**JVL WILDCAT CHARTER SCHOOL**

At JVL Wildcat during the pandemic JVL WILDCAT will be guided by four principles:

**Predictability** - Wildcat will minimize disruptions and changes that place burdens on our students, families and staff.

**Pivoting**  - Wildcat will respond to the latest data on the pandemic and work efficiently and responsively to keep our students, families, and staff safe.

**Prioritizing** - During these challenging times, Wildcat will prioritize what is most important for the learning and development of the whole child in light of the trauma so many in our community have experienced. Some activities may be reduced so that we can focus on our core work with students.

**Patience** - Wildcat will model and inspire stepping back and asking questions before offering quick responses to the rapid changes in the world around us.

**IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AT JVL WILDCAT**

- Given the current rate of COVID-19 infection, all classes will be held in person starting Monday, September 13, 2021.

- There is no continuously provided virtual remote option planned this year at WILDCAT.

**IN-PERSON INTRUCTION AT JVL WILDCAT**

As we have been prioritizing in-person learning and mitigating the risk of exposure to COVID-19, we have studied the latest research in medical journals and the practices of over 50 public, private, and charter schools.

We have also continued to study the changing guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, New York State Department of Education, the New York City Department of Education, the New York State Department of Health, and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

JVL WILDCAT will meet or exceed minimum health guidelines whenever possible to keep our community children and safe.

**A TRAUMA-INFORMED COMMUNITY**

JVL WILDCAT staff have been trained in trauma-informed practices and have taken careful consideration of all their teaching methods and assignments so as not to add to the stress of our children and families during these challenging times.  Since the pandemic began we have increased our number of social workers and intervention teachers and reworked our social emotional learning curriculum for all grade levels.

**Student and Family Vaccination Efforts JVL WILDCAT**

JVL WILDCAT is tracking the progress of student vaccinations.
JVL WILDCAT will host vaccination clinics on site and help schedule appointments.
The Principal will continue to hold town halls with parents, advocating vaccination.
JVL WILDCAT will keep families informed about the trajectory of the vaccine becoming available to younger students and continue to share information as it is available.

**COVID-19 TESTING OF STUDNETS**

-Only the City of New York will provide scheduled COVID-19 testing to JVL WILDCAT students.

- Currently the City plans to test 10% of students twice per month
- Parents must provide written consent, which will be necessary to keep our students safe.

**DEFINITION OF CLOSE CONTACT**

* **For teachers and staff:**  Someone who was within [6 feet of an infected person](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html#stay6ft) (laboratory-confirmed or a [clinically compatible illness](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-guidance-management-patients.html)) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example*, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes).*
* **For High School students:** Someone who was within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a [clinically compatible illness](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-guidance-management-patients.html)) if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) [correctly and consistently](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html) wore well-fitting [masks](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/cloth-face-cover.html) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example*, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes).*

*\*An infected person can spread SARS-CoV-2 starting from 2 days before they have any symptoms (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days before the positive specimen collection date), until they meet criteria for* [*discontinuing home isolation*](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/duration-isolation.html)*.*

**JVL WILDCAT CHARTER SCHOOL**

**Reporting of COVID-19 Cases**

If your **child** tests positive for COVID-19, please call or text the principal, Ron Tabano at 646-993-1850 and text a photo of the confirmed positive COVID-19 test result.

**Staff** should contact Cecilia Sakosky at 646-993-1840. We will protect the confidentiality.

**Health Screenings**

We will engage in regular monitoring, screening, and testing of students and staff health. When suspected cases are identified, we have clear protocols to mitigate school spread. Facilitate containment of the virus.

**Self-Screening:**  To keep everyone safe, staff and students should not come to school if they are feeling sick.  Any flu-like symptoms are a sign that someone should stay home.  Four COVID symptoms (according to the profile of the current Delta variant) in particular that we all must look for:  fever; shortness of breath; fatigue; loss of taste or smell.

**Temperature Check and Isolation Process**

All students, and staff, and visitors will have their temperature checked using non-contact thermometers upon entry into the building.

Anyone with a temperature above 99.0 degrees will be restricted from accessing classrooms and sent home.

If someone comes onto campus and develops symptoms of COVID or has a fever, the following protocols will be followed:

Parents and Guardians will be immediately informed by the nurse or school-based operations if their children have developed symptoms at school.

**Clean and Welcoming Facilities**

JVL WILDCAT facilities will be regularly and thoroughly cleaned with cleaning products that eliminate 99% of bacteria and kill COVID-19.

Windows will be opened at all opportunities when appropriate for temperature. Air conditioners will be running when temperatures permit.

**Contact tracking and Containment**

* JVL WILDCAT’s plan to respond to COVID-19 cases on site has been designed according to CDC guidance.

* JVL WILDCAT will work with the New York City Department of Health Situation Room on reporting cases and providing information for contact tracing.

**Staff Expectation for Contact Tracing**

JVL WILDCAT leaders, and every adult on campus, will track any contact between unvaccinated students that is less than 3 feet for more than 15 minutes.

**Key Definitions for Contact Tracing**

* **Suspected Case:** Students and staff who have a suspected case will be asked to stay home and to get tested.
* **Exposure:**  Unvaccinated students or staff who have come into close contact with someone who is diagnosed with COVID-19
* **Confirmed Case:**  Students and staff who have a confirmed case must stay home for a minimum of 10 days and have no symptoms as defined above and a negative COVID-19 test before returning to school.
* **Contact Tracing:**  If someone is determined to be a close contact by JVL WILDCAT staff or the NYC partners we will work with, or if someone is contacted via the New York contact tracing program and told that they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive, and are told to quarantine, they should do so.

**Quarantine Periods**

For those identified as close contacts, the following quarantine periods will be implemented in accordance with CDC guidance:

* **Vaccinated individuals** (both students and staff)who were identified as close contacts would not need to quarantine under CDC guidance.
	+ Staff may continue working in person pending confirmation from, Cecilia Sakosky.
	+ Students may continue with in person instruction pending confirmation from Ron Tabano.
* **Unvaccinated individuals** (both students and staff members) who were identified as close contacts must quarantine for 10 days.  We are waiting to see if NYC DOH allows  return after 7 days provided that they received a negative PCR test result (test must occur on day 5 or later)

**Preparation for Quarantining-Class & School Closure**

JVL Wildcat staff are prepared to provide instruction virtually if quarantining for individual students is necessary. This may consist of independent work for students with scheduled zoom sessions with a JVL Wildcat staff member.

- All teachers are prepared with training and technology for entire class or school to be designated remote temporarily

- Teachers and students have JVL Wildcat-provided computers at home and at school to facilitate any sudden changes.

- Teachers will provide regular weekly electronic assignments and experiences for students and training if needed on the use of computers and platforms such as Zoom.

- Student and Staff attendance policy rely on everyone being prepared to do remote work if necessary

**Response Protocol for Suspected**

**and Confirmed Cases**

In the event of a confirmed case in the school community:

* All teachers and students must be prepared to go remote at anytime.  Students and teachers should have computers at home and at school.
* All families of students will be notified of any confirmed cases in the school.  They will be told the class number and the applicable the bus number of the student.
* Any individual identified as a close contact will be informed of the case.
* Students will continue with in-person instruction if they were not identified as a close contact AND are not presenting with COVID-like symptoms

**Class, Building, and School Closures**

When making a determination on class closure, Strategy Team will take the following factors into consideration:

* **Initial point of exposure**: external or internal to the school community
* **Link to other confirmed case(s)**: connection between cases within the school community or unable to determine
* **Extent of contact**: number of individuals within the class that the confirmed case(s) may have had contact with
* **Effect of Social Distancing and Universal Mask Wearing**
* **Additional conditions** internal and external to the school community may necessitate the closure of the school, particularly the epidemiology of COVID-19 variants.

Strategy team consists of the principal, school directors, HR Director, and managers of school-based ops.  The Principal will be the final decision-maker about the response in these situations. We may need to take action also based on decisions by the NYC DOE.  All families will be informed of any confirmed case ASAP.