



COVID Policies & Protocols 2021-2022

September 2, 2021

The John Carroll School has made detailed preparations and taken great care to ensure a safe opening of school and the resumption of full and uninterrupted campus activities. Thank you for your support as we endeavor to provide a safe and healthy learning and working environment for all.

The timing of school opening is coinciding with a spike in the spread of the Delta variant. Currently, 15% of all new cases are in the age group 10-19, and the tracking metric of New Cases/100,000 is 17.7 as of this communication - a 154% increase over the 7.0 level earlier in August. While we are hopeful that metrics will once again begin to decline, until they do so it is important for us to adhere to mitigation strategies and protocols designed to protect our students, faculty and staff.

Please review this email carefully to familiarize yourself with the policies and protocols we will be following this school year, and which are derived from guidelines and recommendations from the CDC, Maryland Department of Health, Maryland State Department of Education and the Harford County Health Department.

As always, thank you for your partnership as we work to keep our Patriot community healthy and safe.

Masking

As previously communicated, masking will be required for all students, employees and guests to campus in indoor spaces for as long as new cases per 100,000 remain in the substantial transmission range of 7.1 or higher.

Currently, outdoor areas remain mask optional, but we strongly encourage non-vaccinated students and guests to wear masks.

Additional reminders

- Masks must be two-ply and a solid color. No gaiters are permitted indoors.
- Advisory will be extended and held outdoors when possible to give students a mask break following the first two class periods of each day.
- Due to the [federal order](#) currently in effect, masks must be worn by all individuals while on public transportation conveyances, including public and private school buses.

Quarantine & Isolation Protocols

Quarantine for Close Contacts

In the event we are notified that a student or employee has tested positive for COVID-19, the school nurses will begin contact tracing to identify close contacts who will be required to complete a quarantine period. Some important notes on this:

- Vaccinated students or students who have tested positive for COVID in the past 90 days will only be required to quarantine if they display symptoms. Additionally, we recommend that vaccinated students who have been identified as a close contact take a COVID test 3-5 days after exposure to the positive case.
- Non-vaccinated students will be required to quarantine if they have been within three feet of an individual who has tested positive for more than 15 cumulative minutes and have not been properly masked. If all parties are properly masked, with masks fully covering nose and mouth, and are at least three feet apart, quarantine will not be required.
- Non-vaccinated students may be asked to quarantine if the school experiences an identified outbreak in a specific cohort, such as an athletics team or club. An outbreak is [defined by the CDC](#) as two or more cases within the group, in a 14-day period, that are epidemiologically linked and not from the same household.

Based on current John Carroll community metrics, students required to quarantine will not be permitted to return to school until 10 days after the day they were exposed to a positive case (the day of exposure is considered Day 0), regardless of negative test results.

To minimize the likelihood of quarantine situations, John Carroll is taking steps including maintaining the greatest distancing possible during lunch periods and other outdoor activities when masks are off.

Isolation for Positive Cases

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19, he or she is required to stay home and isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or, if asymptomatic, from the date of the positive test.

Should a student be required to isolate or quarantine due to COVID, he or she will be provided with Microsoft Teams access to view their classes online.

- Are experiencing even one of the following symptoms that cannot be explained by a pre-existing condition:
 - Fever of 100 or higher
 - Sore throat
 - Cough
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Diarrhea or vomiting
 - New onset of severe headache (especially with fever)
 - New loss of taste of smell

Though not on the official list of symptoms, many COVID cases are reporting runny nose and congestion, so if your child develops these symptoms, we encourage you to keep them home and have them tested, even if your child is vaccinated.

If your student tests positive or comes in close contact with a positive COVID test outside of school, you are required to:

- Notify the school that the student will be out by emailing attendance@johncarroll.org
- Complete the [COVID-19 Reporting Form](#) available on the COVID Updates page of the website which is routed directly to the school nurse.

Events

All third-party rentals and use of indoor facilities are suspended.

While our intent is to host all scheduled campus events this fall, we may need to reschedule or creatively re-format them as conditions evolve. For instance, we are currently exploring options for a safe Homecoming event for students, and will keep you posted as plans are finalized.

Thank you again for your cooperation in helping us protect our Patriots!



The John Carroll School | 703 E. Churchville Road, Bel Air,
Maryland 21014 | 410-838-8333

www.johncarroll.org
Email: info@johncarroll.org

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