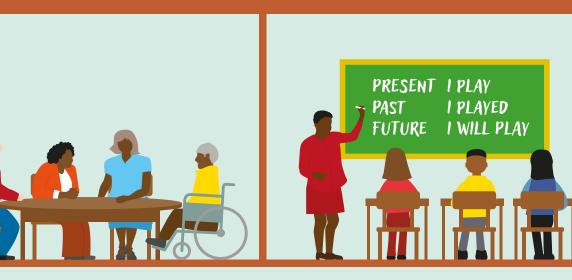
Shared Use in the Summer: Schools & Community Health

Why more communities are opening school spaces to the public when classes are out



community meetings, gardens, polling stations, summer harvest events, cultural groups, festivals and markets, and more

SCHOOL







Foster local knowledge, skills, and economic growth: job training and certification programs, continuing education classes, garden and kitchen space* for use by local food growers or nutrition/cooking classes, work spaces for small businesses or nonprofits, and more

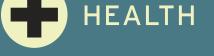
*Additional requirements may apply to kitchen use. As with all shared use agreements or policies, a local attorney can help address concerns about legal requirements, maintenance, and liability.











- Physical activity can reduce chronic disease and improve physical and mental health.
- Social connectedness can alleviate stress and strengthen communities.
- Gardening can increase fruit and vegetable consumption and provide physical activity, social connection, and stress relief.



EQUITY

- Schools can provide safe, convenient places for physical activity in neighborhoods with few parks.
- Community activities
 can help decrease stress
 and loneliness, which are
 becoming increasingly
 common among residents of
 high-poverty areas.
- Shared use can provide opportunities for summer, after-school, and continuing education programs for all, regardless of socioeconomic status.