



# THE JOHN CARROLL SCHOOL

## 2022-2023 COVID Policies and Protocols – August 25, 2022

The John Carroll School has made detailed preparations and taken great care to ensure a successful and safe 2022-2023 school year. Thank you for your ongoing support as we endeavor to provide a safe and healthy learning and working environment for all.

John Carroll mitigation policies and protocols 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**

John Carroll is currently operating under a **mask-optional** model, with the exception of the requirement to wear a mask as outlined below when returning to school after a positive test.

Students, faculty and staff will be fully supported in their choice to mask or not.

We will continue to monitor community and school metrics and, in the event that cases climb into a substantial or high range, will reinstate mask requirements for as long as conditions necessitate we do so.

### **QUARANTINE & ISOLATION PROTOCOLS**

#### **Quarantine**

In keeping with the latest CDC recommendations, those identified as close contacts of individuals testing positive for COVID but who are asymptomatic **will no longer be required to quarantine**, regardless of vaccination status.

#### **Isolation for Positive Cases**

All persons who test positive for COVID-19 or have suspected COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, should complete isolation as follows:

- Stay home for at least 5 full days from Day 0, which is the date of symptom onset if symptomatic or the date of the positive test if no symptoms
- After Day 5, if the person has no symptoms or if symptoms are improved and they have had no fever for at least 24 hours without medication, they may return to school on Day 6 with the following stipulations:
  - A mask must be worn through Day 10 until two consecutive at-home tests taken 48 hours apart are negative

- If the person is unable to wear a mask around others, they should remain at home for a full 10 days.

As we anticipate that most students will not miss more school than they would with any mild illness, we will NOT be providing Microsoft Teams access to classes this school year.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICIES**

Students must stay home from school if they meet any of the following criteria:

- Have tested positive for COVID
- Are awaiting the results of a COVID test
- Are experiencing even one of the following symptoms that cannot be explained by a preexisting 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.

If your student tests positive, in order for required isolation days to not count as absences, you are required to notify the school of the positive COVID test by emailing [nurses@johncarroll.org](mailto:nurses@johncarroll.org). You should also complete the Online Attendance Form in the Veracross parent portal to report your student's absence.

### **RETURN TO PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROTOCOL**

After consultation with our team physician, John Carroll is implementing the following return to physical activity protocol for student-athletes, including students in our College Prep Dance Program, and students enrolled in gym classes.

Students who are asymptomatic may return to physical school and after-school activities including sports, dance, etc. on Day 6 but must follow all mask protocols outlined above.

Students who are still symptomatic on Day 6 may not return to physical activity until they are asymptomatic.

Additionally, students with **moderate to severe symptoms as outlined below** who are participating in physical activity must complete and submit the "[Return to Physical Activity](#)

[Following a COVID-19 Infection](#)" form, and must have a Licensed Healthcare Provider sign the completed form.

**Mild** – no symptoms or mild symptoms  $\leq$  3 days and NO FEVER

**Moderate** – symptoms including a fever ( $> 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) and/or symptoms lasting  $> 3$  days but not hospitalized

**Severe** – symptoms including hospitalization and/or abnormal cardiac test results.

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