation of the health and safety plans at each campus, including how, when and by whom the implementation will be monitored, and how the LEA will respond if a given campus is not adhering to the plan.**

DC Scholars has only one campus. Implementation of the health and safety plan will be monitored by Ralph Shorter (Operations Specialist) and Charise Brown (Manager of Human Resources), who are responsible for all Health and Safety related issues at DC Scholars. They will be responsible for serving as the point of contact when a student or staff member displays signs of illness and needs to be excused from the classroom, cohort or any other area within the school. They will implement DC Scholars’ safety plan and procedures which address:

- Escorting students to the designated isolation room/area until transportation can be arranged to send the student(s) home or to seek emergency medical attention.
- Notification of parent(s), guardians, or caregiver(s) of ill student(s) that need to be picked up from school.
- Identifying all exposed area(s) (e.g., classroom), and recommending cleaning and disinfection of areas is performed by appropriate staff.
- Ensure close contacts are identified, notified, advised to follow Test to Stay Protocol and/or remain home, and to consult with their healthcare provider if appropriate.
- Communicate with teacher(s), staff, and parent(s), guardian(s) or caregiver(s) the importance of COVID-19 mitigation strategies (e.g., washing hands, etc).

**Communicating Policies and Procedures to Students, Families, Staff and Visitors**

4. Describe the LEA’s plans to communicate key health and safety policies and procedures to students, families, staff and visitors.

Our LEA plans to communicate key health and safety policies and procedures with students, families, and staff via our COVID-19 handbook, which will be available on our website [dcscholars.org](https://dcscholars.org). Families will also be kept informed of health and safety related policies through ongoing bulletins. To meet the needs of our diverse community, details on these topics will be available in all languages that our community requires as indicated on student/Family Home Language Surveys. DC Scholars utilizes the Language Line service to facilitate communication with our ELL families and will work with them to provide regular updates to our affected families through our school website and weekly bulletins.