



COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS/REQUIREMENTS 2021-22

FACE MASKS: All staff, students and visitors *must wear face masks while in the building as well as when on school property during drop off and pick up (i.e., on sidewalks around the building and in the courtyard area). Face masks can either be 2-3 layers of tightly woven fabric (please avoid knit masks) or a medical (i.e., KF-94 – highly recommended) or surgical type mask (please note that the most effective fabric masks are those which have three layers and, when held up to a light source, block all or most of the light). Masks must cover the nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides of the face. Masks should not have valves. Additionally, we ask that students not wear masks that are made to draw attention, as these can be distracting in a classroom setting.

* The only exception to the mask requirement is if a student has a medical reason why he/she cannot safely wear a mask, in which case a mask exemption request may be submitted in writing by the student's doctor (signed and stamped on official letterhead). This request must also be approved by the Head of School.

1) **ENTERING AND EXITING THE BUILDING:**

DROP OFF

*Middle school students (5th-8th grade) will enter the basement level of the building unaccompanied, beginning at 8:45, via the door off of the courtyard.

*K- 4th grade students who have middle school siblings may line up along the handicapped access ramp starting at 8:45. Those without middle school siblings should arrive no earlier than 8:55 and should also line up along the handicapped access ramp. K-4th grade students will be admitted into the building unaccompanied in a staggered manner using the main 9th Street door. K-4th grade students will use the main stairwell to access the appropriate floor.

*Preschool students will enter the building between 9am-9:15am accompanied by a parent/guardian in a staggered manner using the handicapped access ramp and the main 9th Street door, and will access the third floor via the front staircase. Parents/guardians will sign the student in at the classroom door and use the front staircase to exit the building.

PICK UP (please note that all hallways and stairwells move in one direction only)

*Parents/Guardians of preschool students will be admitted through the main 9th Street door between 12:30-12:45, and will utilize the back stairwell to access the third floor hallway. Parents should move down the third floor hallway to pick up their preschool students and exit the building using the front stairwell. Preschool families who also have Lower School students may wait quietly in the main room of the third floor until it's time to pick up their Lower School child(ren). Such families should use the back stairwell to access the second floor.

*Parents/Guardians of K – 4th graders will be admitted through the main 9th Street door between 12:50-1:00 and will utilize the back stairwell to pick up their K-4th grade children, continuing down the hall and exiting the building using the front stairwell. If a parent of a 3rd or 4th grader would like their child to be dismissed to walk out of the building unaccompanied this can be arranged with the teacher (this option is not available to children under the age of 3rd grade, including children with older siblings at CHLG).

*Parents/Guardians will be expected to exit the building promptly after pick-up and hold conversations with others either in the courtyard (masked) or away from the building. We will ask parents not to converse on the sidewalks around the building, as this can hamper movement of both neighbors and those in our school community.

*Middle School students will dismiss into the courtyard at 2:00pm for pick-up by parents / guardians.

- 2) **HEPA FILTRATION:** Air purifiers with hospital grade HEPA filtration are in every bathroom, classroom and common space. Each classroom has two air purifying units. This is twice the coverage for the square footage, equaling an air change per hour rate of nine (with this rate all of the air in the room is running through the HEPA filter approximately every seven minutes).
- 3) **HAND WASHING:** Regular hand washing and/or use of hand sanitizer will be encouraged and expected after using the restroom, before and after blowing nose, prior to eating, etc.
- 4) **DISTANCING OF STUDENTS:** Seating at desks and tables for K-8 students will be arranged such that there is a minimum of 3 feet of distance between students (head to head).
- 5) **LUNCHTIME:** Students will eat lunch outdoors as much as is reasonably feasible (i.e., when weather conditions are favorable). When lunch must be eaten indoors we will maximize the use of our indoor space in order to distance students as much as possible, including utilizing the Fellowship Hall, which is outfitted with six separate hospital grade HEPA air filtration units.
- 6) **ISOLATION OF STUDENTS WITH SYMPTOMS:** Students who develop symptoms during the school day will be isolated to an area on the first floor while awaiting parent/guardian pick up.
- 7) **DISINFECTION OF HIGH TOUCH SURFACES:** All disinfecting in the school building will be completed utilizing a COVID rated disinfectant. High touch areas will be cleaned and disinfected daily after students are dismissed. If a staff member or student is found to have a positive case of COVID-19 the classroom and bathroom used by the infected person as well as any high touch areas in common spaces (such as stairwells) will be disinfected electrostatically with a COVID rated disinfectant.
- 8) **COVID VACCINATION:** All staff members and volunteers must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 or have an exemption approved by the Head of School.
- 9) **SCREENING TESTING:** Screening testing for COVID-19 will be available free onsite at school on Tuesdays (and also Fridays during times when transmission in DC is high) for all students, teachers and volunteers (this is optional for students and requires parental approval and a one-time registration, there is no fee involved). Screening testing is mandatory for any volunteers who are not vaccinated who will be working/volunteering onsite within the upcoming week.
- 10) **WHEN STAFF/VOLUNTEERS MUST STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL:** All persons **18 and older** who are experiencing any of the symptoms listed below, that are new or unexplained, must stay home from school. Symptoms of COVID-19 may include: fever (over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit),

chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.

- 11) **WHEN STUDENTS MUST STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL:** All persons younger than 18 who are experiencing the following symptoms, that are new or unexplained, must stay home from school. *Additionally, the parent/guardian must contact Martha Herndon, the Head of School, for instruction on next steps prior to any return to school.*

Any ONE of the below symptoms:

- New or worsening cough (Covid-19, influenza or RSV risk)
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing (Covid-19 or RSV risk)
- New loss of taste or smell (Covid-19 risk)
- Fever over 100.4 Fahrenheit (Covid-19, influenza, RSV and coxsackie virus risk)
- Nausea or Vomiting (Covid-19, influenza or Norovirus risk)
- Diarrhea (Covid-19 or Norovirus risk)
- Eye drainage with thick mucus or pus draining from the eye (bacterial keratitis risk)
- Redness of the eye with eye pain and/or colored drainage (bacterial conjunctivitis risk)
- Yellowish skin or eyes (hepatitis risk)

OR at least two of the following symptoms:

- Chills (Covid-19 or influenza risk)
- Muscle or Body Aches (Covid-19 or influenza risk)
- Headache (Covid-19 or influenza risk)
- Sore Throat (Covid-19 or strep throat risk)
- Fatigue (Covid-19 or influenza risk)
- Runny Nose or Congestion (Covid-19, influenza or RSV risk)
- Loss of appetite (Covid-19 or influenza risk)

- 12) **IF A MEMBER OF A STAFF / VOLUNTEER/ STUDENT'S HOUSEHOLD HAS SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19:** *Unvaccinated* staff, volunteers and students must stay home from school if someone in their household is symptomatic. Such persons may only return to school after their symptomatic household member has received a negative COVID-19 PCR test. *Additionally, it is highly recommended that all unvaccinated children who are CHLG students be tested alongside the symptomatic household member (i.e., tested at the same time) as this makes it much easier to track whether there may have been exposure in a CHLG classroom.* *Vaccinated* staff, volunteers and students need not test or stay home in such a case unless they also become symptomatic.

- 13) **REQUIRED REPORTING OF POSITIVE COVID-19 STATUS OF STAFF, VOLUNTEER, STUDENT, OR A STAFF, VOLUNTEER OR STUDENT'S HOUSEHOLD MEMBER:** Staff, Volunteers and Parents/Guardians of Students are expected to self-report to the Head of School if any member of their household has received a positive result from a COVID-19 test. *Please see the Return to School Matrix posted on the CHLG website for details regarding the return to school after a household exposure.*

- 14) **REQUIRED REPORTING OF NON-HOUSEHOLD EXPOSURE TO COVID-19:** A Staff/Volunteer/Student is expected to self-report to the Head of School if he/she has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days. *Close contact is defined as: *Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes over a 24-hour period, starting from 2 days before illness onset (or for asymptomatic infected people, 2 days prior to*

*positive test collection) until the time the infected person is isolated.*Please note that DC DOH provides an exception to the close contact definition for school settings. The above definition excludes students who were within 3-6 feet of an infected fellow student where both students were engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting masks AND other layered prevention strategies were in place (such as universal mask wearing regardless of vaccination status, physical distancing and increased ventilation). Please see the **Return to School Matrix** posted on the CHLG website for specifics regarding the return to school after a non-household exposure.*

- 15) **REQUIREMENTS AFTER TRAVEL:** Parents must self-report to the Head of School if their unvaccinated or partially vaccinated child travels anywhere other than Maryland or Virginia. Additionally, those who volunteer in the school building who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated also must self-report regarding travel.

Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated students AND unvaccinated or partially vaccinated family members who volunteer in the building must do one of the following after travel outside of MD or VA:

- Submit a negative PCR test taken after return to the area from travel AND administer a rapid antigen test each school day for seven days after returning to the DC area. Assuming the testing results return negative, parents/guardians should write the child's name (or their name if volunteering) on the testing device and bring it to school to hand to an administrator at drop off.

OR

- Get a COVID PCR test 3-5 days after returning home AND self-quarantine for 7 days (even if negative test results are received before day 7). Assuming the testing results return negative the student(s) may return to school on day 8 (i.e., if you return to the DC area from travel on a Monday then Monday is day 1, and the student can return to school on the following Tuesday if the COVID test results return negative).

OR

- If no testing is administered the unvaccinated individual must quarantine for 10 days after returning home, and may return to school on day 11 (according to the above scenario, day 11 would be Friday).