



GPA School Reopening Frequently Asked Questions

Gompers Preparatory Academy (GPA) will physically open with full in-person instruction, 5 days per week, for the 2021-2022 academic school year.

The school year is scheduled to commence on Monday, August 16, 2021. Classes will begin at 7:30 am; the first day of school is a minimum day and all students will be dismissed at 12:45 pm.

Monday, August 16th is an A-Day.

Our Encore Program (middle school after-school program) will also begin Monday, August 16th, 12:45 - 6:00pm

Where will students Enter and Exit Campus?

Students will enter/exit campus through their assigned entrance/exit.

- 6th Grade will line up in front of school (by front office/auditorium) to enter through the Gates of Wisdom (GOW)
- 7th and 8th grade will enter and exit through the Academic Walk East (AWE) gate located on Hilltop Drive
- 12th Grade - Gate A near room 13 (47th street side)
- 11th Grade - Gate B near room 24 (47th street side)
- 10th Grade - Gate C near room 35 (47th street side)
- 9th Grade - Gate D near room 45 (47th street side)

What is the process for Middle School getting to Encore after school?

Middle school students participating in Encore (middle school after-school program) will sign-in at the lunch tables by the Dining Hall immediately after-school. Students will not be allowed to leave campus and return to Encore.

Will GPA offer distance learning if parents do not want to send their child for in person instruction?

GPA will **not** be offering a Distance Learning option for the 2021-2022 school year. If you want to continue with a virtual Distance Learning model, you will need to disenroll with GPA and enroll with another school that offers such a virtual program.

Will students be required to be vaccinated before returning to campus?

No. At this time, public K-12 schools are not allowed to require COVID vaccinations.

What can I, as a parent, do to feel confident that my child won't become infected with COVID?

Get vaccinated. All children 12 years and older, along with adult family members, are strongly advised to get vaccinated. It's the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from the virus. For more information about the COVID vaccine visit www.cdc.gov

What is being done to make sure students under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination are as safe as possible?

Students in grade six have been placed in cohort groups and will remain with the same students throughout the day. In addition, optional outdoor learning spaces will be available for use, a separate dining area has been designated and lunch will be distributed separately to students in 6th grade.

What are you doing to ensure that it is safe for students to return to campus?

The safety of our school community remains our top priority. Throughout the pandemic we have relied upon, and will continue to rely on health guidance and data from the California Department of Public Health.

Our school will feel and operate very differently. Some of the safety measures you can expect to see on our GPA Campus are:

- ❖ **Health Screening** - Pre-health screenings should be conducted at home for everyone prior to entering campus.

GPA SCREENING QUESTIONS:

1. **Have you experienced any of the following symptoms in the past 48 hours:**
 - fever or chills
 - cough
 - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - fatigue
 - muscle or body aches
 - headache
 - new loss of taste or smell
 - sore throat
 - congestion or runny nose
 - nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
2. **Have you been in close physical contact in the last 14 days with:**
Close physical contact is defined as being within 6 feet of an infected/symptomatic person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 48 hours before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic individuals, 48 hours prior to test specimen collection). **Anyone who is known to have laboratory-confirmed COVID-19? - OR- Anyone who has any symptoms consistent with COVID-19?**
3. **Are you isolating or quarantining because you may have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 or are worried that you may be sick with COVID-19?**
4. **Are you currently waiting on the results of a COVID-19 test?**
5. **Have you traveled in the past 10 days?** Travel is defined as any trip that is overnight AND on public transportation (plane, train, bus, Uber, Lyft, cab, etc.) OR any trip that is overnight AND with people who are not in your household.

You may come to campus if you are able to answer “No” to all questions. If you answer “yes” to any of the above questions, you will need to contact the school for next steps.

- ❖ **Sanitizing/Disinfecting** - Our custodial staff has been trained on the proper disinfecting protocols outlined by health guidelines and our team uses EPA approved disinfecting solutions. Campus buildings and classrooms are sanitized on a daily basis.

- ❖ **Electrostatic Sprayers** - GPA has electrostatic sprayers which allow us to safely disinfect all hard surfaces and porous materials in a more efficient manner.
- ❖ **HVAC** - Our heating and air conditioning system has been inspected. Filters have been upgraded. The air exchange has also been adjusted to maximize the amount of outside air circulating through the system.
- ❖ **Sneeze Guards/Plexiglass Barriers** - Desktop sneeze guards and standing plastic barriers are available for use.
- ❖ **PPE** - GPA has built up a stock of disposable masks, cloth masks, N95 NIOSH respirator masks, disposable gloves, face shields, hand sanitizer, and disinfecting wipes for use by students and staff.
- ❖ **Contactless Infrared Thermometers** - GPA has infrared thermometers for contactless temperature checks.
- ❖ **Hand Sanitizing Dispensers** - GPA has hand sanitizing dispensers placed in classrooms/offices/common areas.
- ❖ **Hand-Washing Stations** - Portable hand-washing stations have been placed in outdoor areas to provide multiple opportunities for proper hand hygiene throughout the day.
- ❖ **Canopies/Tents** - Outdoor canopies and tables have been strategically placed outside of many academic spaces for alternative instructional seating.
- ❖ **Imaging Camera Scanners** - Facial imaging cameras are located at the entrance of the main office for screening essential visitors and workers entering the campus.
- ❖ **Air Purifiers** - We have placed air purification systems in classrooms and indoor spaces. They contain HEPA filters.
- ❖ **Medical Tent** - We have a separate medical tent that will be utilized by anyone that is experiencing symptoms and needs to be isolated for further evaluation.
- ❖ **COVID Signage/Information**- Decals, posters, floor markers, and signs have been posted throughout campus indicating the use of face coverings, locations of hand sanitizing stations, entrance protocols, and other important information related to COVID safety.
- ❖ **Full-Time Nurse** - GPA has an incredible Registered Nurse to address COVID-19 questions or concerns. The nurse has always been an essential

part of *GPA*. Now, during this pandemic, we have even more appreciation for how truly essential she is. When you see “Nurse Allie” on campus, make sure you show your gratitude.

What happens if a student develops COVID symptoms?

Students who develop COVID-19 symptoms will be sent to the nurses office where they will be further evaluated, parents will be notified, and follow up information will be provided.

What if a student or staff has tested positive for COVID?

In the event there is an infection and/or exposure, we will follow the most updated [CDPH guidelines](#) and make decisions based on the San Diego County [COVID Decision Tree, K-12 schools](#)

Will parents be notified if there is a positive COVID case at GPA?

Yes. If it has been determined that your child may have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID, you will be notified.

What is the face covering guidance for students and staff?

Face coverings will be required to enter campus and in all indoor settings. Face coverings will be *optional* during outdoor activities and while eating during lunch.

What if my child is exempt from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition?

Those who are exempt from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition, must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it.

Will my child be required to wear a mask if they are fully vaccinated?

Yes. GPA will follow CPH guidelines for face coverings in schools.

What if my child forgets to wear/ bring their face covering?

GPA will provide a face covering to students who inadvertently fail to bring a face covering to school to prevent unnecessary absences.

Will GPA enforce physical distancing?

No. Recent evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented. In accordance with [CDC K-12 School Guidance](#), GPA will layer multiple prevention strategies (e.g. masking, air circulation, HEPA filters, daily sanitizing, contact tracing, etc) when it is not possible to maintain physical distancing.

Will I be able to visit my child's classroom or be on campus as a parent?

No. GPA will be limiting nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations at this time, due to the recent rate of COVID transmission in our community. As a result there will be no 6th Grade Commitment Day, Senior Convocation or Freshman Orientation.

How many students will be in a classroom?

Class sizes will vary. Most classes will have no more than 35 students.

Will students and staff be tested?

Yes, GPA plans to have response testing available to all exposed unvaccinated students and staff. In addition, testing will be available for all symptomatic students and staff, regardless of their vaccination status.

Since you are minimizing the number of visitors on campus, will parents be supplied with pictures of the classrooms to see how they are set up?

Once you have your child's schedule you may ask individual teachers for a picture of their classroom design.

Will my child still receive Breakfast and lunch at school?

Breakfast, lunch and a super meal will be provided for each student. Your child will be provided a take home super and breakfast meal as they exit for the day, breakfast should be consumed prior to coming to school.

If I have additional questions, who can I reach out to?

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

CBO Parsons- Food Services - jparsons@gomperscharter.org

Assistant Director Hurlbert - jhurlbert@gomperscharter.org,

Ivette Limon- Human Resource Manager - ilimon@gomperscharter.org,

Allison Baher - School Nurse - abaher@gomperscharter.org

Ambria Bursey- Encore Coordinator- abursey@gomperscharter.org