



# SELA Elementary COVID-19 Prevention Strategies

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As you know SELA serves students under the age of 12 who are currently not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, SELA has implemented a multi-layered prevention strategy to protect our students, teachers, staff, visitors, and other members of their households in order to support in-person learning. This prevention strategy includes, Vaccination Promotion, Universal Mask Usage, Physical distancing, COVID-19 Screening Strategies, Ventilation, Hand Hygiene, Staying home when Sick and Cleaning and Disinfection protocols.

## 1. Vaccination Promotion

- SELA promotes the efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccination among all eligible students, teachers, staff, and household members as an important strategy for our community to safely resume full operations.
- SELA requires that all Elementary faculty be fully vaccinated

## 2. Universal Mask Usage

- SELA requires both staff and students (regardless of their vaccination status) to wear a face mask while indoors, in accordance with DESE and CDC guidelines for all schools K-12.
- To ensure that each student and staff member has a clean and effective mask while in school, all masks used by staff and students will be disposable and will be provided by SELA.
- Families may purchase their own disposable masks to be kept at the school for their child.
- Students will enter the school with their home face mask and place it in a Ziplock baggy where the mask will be kept until dismissal.
- Students and staff will not be required to wear a face mask when outdoors or during snack or lunch.

## 3. Physical Distancing

- Classroom seating will be will be distanced 3-6ft apart from one another
- Staff and students will avoid all close contact gestures with each other (hugging, kissing on the cheek, etc.)
- Teachers will reinforce fun and creative contactless gestures such as toe taps, air hugs etc

## 4. COVID-19 Screening Strategies

- Staff and Students will complete a Self Screening form everyday
- Students who do not have a completed screening, will be sent to the nurses office until a parent can be contacted. No exceptions.
- If your child is taking the bus, the parent/guardian is required to complete their child's self-assessment screening before 8am each morning.
- Staff and SELA families must inform the school of any travel plans that require additional documentation as outline in SELA's "COVID-19 Quick Reference Guide"
- SELA Health Department is now working with CIC Health through the Massachusetts Department of Education in a statewide no-cost COVID-19 testing program.
- The CIC testing program will be used as a screening tool and as a diagnostic test in the school setting as an additional mitigation strategy available to us against COVID-19



## 5. Ventilation

- Classrooms and common areas will be equipped with air purifiers
- Open air ventilation will be encouraged whenever possible
- Teachers are encouraged to bring their students outside for class as much as possible weather permitted

## 6. Hand Hygiene

- Staff and students will be given instruction on how to properly wash hands.
- Staff and students are to perform proper hand hygiene frequently throughout the day
- Hand hygiene stations are accessible to all staff and students.
- Staff will remind and reinforce proper handwashing with their students
- If handwashing is not possible, use hand sanitizer (provided by SELA) will be offered to students who have parental consent.

## 7. Staying home when sick

- Student and Staff Daily Self Screening will serve as a constant reminder of the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 to ensure all persons entering the program space are concretely aware of their health status
- Students and staff who have symptoms of any infectious illness, will stay home and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care, regardless of vaccination status.
- School nurses will follow up with staff and/or students to ensure that they are well and ready to attend school/work. This follow up can include medical documentation to be obtained before student/staff enter the building

## 8. Cleaning and Disinfection

- SELA employs a full time cleaning person to ensure all surfaces, including indoors, outdoors and all common areas are cleaned frequently throughout the day
- Professional deep cleaning & sanitization will be done every night
- All classrooms are equipped with 3 child setting approved cleaning solutions to be used as needed. 1. Soap and water, 2. Disinfecting Solution and 3. Sanitizing Solution
- If a sick person is identified in the school, any surface area that sick individuals have come into contact with will be immediately cleaned and disinfected.

## 9. SELA Events

Due to the contagiousness of the Delta variant and the unknown vaccination status of all attendees SELA has adopted the following mask policy for any events hosted by the school:

### Indoor Events:

- SELA will require all staff and visitors regardless of vaccination status to wear a mask while in the building.
- SELA will require students ages 5 and up to wear a mask while inside the school
- SELA will encourage students ages 2-4 to wear a mask while inside the school

### Outdoor Events:

- SELA will require all staff regardless of vaccination status to wear a mask while outside at the event
- SELA strongly encourages all attendees ages 5 and up regardless of vaccination status to wear a mask while outside at the event

