

Returning to School and Health & Safety

Updated protocols as of September 28, 2021

Masks



- Beginning on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 – Masks will be **strongly encouraged** for all students while indoors at school.
- To support contact tracing if a family chooses that their children not wear a mask at school, parents are required to [fill out an online form](#) indicating their choice. The form is due by Wednesday, October 6, 2021.
- All faculty and staff will continue to wear masks in the presence of students while indoors or in public indoor spaces.
- Parents and visitors on campus will be required to wear masks in the presence of students while indoors or in public indoor spaces.
- All students will continue to wear a mask while attending school Mass, or in other large group gatherings.
- There may be a need to return to requiring masks for students (either by class, grade, or the whole school) if certain thresholds are met. When the threshold is met, the required mask policy for those groups will be re-instated for a period of at least 14 days. Please see the detailed threshold information below.

Return to Required Mask Wearing Thresholds



It may be necessary for masks to be required if specific thresholds are met. In consultation with our Health & Safety committee and the Harris County Public Health:

- If 10% of the students in a classroom (approximately 2 students) test positive for COVID, then all the students in that classroom will be required to wear a mask indoors for a period of 14 days.
- If 10% of the students in a grade (approximately 6 students) test positive for COVID, then all the students in that grade will be required to wear a mask indoors for a period of 14 days.
- If 5% of the total student body (approximately 30 students) test positive for COVID, then all the students in the school—all grade levels—will be required to wear a mask indoors for a period of 14 days.
- If there is a significant spike in COVID positive numbers and we reach 10% of the total student body (63 students) Harris County Public Health reserves the right to close the school to in-person instruction for a period of 14 days.

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Continuing and Updated Protocols



The following protocols remain in place for all students:

- Students will move throughout the day to different classrooms.
- Students will eat lunch either in the Cafeteria or outside at picnic tables.
- Ancillary classes will happen in their respective classrooms (Art, Drama, Music, & Tech).
- All recess restrictions remain lifted.
- While outdoors, masks will be optional for all students, faculty, and staff.
- 5th–8th grade students will continue to not dress out for PE.
- Half of the student body will attend Mass in the Church, while the other half will attend in the auditorium. Groups will rotate every week. Masks are still required for all students attending Mass.
- Scheduled community events will still happen.
- Masks will not be required for indoor PE or indoor sports (Volleyball, and Basketball)

Isolation and Quarantine Clarifications and Updates

UPDATED: September 28, 2021

Please see the clarifications and updates below to the Isolation and Quarantine policies that accompany the daily flow chart. It is important to contact our school nurse, [Helen Heap](#) with any questions regarding COVID policies and questions.

Isolation Policy (I tested positive when may I return?)



- In the case an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:
- 1 day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications); and
- the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
- at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

Quarantine Policy



- Close contacts are considered individuals who are within 3 feet if both parties are masked or 6 feet if one or neither party is masked for 15 minutes over a 24 hour period.
- Close contacts are required to wear masks for 14 days, even after return to school.
- Those individuals who are either vaccinated or have tested positive for COVID in the last 90 days and have recovered do not need to quarantine.
- Vaccinated students should get tested 3 to 5 days after COVID-19 exposure and will be required to wear a mask for 14 days after exposure or until test result is negative.
- 7-day quarantine with PCR test and no symptoms: Individual tests on day 5 after exposure and after receiving a negative PCR test and has no symptoms may return on day 8. Individual is then monitored until the 14th day at school for symptoms.
- 10-day quarantine with NO test and NO symptoms: No PCR test and no symptoms individual may return on day 11. Individual is then monitored until the 14th day at school for symptoms.
- If the individual has symptoms, they must immediately self-isolate, retest for COVID-19, and contact our school [Nurse Helen Heap](#).

Health & Safety: May I Enter The School?

UPDATED: September 28 2021

Each day, it will be important for each parent, student and staff member to carefully assess whether they can safely enter campus. This flow chart describes the decision making process by which individuals should determine whether or not they should stay home, or enter the school campus.

It is important to contact our school nurse, [Helen Heap](#) every time your child is absent per the flowchart below.

