

January 2022 COVID Protocol Update

Our school board wanted to provide a framework Covenant will follow until circumstances or mandates require us to change. Therefore, we are asking parents to rely on their medical doctor to help determine the best way to guide the health decisions for their children. Below you'll find our current plan, and it should clarify how we move forward as a school, trusting in God's providential protection.

We ask that parents inform the school office of any health issues that arise in your family. We will keep track of health issues to help ensure we keep up with our students' health journeys.

Symptomatic?:

If your child is showing symptoms of COVID, please keep them home and get them tested immediately. COVID Symptoms include fever or chills, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, loss of taste or smell, headaches, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. If your child tests negative for COVID, **they may not return to school until symptom-free for 48 hours.**

If your child tests positive, please refer to the quarantining guidelines below.

Vaccinations:

As a school, we cannot say if the vaccination is right for you or your family. Therefore, before being vaccinated, please consult your doctor.

Face-coverings:

It is important to note that we use the terms "face-coverings" and "mask" interchangeably. Face shields and masks that completely cover the nose and mouth are acceptable at Covenant. **Please follow your doctor's medical advice when determining if masking your child is right for them.**

We recommend but do not require the use of face-coverings for all adults and children while on our campus to aid in slowing the transmission of COVID. At this time, the state and local governments have not mandated face-coverings for schools. **Therefore, we will not require face-coverings.** However, if the state or local authorities mandate face-coverings, our school will have no choice but to comply. Furthermore, as a school, we reserve the right to enact a face-covering mandate in response to any future rise in COVID cases.

Quarantine Guidelines:

Many current quarantine recommendations set forth by various health organizations make it very difficult for Covenant to comply with and remain effective in educating our students in class. However, we are monitoring our situation on campus and strive to provide a safe environment for our faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

Positive COVID Test:

Those who test positive for COVID must not attend school for at least **five days** from their positive test date. In addition, a student testing positive for COVID may only return to campus if their symptoms have begun resolving by day five. We also ask **siblings to quarantine** along with the sibling who tested positive.

The school prefers a follow-up COVID test from the child who tested positive to confirm the student is no longer infected by the virus before returning to school. **Please follow your doctor's medical advice on how long you need to quarantine beyond the five days Covenant requires.**

"Close Contact":

If your child has close contact with a confirmed COVID patient, they can voluntarily quarantine for 5 to 10 days to monitor for signs of COVID symptoms. If symptoms begins, please follow up with a COVID test. **Please follow your doctor's instructions on how you handle "close contact" situations.**

Once the student is symptom-free for 48 hours after the fifth day, he/she may return to the classroom. It is recommended but not required that the student remain masked until day ten.

Lunch:

Our faculty and cafe team will work to ensure our students are as spread out as possible within the confines of our cafe facilities. Regular cleaning and sanitization are ongoing.

Remote Learning:

There is no option for long-term remote learning. Remote learning is only available for quarantining periods.

Eligibility guidelines are detailed below.

Eligibility:

Any student voluntarily quarantining due to COVID exposure or mandated quarantining due to a positive COVID test will be eligible for remote learning. **We require parents to inform the office immediately** of positive tests or exposure incidents.

Zoom & Technology:

After the office is informed, your student's teacher will reach out to provide Zoom credentials.

Unfortunately, we have minimal help with technical issues if they arise while your student works remotely from home. We will make every effort possible to help but cannot guarantee immediate availability.

Make-up Work:

After the office is notified of the quarantine, your student's teacher will begin to collect books and work your child will need for their remote learning time. We cannot guarantee how quickly our faculty can have your student's books and work available for pick-up, but we will inform you just as soon as it is.

Make-up work must be submitted according to the teacher's instructions. Make-up work submissions can be penalized if they are late or not submitted correctly. This policy is required for on-campus students; therefore, we will hold that same standard for our temporary remote students.

Sanitization:

Our custodial staff has scheduled daily classroom and restroom sanitizations. These efforts will help reduce the spread of viruses at our school.

We will also require students to wash their hands frequently and offer hand sanitizer in every classroom and hallway. In addition, our teachers will diligently sanitize their rooms and their students' hands.