

Kanu o ka 'Āina New Century Public Charter School

# **Kauhale Campus**

# **Health and Safety Guide**

SY 2022-2023



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## Po'okumu Message

The Kanu o ka 'Āina, Kauhale program, will provide in person on campus instruction for grade K-12 for school year 2022-2023.

Kanu o ka 'Āina will continue to put the health and safety of all members at the forefront. The following information contains details regarding the safety measures in place to ensure the entire organization is fulfilling the kuleana of keeping all members including our community safe. We recognize that the knowledge about COVID-19 is continuously shifting, and with that will be moments where the school may also have to make a sudden shift in health and safety approaches to make sure that the most up-to-date practices are followed. Kanu o ka 'Āina will continue to seek guidance from the Center of Disease Control, the Department of Health, and state and local agencies. Kanu o ka 'Āina is prepared to adapt to any shift by monitoring data on our island and in our community.

***This is a working document and it will be edited as situations change and more information is provided by the Center of Disease Control, the Department of Health, and state and local agencies. The most updated version can be found on our website <https://kanuokaaina.org/>***

Mahalo,  
Nā Po'okumu  
Keōmailani Case  
Kanoa Castro

# COVID-19

## Kanu Health & Safety Guidelines

### *Promoting Pono Behaviors and Practices*

#### Stay Home when Sick - at home wellness check prior to coming to campus

Kanu expects that all members of the school community will monitor and check their health and wellness before coming to campus. At home wellness checks should be conducted daily and 'ohana should consider the following before arriving on campus.

Stay home when sick. People with symptoms of infectious diseases, including COVID-19, influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and gastrointestinal infections should **stay home and get tested** for COVID-19. **Staying home when sick is an important mitigation strategy** to keep COVID-19 and other common infectious diseases from spreading in schools.

- Students and staff should stay home when:
  - They are sick or test positive for COVID-19.
  - If experiencing symptoms of any illness or [COVID-19 symptoms](#), test to prevent spread in schools.
    - 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
    - *This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as they learn more about COVID-19.*
  - They are not up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations and were a household or nonschool-related close contact.
  - See Isolation and Quarantine Guidance for Schools for which close contacts are required to quarantine.

#### **Additional Resources**

Kanu encourages all members to seek out the proper information and protocols to follow in the time of COVID-19. The [CDC: What to Do If You Are Sick](#) information is helpful.

- The [CDC: When to Quarantine](#) link provides guidance on information regarding when people need to quarantine. Employees and families should utilize this information to determine if they or their children should stay home.
- DOH digital/video resources:
  - Washing Your Hands <https://youtu.be/hAb>
  - Stay Home When You Are Sick <https://youtu.be/yVIC>
  - Isolation & Quarantine <https://youtu.be/DIDkE>

Social Distancing <https://youtu.be/2b>

## Ventilation

Improving ventilation is an important COVID-19 prevention strategy that can reduce SARS-CoV-2 virus in the air. Bringing fresh outdoor air into a building reduces virus concentration inside.

All rooms on the Kanu campus will allow for proper ventilation by opening windows and doors to allow for air flow.

- Kanu has acquired air purifiers and has placed them throughout the school in areas where airflow may be disrupted.

[CDC: Ventilation Information](#)

- Please have your keiki dress appropriately for ventilated rooms. They should come with a jacket and layered clothing daily.

## Masking

All individuals on campus including employees, students (in the Kanu K-12 program), parents, and campus visitors will wear a well-fitted mask indoors that covers the mouth and nose consistent with CDC guidelines.

- Masks must be worn at all times indoors.
- Masks are optional in an outdoor setting.
- We recommend that your keiki wear a properly fitting three-ply surgical mask.
- Masks can be removed while the individual is actively eating or drinking. Eating and drinking will be held outdoors when possible.
- If any individual forgets or breaks their mask, the school will provide a replacement mask.
- A face shield will not take the place of a mask.
- All members are asked to bring a mask to wear daily and pack a back-up mask.

[CDC Considerations for Mask Wearing](#)

## Physical Distancing

- According to the updated DOH guidance, physical distancing is no longer part of the layered mitigation strategies. When Covid community transmission levels are high, Kanu will utilize physical distancing when possible in the classroom setting and in school vehicles.

## Hand Hygiene and Sanitation Stations

Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette (i.e., covering coughs and sneezes) is a mitigation strategy to keep from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses including COVID-19.

The Kanu campus is equipped with hand sanitation stations and sinks for hand washing throughout the campus. Sanitizer is also readily available in each class and targeted areas around campus.

- All members are encouraged to avoid frequently touching their mouth, nose, eyes, and mask.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
- Throw used tissues in the trash and wash hands immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.
- Good hygiene practices will be implemented. This includes frequent handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer often, and keeping their personal areas clean. [CDC: Handwashing](#)
- Kanu members will teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students and staff.
- All members on campus shall sanitize hands or wash hands especially during key times of the day (e.g., before and after eating, after recess.)
- Hand sanitizer will be available in areas not equipped with a sink. In areas with a sink, soap and paper towels will be provided.
- Kumu will reinforce with students not to share food, drinks or personal belongings with others. This includes snacks, breakfast/lunch items, jackets or any other types of clothing, and earphones/airpods.

Clear routines and expectations for washing hands and sanitation will be implemented in all areas on campus.

[CDC Handwashing and Sanitation Information](#)

## PPE

Every classroom will be equipped with a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) box. Each box contains:

- Hand sanitizer
- Gloves
- Disposable face masks
- Disinfecting wipes
- Sanitation gown

## Testing

- At home tests kits are available from the school office if requested and while supplies last.
- At home test kits may be provided for large school events for optional testing if community levels are high.
- Here is a link for COVID testing options per island.
  - [Link 1 - DOH](#)

### Screening Testing, Travel

- Students and staff who have traveled should test for COVID-19 if they develop any symptoms or between 3 to 5 days after returning home regardless of symptoms.
- Students and staff should be strongly encouraged to wear a well-fitting mask for 5 days following travel. (This bullet point applies if indoor masks become optional in the future.)
- Quarantine is not required while awaiting post-travel test results.

## Cleaning and Disinfection

Daily cleaning and sanitation is an important part of preventing the spread of any infectious disease. Kanu will be sanitizing all classroom and bathroom spaces with disinfectants that have demonstrated effectiveness against viruses similar to SARS-CoV-2 on hard, non-porous surfaces at the end of each day.

## ‘Ohana Bubbles and Cohorting

Kanu will implement and adjust ‘ohana bubbles and cohorting if community transmission levels are high, and when possible.

## Vans and Buses

During the 1st quarter of SY 22-23, Kanu will implement social distancing on Kanu vehicles as much as possible and especially when Covid community transmission levels are high.

This policy will be reevaluated as needed.

## Visitors

All visitors are required to check in at the main Kanu office in the Hālau Pōki‘i building. Upon arrival, visitors are expected to follow all school protocols.

# In the Classroom

## Seating

- Seating/desks will be spaced at least 3 feet apart when possible.
- Kumu will configure desks and seating to reduce class exposure.
- When Covid community transmission levels are high or if in school clustering, desks will be turned to face the same direction (rather than facing each other), or have students sit on only one side of tables and spaced apart.

## Food

Students will not to share food, drinks or personal belongings with others:

- a. Snacks
- b. Breakfast/Lunch items
- c. Jackets
- d. Earphones/Airpods

Note: Prepackaged food is allowed.

## Safety Measures Regarding the Use of Space

All members utilizing a space on campus will be encouraged to keep their personal areas clean. Sanitation will be provided for each classroom space.

## Students or Staff Who Become Sick at School

If a student or staff member becomes sick at school the individual will be separated from others. The Chalet is the designated quarantine location for students that develop a fever or COVID-19 symptoms throughout the day.

- Each 'ohana will need to have a person who can quickly pick up their keiki from the quarantine area.
- Department of Health guidelines for cleaning and sanitation will be followed.

Return to school protocol for individuals with symptoms that have low clinical suspicion for COVID19 and no known exposure. (not a positive COVID-19 case)

- Individuals may return to school once:
  - Symptoms have improved; and
  - There has been no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications



## Positive COVID-19 Case

In the event of a positive COVID-19 case(s) on campus, Kanu administration will provide group/class notifications to those impacted and implement timely sanitation of the area.

'Ohana should communicate to the school if their keiki has any symptoms of COVID-19, tested positive for COVID-19, or when they are a household or other non-school related close contact.

## Re-entry to school after known Positive COVID case

- In consultation with DOH and CDC guidelines, the school will determine the actions needed once a positive case is determined.
- The Kanu office will contact each 'ohana via phone, email, or by utilizing the school's messaging system.
- The school will determine the return to school date for any students impacted by a positive Covid case and keep in communication with the 'ohana.

## DOH Isolation and Quarantine Guidance for K-12 Schools

The DOH have updated their guidance around isolation and quarantine. Kanu will shift to follow the Covid-19 Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) guidance.

- Please view the link below. It will provide information on isolation, quarantine, and close contacts.
  - [COVID-19 Hawai'i State Department of Health Guidance for K-12 Schools](#)