

Questions and Answers Stemming from the July 21, 2020 Manoa School WebEx Event

**1. Are we able to switch to distance learning if we have any concerns regarding in-person instruction after school begins?**

*Families, based on their own risk-assessment of the current COVID situation can opt-in to the 100% distance learning option with Acellus once in-person instruction begins. Please understand that schools are heavily committing resources and is making personnel decisions based upon this opt-in decision. The commitment for the 100% distance learning option is at least for the Fall semester. Families may choose to come back for the Spring semester starting in January.*

**2. So, distance learning option is not directly connected to Manoa EI?**

*It is an online based program called Acellus, and will not be taught by our teachers. A Manoa School teacher will monitor a child's progress with Acellus and provide weekly check-in via online communication. For families needing technical support, the DOE created a "Ohana Help Desk" to assist with questions between the hours of 7 am and 8 pm. See <https://sites.google.com/k12.hi.us/ohana-help-desk-portal/> for more information.*

**3. Additionally, if we keep our children home if we think they have a cold, are they able to partake in distance instruction while at home? Will this count as an absence if they are distance learning while sick?**

*No, an absence due to a cold will be handled as we did any other illness or absence in previous years. Our teachers are working to build out their classroom websites so that students who are at home sick can keep up with assigned classwork.*

**4. Are you able to social distance our children 6 feet? and if so, how many students per class? I can't imagine 20 fitting in one classroom safely**

*Yes, teachers will be setting up their classrooms to allow for 6 ft social distancing as well as in the cafeteria.*

**5. If a child has temperature elevated one day, the child will stay home for 7 days regardless of normal temperature?**

*Students will not be able to return to school unless they are fever free without medication for at least 24 hours.*

**6. So for allergies would that be screened by the school nurse?**

*If a child is sent to the health room with allergy symptoms, the school health aide will conduct a secondary screening and call home to confirm if the child is suffering from allergies and if his or her treatment involves allergy medication. In this situation, a child may be sent back to class as needed.*

**7. Will a doctor's note be an option for the students to return to school if they are sent home or kept home due to showing signs or symptoms? Since we cannot mandate the students get a covid test.**

*Version 2 (July 29, 2020) of the HDOE Health and Safety Handbook states "If a student is experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness or influenza, he/she should take the following precautions:*

*Isolation and exclusion from school should be continued for 10 days after illness onset and until 24 hours after the resolution of fever and respiratory symptoms, whichever is longer. If a student is sent home due to any illness symptom other than a respiratory illness or influenza, he/she should be excluded from school until fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of medication."*

*In situations where the student has illness with low clinical suspicion for COVID-19 or past medical history of other etiology (e.g. allergy, asthma) and is well known to the clinician, return to school earlier than the 10 days may be possible. The DOH recommends that the physician use clinical judgement on a case-by-case basis and may write a return to school doctor's note as long as symptoms resolving and no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.*

**8. So, just to confirm, if they are presenting any of the listed symptoms, we need to keep our kids home?**

*Yes, if you suspect your child to be sick please keep him/her home.*

**9. How will instruction work for the child that is at home x 7 days?**

*Teachers are currently building their classroom websites that will contain instructional activities covered during the day/week. There will not be live/synchronous instruction taking place for children at home due to illness. If Manoa School has to shut down for any reason, classroom instruction at that time switch to online distance learning for all face-to-face students. Families who opted-in with Acellus will continue to use Acellus for at least one semester.*

**10. Will students who stay home due to symptoms of illness be offered the online class option during this period or other options to stay updated with the class curriculum?**

*No. These absences will be handled like any other absence. Work will be accessible via the teacher's website, or may be picked up at the school office if needed.*

**11. If our child is asked to stay at home, will they then have access to distance learning to continue learning? Are we going to be penalized for being out of school for too many days?**

*While student attendance is a powerful predictor of student success, the health and safety concerns in this pandemic environment will outweigh concerns over chronic absenteeism. Calls to families and letters for chronic absences may still go home if the school if the reason for absences is not health related.*

**12. If an older child will be returning home from the mainland will my Manoa child be required to quarantine in addition to our older child?**

*Families accepting individuals like older siblings or other relatives from the US Mainland or from international locations are subject to the State's 14-day quarantine rule. If that individual is not able to abide by self-quarantine rules within the household apart from other family members, please keep your child home for the 14-day window.*

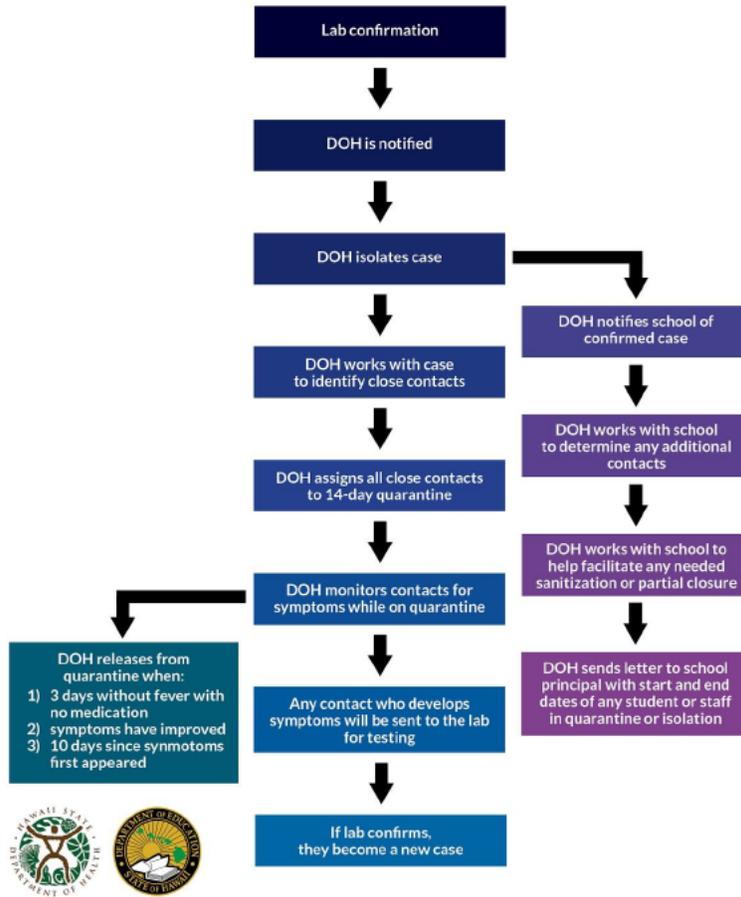
**13. Are our teachers ready to implement a distance learning plan if that occurs?**

*Yes, professional development for our teachers is provided during the first weeks of school and are committed to also training our students so if we should require to switch over to distance learning we can do so seamlessly.*

**14. Contact tracers will inform people that they may have been in contact with someone who tested positive, but cannot enforce or mandate the kids to get tested for COVID. So how will we ensure a safe return for kids back to school, if kids do not get tested for COVID?**

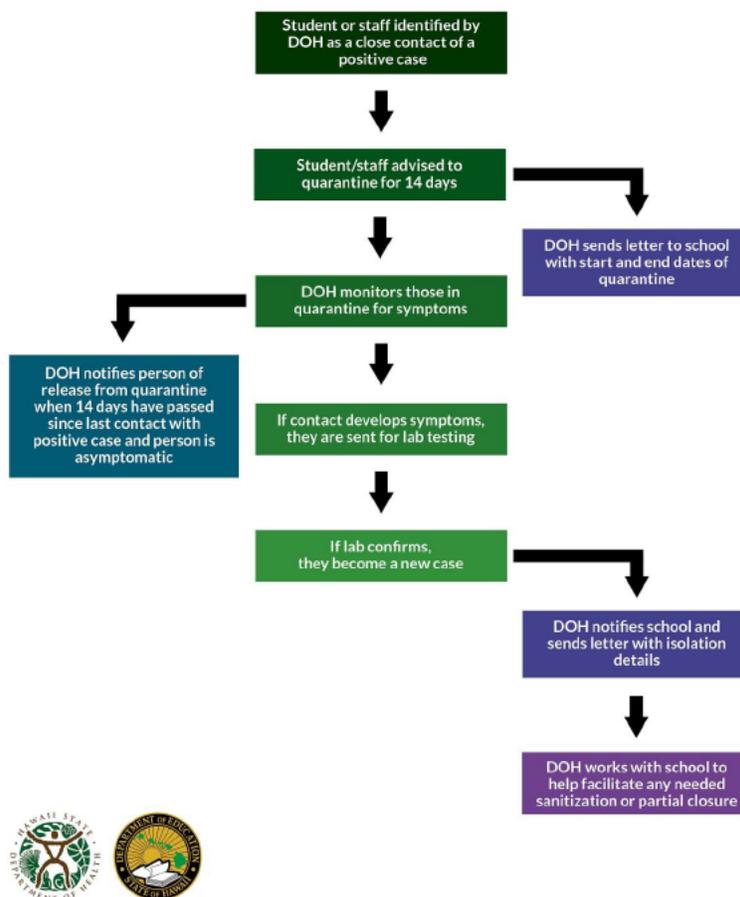
*Here is the procedural flowchart should a positive case be identified with Manoa School.*

## POSITIVE CASE IN A SCHOOL PROCEDURAL FLOWCHART



*Here is the procedural flowchart for close contact.*

## CLOSE CONTACT IN A SCHOOL PROCEDURAL FLOWCHART



**15. You mentioned that all the classrooms will be utilized and the number of students per room will be less. How many students will be in each classroom? In Summer School, there were only 9 kids per room and even then, the teacher didn't say anything when students were not wearing masks and waiting outside. How will the teachers be able to watch all the kids before, after, lunch, in bathrooms? How will this be enforced? How much space will be between each desk? Have all the teachers, staff, faculty been trained on DOH/CDC protocols/guidelines?**

*All classrooms at Manoa School will abide by 6 ft distancing. The same rule applies to the cafeteria dining room. Classrooms, as of 8/5/2020 will have between 15 to 18 students. All staff are being trained on protocols and guidelines during the additional 9 days of preparation.*

*Face coverings for adults and students must be worn when outside the classroom. Exceptions for face coverings/masks apply to those for whom it is not safe to do so due to age (under 2), medical condition, or other considerations. Families need to contact school administration if they plan on seeking an exception.*

**16. Will there be disciplinary action taken on those families who do not abide by the recommended rules**

*If a student is asked to put on his or her mask, and there is failure to comply, the student is subject to Chapter 19, the DOE's student misconduct and discipline code. Class D offenses include any conduct as may be prescribed by school rules, such as wearing a face mask. Insubordination means disregard or refusal to obey an order which a teacher, officer, or other employee of the department is entitled to give. In this instance, direct refusal to comply with Manoa School's mask rule could end up as a Class C offense. Please refer to <https://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/Civil%20Rights/Chapter19English.pdf> for more information on Chapter 19.*

**17. How many kids will be in each classroom? how will the teacher be able to temperature check each kid before entering? during summer school., the process was very long.**

*Classrooms, as of 8/5/2020 will have between 15 to 18 students. Classroom teachers have been issued thermal scanners and will screen for general symptoms of illness. While waiting for their turn to enter the class, students will stand on "tiger paw" markings that will physically distance the class out by 6 ft.*

**18. In health and safety: it says if 10% of the entire school or 20% of one grade/classroom are sent home with sx...how will that account for students who aren't sent home but are out/never came to school?**

*If 10% of the entire school or 20% of one grade or classroom are sent home with common flu-like or gastrointestinal symptoms, the school Health Assistant will contact the Hawaii State Department of Health Disease Investigation Branch. The percentage will be based on students who are attending face-to-face.*

**19. The start and end time for ALL students is the same - there wasn't an option to stagger the day? It's concerning that so many students and families will be dropping off or picking up at once**

*No students are permitted on campus prior to 7:15 am without being enrolled in the Early Risers Morning Care program. Students who arrive between 7:15 and 7:45 am will have to report to the cafeteria for breakfast service. No adults will be permitted inside of the cafeteria during this time. Students will be screened prior to entry with a thermal scan and symptom check. Breakfast service starts at 7:15 am.*

*For students not requiring breakfast or morning care, drop-off begins at 7:30 am for students grades 3-5 and 7:45 am for grades K-2. There is no double-parking in active drop-off zones. If you arrive prior to your scheduled drop-off, please park your vehicle off-campus. Parents should remain in their car when dropping off or picking up their child. If they must disembark their vehicle, they need to wear a mask. Older individuals, like our kupuna, or those with underlying medical conditions are highly discouraged from dropping off or picking up students.*

*There are three drop-off areas on campus. All colored wings will be one-way direction between the hours of 7:15 am – 8:00 am. In order to reduce congestion, please abide by the following areas:*

- Grade K - Cafeteria Parking Lot*
- Grade 1 - Gym Parking Lot*
- Grade 2 - Gym Parking Lot*
- Grade 3 - Office Roundabout*
- Grade 4 - Cafeteria Parking Lot*
- Grade 5 - Office Roundabout*

*No parents will be allowed on campus prior to the dismissal bell. There will be a staggered dismissal time (Grade K-2 - 2:00 pm, Grade 3-5 - 2:15 pm)*

*Please use the same area for pickup and you use for drop-off. Students being picked up will be released from the classroom first. K parents picking up their child will have to meet outside of the room. Students attending an afterschool program will be released 5 minutes later.*

**20. What is the length of time between when a child gets a positive test for COVID and when other parents at the school will get notified?**

*There is a communication protocol that schools will implement should there be a positive case of COVID involving the school. Manoa School will work quickly as possible to get that information out to families.*

**21. One of my children has a history of allergies, sneezes very often and needs to use tissue a lot. Should I still be sending him to school?**

*Schools cannot deny access to education based upon a child's history of allergies. If you have any questions about sending your child to school with consistent allergies, consulting with your child's physician and with school administration is highly suggested.*

**22. What if child takes it off**

*See Question 16. If a teacher asks a student to put their mask back on, the expectation is that the student will comply.*

**23. If a family member is awaiting results for a COVID testing results..Isnt the recommendations for that person to quarantine while they await the results? So why wouldnt the child of a family member that they reside with also quarantine until the family member receives the results, instead of sending them to school why they wait for the results?**

*If a family member is awaiting results for a COVID test, please inform the school immediately. Out of an abundance of caution, students in situations where a member of the same household is awaiting a COVID test result will be asked to self-quarantine until results come back.*

**24. If, during the 14 day quarantine, students or family members exhibit symptoms due to a Manoa Elementary outbreak, are they required to be tested? Will the DOE then pay for testing or is that up to families. While we wouldn't hesitate to pay for a test, I think that if DOE doesn't offer to pay, some families won't get tested, even if they have symptoms.**

*The DOE is not paying for COVID testing. If you feel a test is needed, please contact your child's primary care physician.*

**25. Will you consider face shields comparable to a mask?**

*According to the most recent CDC guidance, it is not known if face shields provide any benefit as source control to protect others from the spray of respiratory particles. CDC does not recommend use of face shields for normal everyday activities or as a substitute for masks. Adults and students may choose to use a face shield with a face mask for maximum protection. See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>*

**26. Will the school have masks available for students who do not come to school with a mask, for whatever reason?**

*All students and staff are responsible to bring and properly maintain their own masks. If a staff member or student forgets, loses or soils a mask during the day, a disposable one will be provided.*

**27. I'm wondering how mask will be effective if the kids eat in the same room/cafeteria during the lunch**

*While students are eating whether in the classroom or in the cafeteria, they will be spaced with a 6 ft distance. That said, families do have to understand that the mask will be off during that time. As a means to help with the mask sanitation, students will be given a lanyard to which they can clip their mask to.*

**28. Will you be allowing disposable masks instead of cloth?**

*Yes. We ask, based on maximizing protection for others that masks don't have a valve. While those masks may stop particles from reaching the wearer, they do little in the way of blocking what comes out of their noses and mouths.*

**29. Is the school asking for/accepting mask, sanitizer and disinfecting wipe donations?**

*Manoa School plans to work with the Manoa APT to organize a donation drive. This will be discussed at the next meeting.*

**30. Will masks be required for the preschool students as well?**

*According to the CDC, masks are safe for children 2 and older. Exceptions may apply for our pre-school students based on their disability. Please speak with school administration if you plan on seeking an exception.*

**31. I often hear parents saying that young kids are not capable of wearing masks, but they are. My kids are in Summer Fun and the kids wear masks all day, even during physical activity. How will parents be held accountable if they do not support the school's mask policy?**

*Exceptions for face coverings/masks apply to those for whom it is not safe to do so due to age (under 2), medical condition, or other considerations. Families need to contact school administration if they plan on seeking an exception.*

**32. How many students per class, specifically, in kindergarten? especially to enforce the 6' distance**

*Classrooms, as of 8/5/2020 will have between 15 to 18 students.*

**33. Do we just ask teacher for a disposable mask if we forget the mask in the morning?**

*Teachers will have a set of spare masks with them in the classroom.*

**34. How will the school monitor the cafe? will it be grab and go or, lunch delivered to the classes or spacing on the bleachers?**

*Adult supervision will be present in the cafeteria and classroom during lunch periods. For students eating in the classroom, they will be walking down to the cafeteria to pick up their lunch and then return to their room. Lunch plates will be covered with aluminum foil.*

**35. The kids are fine wearing masks, but what is the layout of the class sizes?**

*Teachers were allowed the flexibility to set up their own classroom layout as long as they were able to follow the 6 ft physical distance guidelines.*

**36. Regarding absences that are taken out of an abundance of caution rather than certain illness, and therefore may last just a day or two, will there be an opportunity for students to join the class virtually via Webex or the other video app?**

*There will not be any synchronous live streaming of classroom instruction for students who are absent. While our campus is equipped with wifi, the bandwidth load of all classrooms simultaneously streaming would potentially be problematic to our network infrastructure.*

**37. With the cohorts, how do you reduce the risk with the specialists traveling between classes? the bubble is now much larger.**

*We have tried to minimize, to the greatest extent possible, what adults rotate into the ohana bubble. That said, there are times when we will have to rotate different adults in the bubble due to adult supervision needs, counseling services, English learner services, and special education services as examples. Where appropriate, some services may be conducted over a video platform in school.*

**38. Will you be mailing or email class lists instead this year so that you can limit the number of people coming to campus prior to school starting?**

*Yes. We thank you for your patience. Grade levels are receiving their rosters this week. We hope to have class assignments emailed to families early in the week of August 10.*

**39. If my child attends Manoa Valley Church after school care along with other children from Noelani, what action will be taken if a child from Noelani comes down with Covid19? Will there be communication between the various after school care providers and Manoa EI?**

*There will be communication between the various after-school care providers and Manoa School and appropriate steps will be taken should a confirmed case arises that impacts both of our schools.*

**40. Is early morning care available?**

*Early morning care currently has a waitlist. If you are interested in getting your child on the waitlist, please email [laurie.yoshikawa@k12.hi.us](mailto:laurie.yoshikawa@k12.hi.us)*

**41. What exactly is a mask break? Will the child go outside for a few minutes? Are they at their desk? Especially for the younger ones what if they start coughing or sneezing when the mask not on because they are on a mask break?**

*A mask break will be a period of time when the teacher will allow students to safely remove their mask for a temporary period of time as long as 6 ft of separation is maintained. This could occur either inside or outside of the classroom. Children will be taught to sneeze or cough into a tissue and then thrown away, and hands washed. If no tissue is available in real time, students will be taught to cough or sneeze into their elbow.*

**42. Will there be wipe downs of the cafeteria area between lunch breaks?**

*Yes. In the 15 minutes between service in the cafeteria, all tables will be wiped down with a cleaning solution by an adult.*

**43. You mentioned Hawaiiana and Technology as additional offerings. Will music be an option or has that been removed?**

*Music and PE are still a possibility. However, the delivery of music and PE instruction is still being worked out at this time.*

**44. What to do about weather issues with a tent? and how can kids learn in a tent?**

*If weather presents itself as an issue, students scheduled to have lunch in the outdoor covered structure will eat in their classroom instead.*

**45. For recess, I am hoping that contact/shared ball activities (basketball, 4 square, etc.) are not allowed to minimize contact between students.**

*Use of playground equipment will be limited to one cohort at a time and will be sanitized before being used by a different cohort. Handwashing will occur before and after use of any playground equipment.*

**46. does the online curriculum follow the same as class instruction? so if a child gets sick or non covid. sx and is sent home would they be able to join in and not have it be a totally different curriculum?**

*Students in the face-to-face option will not be using Acellus. If a child gets sick, he or she will follow the activities continuing in the class through the class website. Acellus is aligned with Common Core State Standards which Manoa School's language arts and math curriculum is based on.*

**47. Are the teachers going to be expected to stand next to the students to ensure they're washing their hands correctly?**

*All classroom teachers will work on teaching all children proper hand-washing techniques. Teachers are not expected to be present at all times to make sure that they're hands are being washed correctly.*

**48. How often will the classrooms be cleaned and who is responsible for that?**

*School facilities will be cleaned daily and high-touch area will be disinfected using approved cleaners by our school custodial crew. Please refer to the school reopening plan.*

**49. Will paper towels be provided in the restrooms in lieu of the hand dryer? What products will be used for disinfecting and hand washing? I'm concerned about overly fragranced products as my son has allergies to fragrance.**

*All classrooms and bathrooms come equipped with liquid soap. Classrooms will have paper towels to use for drying hands.*

**50. During the school year the kids do cafeteria chores, like wiping tables and stuff...will this still be taking place? If so, will they be provided gloves while working with the cleaning chemicals? Or no the cleaning of the tables in the cafeteria will be cleaned by adult staff?**

*Students will not participate as cafeteria helpers this year. To ensure proper cleaning of tables, adults will perform those duties.*

**51. Will you have the touches thermometers? summer school has some that were not - and also shared between classrooms.**

*Thermal touchless scanners were purchased for every homeroom class.*

**52. Are you committed to always keeping the windows open even when it is raining?**

*Windows are doors will be open to allow for good circulation of outdoor air. Some windows may have to be shut if rain enters the room creating additional safety hazards like wet floors.*

**53. Will parents be allowed to volunteer?**

*All volunteers will have to be cleared by school administration prior to coming on to the campus and will have to abide by social distancing and mask requirements.*

**54. Who will control visitors on campus?**

*Appointments will be required with visitors to campus and will be screened like the rest of our campus. Persons who are restricted from physical presence at the school or office shall be allowed to conduct business by telephone or other appropriate audio-visual technology.*

**55. Can you explain your protocols for the management of substitute teachers?**

*Substitutes are required to complete all mandated DOE training modules and will have to comply with school social distancing and mask rules.*

**56. How quickly will the teachers/school be able to switch over to online learning since we are doing all face to face?**

*Teachers have been informed that the switch from face-to-face to online distance learning could take place the very next day of school.*

**57. If a family's circumstances change mid-quarter or mid-semester, can they opt-in to distance learning even though school has started?**

*Yes. Please contact school administration at that point. However, once the switch occurs, the commitment will have to be at least through the end of the semester.*

**58. Will the distance learning open include any teacher-led instruction?**

If families select the 100% distance learning option with Acellus, the answer is no.

**59. So when there is a classroom closure of a class due to covid how will we proceed with learning?**

*In the event of a classroom or school closure, the face-to-face students will switch to an online distance learning environment until it is safe to return to campus.*

**60. Just to clarify, are you saying that you're going to allow kids to be in school if their temp is less than 100.4?**

*Any child sent to the health room with a temperature hovering around 100.4 will be monitored and parent called out of an abundance of caution.*

**61. We don't have enough devices at home in the event we do distance learning. are you working with distributors for discounts for families that need to purchase additional devices?**

*Please contact the school if you are in need of devices to participate in distance learning.*

**62. If we choose the distance learning option, will we lose our spot at Manoa when we decide to go back to in-person classes?**

*No. All Manoa students who select 100% distance learning with Acellus will have the opportunity to return as early as the start of the second semester.*