

COVID-19 Mitigation Plan

Valor Prep AZ will follow all federal, state, and municipal guidelines set forth by respective entities.

Wellness Checks

Several wellness checks should be performed on a student throughout the day. Students with chronic conditions, such as allergies or asthma, may have nasal congestion or a cough without having COVID-19 and should attend school as expected if those symptoms are typical for the student. The purpose of said screenings is to identify individuals who may have COVID-19 or other contagious illnesses and to exclude those individuals from a setting to reduce the risk of transmission to others.

Before Site Attendance – COVID/Contagious Illness Screening:

Students and staff health should be evaluated health prior to school site attendance. Students and staff should seek medical diagnosis to rule out or confirm COVID-19 or another contagious illness if they suspect they have been infected. The school should be notified if anyone of the symptoms listed below appear.

- Temperature of 100.4 or greater
- Fever or chills
- Nagging cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Continuous headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Before Building Admission:

Administrative staff onsite will perform a visual wellness and temperature check on all staff and students before entrance into the main part of the school building. Should anyone have a temperature of 100.4 or greater and/or be observed to have any of the contagious symptoms listed above, admission to the building may be prohibited.

Throughout the Day:

Administrative staff and teachers who observe students or other staff members to have any of the contagious symptoms outlined above at any point throughout the day will be sent to the office administrator for a temperature check. For any student who registers a temperature of 100.4 or greater and/or present any of the symptoms outlined above, he or she will be isolated, and the legal guardian will be notified to pick-up the student. The parent/guardian will be asked to take their student to seek medical attention or avoid contact with others until 72 hours after the fever is gone and symptoms of acute infection resolve. For staff, should a temperature of 100.4 or greater register along with symptoms outlined above, the staff member will be sent home immediately and asked to seek medical attention.

Contagious Illness Diagnosis

Staff and students who seek medical attention and are diagnosed with either COVID-19 or another contagious illness shall immediately report the illness to the school administration. All instances of COVID-19 diagnoses will be anonymously (per the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act guidelines) shared with students and staff via email. The Arizona State Health Department will be notified per state guidelines.

Excused Absences

The school board defines an excused absence as being an absence due to illness, doctor appointment, bereavement, family emergencies and out-of-school suspensions not to exceed 10 percent of the instructional days scheduled for the school year. Valor Preparatory Academy of Arizona also permits a student to be excused for religious purposes, not to exceed one school week. Should the absence be due to religious purposes, the legal guardian will provide written consent.

If an absence occurs relating to any other term or condition that is not specifically designated herein, the absence shall be counted as unexcused. Students absent for ten consecutive school days, except for excused absences identified herein, shall be withdrawn from the school, pursuant to A.R.S. §15-901 (A)(2).

Chronic Illness/Extended Inability to Participate

Students with chronic health problems, who are unable to attend regular classes for intermittent periods of one or more consecutive days because of illness, disease, pregnancy complications, or accident as certified by a health professional or registered nurse practitioner, may be excused from school. All exceptions must be certified by an appropriate health professional and will be reviewed on an individual basis per A.R.S. §15-346.

Social Distancing and Face Mask Expectations

Students and staff will practice social distancing per current federal, state, or municipal guidelines. Students will be seated six feet apart when feasible. Students will be required to wear masks unless otherwise directed by a governing agency. All staff must wear a mask when on-site. Any employee may wear gloves; however, gloves are not required.

Students will be grouped into smaller cohorts to minimize possible contact among students and adults. Both iCode and Valor Prep buildings will be utilized for schooling to help facilitate and maintain recommended social distancing measures. Students will be divided among the two buildings and teachers will adjust location unless a specific room is needed for course content. Should the student body number exceed the amount that allows for six feet of social distancing, the school will adopt an a.m. and p.m. schedule.

Students and families who are not comfortable attending onsite are invited to have a conversation with administration. Arrangements and accommodations will be made so that the student and family feel safe with school attendance.

Cleaning Procedures

The school will follow daily cleaning protocols. Door handles, water fountains, toilet handles, sink handles, and other common touch surfaces will be wiped down with disinfectant during breaks, during transitions, and at the end of the day. All equipment will be wiped down with disinfectant at the end of the day.

Sanitization Stations

Sanitization stations with sanitizer made up of at least 60% alcohol will be required in multiple areas to provide convenient access for students and staff. Sanitization Station Locations:

- Inside the front door on a table
- Inside each classroom near the door
- On each table common areas