

Quick Start Guide - Protocols for Covid Incidents in Saint John's School  
Updated with CDC guidelines of 12-27-21

**Routine Practices:** Our School will continue to keep classrooms isolated from one another, separate classes at lunch, sanitize “high-touch” surfaces throughout the day, provide regular hand sanitizing, and use air purifiers in each room. **Students who are in a masking protocol following quarantine, should be distanced from their class during lunch.** Mask will still not be generally required for students, unless required by changing circumstances.

**SITUATION: A teacher or student has symptoms that might be Covid.**

RESPONSE:

- If in school, the teacher or student should be isolated and go home immediately and be tested that day, either PCR or Antigen.
- If at home, the teacher or student should isolate at home and be tested, either PCR or Antigen.
- If they test negative, they may return to School when they are symptom free. A second Antigen test may be given before they return to School to further ensure they are negative for Covid. (The School wants to lessen the spread of other illnesses besides Covid by having symptomatic teachers and students stay home until they are symptom free.)
- If they test positive, they should isolate at home for 5 days, counting from the time the day they received a positive test.
- After this 5 days of isolation, and if they are symptom free, they may return to School and wear a mask (properly and at all times) for 5 days to minimize the risk of infecting others.
- NOTE: If it is determined that a teacher or student has been in school while infectious with or Covid, everyone in the same class should be assumed to have had “close contact” exposure. Others who might have had close contact should be determined. (Close contact is defined as being in the same proximity for 15 minutes indoors, less than 6 feet apart, without masks). In this case see protocols below.

**SITUATION: A teacher or a student has had a “close contact” exposure to Covid.**

RESPONSES:

- Those who are vaccinated and are within 6 months of their second mRNA dose or have received the booster dose do not have to isolate as long as they are symptom free, but they should strictly wear a mask for 10 days. After 5 days from their exposure best practices say they should be tested, either PCR or Antigen.  
NOTE: If the PCR test (which is most accurate in asymptomatic persons) is negative and the person is symptom free, earlier guidelines suggested that a mask would not need to be worn following a negative PCR test.
- Those who are unvaccinated or who are more than 6 months out from their second mRNA dose and have not been boosted must isolate for 5 days. After 5 days from their exposure, they may be Antigen tested and return to class, provided the test is negative, they do not have symptoms, and they also strictly wear a mask for 5 more days. If the test is positive, they must isolate for 5 days according to the guidelines above.  
NOTE: The CDC also gives the following alternative, which may be feasible for teachers or students who are willing and able to strictly mask at all times: “Alternatively, if a 5-day quarantine is not feasible, it is imperative that an exposed person wear a well-fitting mask at all times when around others for 10 days after exposure.”

**SITUATION: A teacher or a student lives with a family member is positive for Covid.**

RESPONSE: We will follow the guidelines above for “close contact” exposure. If the infectious member of the family is able to strictly isolate from the family, the 5-day quarantine period for other family members can begin on the day of their last exposure. If the infectious member is not able to isolate from family, the 5-day quarantine period for other family members can begin after the infected person passes the 10-day isolation period.

Quick Start Guide –Testing Guidelines for Saint John’s School  
9-8-21

**TEST ANY STAFF OR TEACHER WHO IS EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19**

- Symptomatic persons should be tested regardless of vaccination status.
- Symptoms of COVID-19 may include any of the following: fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, decreased appetite, diminished sense of taste or smell, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle/joint aches, nausea, rash, rigors, runny nose, sore throat, or sputum production.

**TEST ANY STAFF OR TEACHER WHO HAS HAD CLOSE CONTACT WITH COVID-19**

- CDC recommends that unvaccinated asymptomatic close contacts should be tested immediately after becoming aware of an exposure. Testing again on Day 5–7 of quarantine is encouraged.
- CDC recommends that asymptomatic vaccinated persons who are identified as close contacts to someone with COVID-19 should be tested 3–5 days after exposure.

**ROUTINELY TEST EACH WEEK OF SCHOOL ANY UNVACCINATED STAFF OR TEACHER.**

- It is recommended that fully vaccinated people with no COVID-19-like symptoms and no known exposure should be exempted from routine screening testing programs, if feasible. Testing may be indicated, regardless of vaccination status, following an exposure or due to local/employer/business requirement.
- [Unvaccinated teachers or staff must wear a mask indoors at all times (unless in a room alone preparing for School), and must test weekly. This is a condition of employment at our School.]