



Covid-19 Protocols

(as of September 28, 2021)

The main priority for Discovery Programs Inc. ("Discovery") is the safety and health of Discovery personnel, students, parents, other family members (including caregivers, if any), guests, visitors and all other participants in Discovery programs (collectively the "Discovery Community"). The following preventative measures (together with all modifications we reserve the right to make from time to time, the "Protocols") are based on New York City Department of Health ("NYCDOH") and the Center for Disease Control ("CDC") guidelines.

Each member of the Discovery Community is required to comply with the Protocols.

Vaccine Requirement

- Discovery is requiring all staff, students ages 12 and older and all parents/caregivers entering our building to show proof of full vaccination against Covid-19. The first dose must be taken by September 30th. This follows NYC's "Key to NYC" Vaccination Mandate which requires proof of vaccination for entry into certain indoor venues. When a student in the program turns 12, parents must show proof of Covid-19 vaccination for their child to continue to be enrolled in and attend class.
- Upon registration for classes, Discovery will inform parents what forms of vaccination proof are accepted and how they may show that proof.

Health Screening/Hygiene

- Discovery Programs will not be doing a digital health screening, rather we will do a verbal health screening prior to entry into the building.
- Members of the Discovery Community should stay home and not come to class, camp, a recital or a competition (if and when permitted), or any other Discovery activity (collectively the "Activity") or to work if:

- they are experiencing *new unexplained* symptoms such as one of the following:
 - Fever and/or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat (Parents may show proof of a negative rapid or antigen test for their child to attend Activities)
 - Congestion or runny nose (Parents may show proof of a negative rapid or antigen test for their child to attend Activities)
 - Body aches and fatigue
 - Persistent Headache
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- they have tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 10 days,
- they are unvaccinated and have been exposed as a “close contact” of a confirmed or suspected Covid-19 case within the last 10 days or are in a mandated quarantine for 10 days. In the Protocols, a “close contact” is anyone who spent 10 or more minutes, cumulative, over a 24-hour period within 6 feet of an individual with Covid-19 during their infectious period regardless of mask or face-covering use. This includes a child exposed in school who is allowed to go to school under the recent NYC DOE guidelines and other schools’ similar “test to stay” guidelines, or
- they are fully vaccinated and have been exposed as a “close contact” of a confirmed or suspected Covid-19 case within the last 10 days in a *high-risk* way i.e., the infected person is part of their household or they were unmasked for more than 10 minutes with the infected person.
- *Parents shall inform Discovery if and when their child is absent from Activities for any of the reasons above , or any other reason and discuss with Discovery when their child can return to Activities thereafter. Parents*

shall send an email or call alerting Discovery of the absence and details about the absence.

- All members of the Discovery Community shall wash/sanitize their hands upon entering the building, at regular intervals while in the building and upon departing the building.
- All members of the Discovery Community must adhere to any mandated Federal and NY State travel advisories or quarantines.

Face Coverings

- All members of the Discovery Community over 2 years old shall wear a mask or face covering upon arrival, while on the premises, and during Activities. Masks should be at least 2-3 layers, have a secure fit and cover the mouth and nose. Gaiters and face coverings with exhalation vents or valves are not allowed.
- Discovery also recognizes that some 2-3-year-old children may have difficulty wearing the face covering or keeping it on for the length of their class. In these cases, we will encourage but not force the individual child to wear the covering.
- Masks will remain on through all activities and the only exception is if a coach believes there is a safety issue and the face covering needs to be removed. These exceptions, which we do not want to make the norm, would only be at the express direction of the coach, not the student or parent/caregiver.
- Discovery will have medical face masks on hand should a member of the Discovery Community need a replacement during Activities.

Drop-off/Pick-up

- Drop off and pickup for Activities will take place outside the building. Students, parents/caregivers should not arrive any earlier than 10 minutes before class begins unless prior arrangement has been made with Discovery.
- It is highly recommended that students have their class attire already on underneath their street clothes, however, students may use the bathrooms to change. We recommend students arrive 10 minutes early to do so.

- Only parents/caregivers for toddlers under age 3 will be admitted into the building. Only one parent/caregiver will be admitted per child. For students age 3 or older, all classes will be drop-off and parents/caregivers will not be admitted to the building. If a child is 3 or older and has an issue with separation, their parent/caregiver should inform Discovery prior to the start of the semester. As noted above, any parent or caregiver entering the building must show proof of vaccination.
- Students must arrive with i) any shoes or attire required for class if they are not already wearing those items (see class Guidelines on our website and in your Confirmation Email, ii) a full water bottle, and iii) their own bag of chalk in the case of advanced or team gymnasts, which Discovery will provide to them at their first class.

Distancing/Staggering

- Discovery will strive for six (6) foot distancing between students for children ages 3 and older. Coaches will continue to spot gymnastics students as necessary for safety.
- Members of the Discovery Community generally shall maintain a distance of at least 3-6 feet from one another at all times, unless safety or the activity requires a shorter distance such as gymnastics spotting, diaper changing, first aid, etc.
- Class sizes will be smaller, approximately 7 children per class. In the gym, only 4 groups of 7 children will be admitted at a time. For ballet and parkour, class sizes will be 8-10 children.
- Class times will be staggered.
- Only 4 children will be allowed in the restroom at a time.

Classrooms/Cleaning/Disinfecting

- No member of the Discovery Community shall wear outdoor shoes in the gym or on the dance floor.
- All classrooms and large equipment will be cleaned and disinfected using approved Covid-19 products and a log of cleaning will be maintained.
- High touch surfaces will be cleaned in between classes.

- Any equipment, mats, toys, and props used will be cleaned in between students, classes, and rotations.
- Materials for our early childhood classrooms will not be shared among students within the class except for toys that can be easily cleaned. Dress up clothes, puppets, and soft toys will not be used in our early childhood classrooms.
- Partner activities and group activities where children hold hands will not be utilized.
- Gymnasts shall only use their own bag of chalk.

Ventilation

- The HVAC system that runs when Discovery is in session was upgraded this summer and has a Merv-13 filter. It is 100% external (fresh air) intake, meaning there is continuous outside air being pumped into the building when the system is on.
- We have purchased four air purifiers for the gym to help clean the air and increase air flow between the auditorium and the gym. We have also purchased 1 air purifier for the lobby.
- At Franciscan Community Center (for Saturday class), the HVAC system will be turned on, doors will remain open for air flow, and an air purifier will be utilized.

Handling a Confirmed or Suspected Case of Covid-19

- Parents shall inform Discovery as soon as possible, but within 12 hours, if their child or other member of the household (including a caregiver, if any) has attended a Discovery Activity and has tested positive for Covid-19 or is experiencing symptoms of Covid-19. Staff shall also report if they or someone in their household tests positive or develops symptoms of Covid-19.
- Discovery is obligated to report that case to the NYCDOH.
- “Close contacts” will be notified by email first and then all families will be informed by email if there is a confirmed positive case of Covid-19 in the Discovery Community. Discovery will maintain the identity of the person with Covid-19 confidential to the greatest extent possible. We will only be

able to report this information if a family reports this information to us. It is important that parents are not “opted out” of our emails and that we always have each parent’s correct email addresses on file.

- We will also be taking the information of every person that attends a class with a child under age 3 for contact tracing purposes.

Discovery will follow any updated NYCDOH guidelines once we are notified of a confirmed positive Covid-19 case in the Discovery Community. According to the NYCDOH, in most cases:

- If a staff member, student, parent or anyone else in their household (including a caregiver, if any) has tested positive for COVID-19, they shall not attend class or any other Activity until the following occurs:
 - It has been at least 10 days since their symptoms started, or from the date that the specimen was obtained for their positive Covid-19 test (if they never experienced symptoms),
 - They have not had a fever for the last 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, and
 - Their overall illness has improved.
- All unvaccinated “close contacts” of the infected person must quarantine and shall not attend class or any other Activity for 10 days after their last contact with the infected person, unless they have had Covid-19 within the last 3 months. It is recommended that “close contacts” get tested 1-2 times during the 10 days following their exposure and immediately after experiencing symptoms.
- All fully vaccinated “close contacts” should do daily symptom monitoring and may attend class as long as they remain asymptomatic. It is recommended that they get tested 1-2 times during the 10 days following their exposure and immediately after experiencing symptoms.
- Discovery may require proof of a negative PCR test before “close contacts” return to Discovery Activities.