

COVID-19 FAQ

What precautions has the school taken?

The school is following guidelines from public health partners, infectious disease experts, and government agencies, including the Oregon Health Authority, Washington County, World Health Organization (WHO), and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Facilities is working diligently to frequently clean high-touch areas and has provided the following:

- Hand sanitizer bottles and hospital-grade cleaning wipes distributed to division offices and departments. Wall-mounted dispensers are being installed in the Upper and Middle Schools and common areas. (Beginning and Lower Schools are restricted by child care rules from having hand sanitizer available to children).
- Cleaning supplies have been stocked in each AAs supply closet.
- Custodians are regularly cleaning high traffic areas: handrails, door handles, barn picnic tables.
- Custodians are cleaning rooms/spaces before an evening event is held.
- Two hand washing stations have been installed outside of the Barn.
- Buses are being wiped down after each trip. Riders have been asked not to eat or drink while on the bus to avoid sharing germs.
- Beginning and Lower School students are washing their hands more regularly under teacher supervision.

What is the Barn doing to help keep the space sanitary?

SAGE Dining has further enhanced already-stringent protocols, which includes frequent hand washing and glove changing.

- Every morning staff have “safe serving” meetings to review procedures and are reminded about protocol for cold/flu symptoms and staying home if ill.
- The buffet, shelves, etc. are cleaned after break and after lunch. Staff are using disinfectant to wipe down keyboards, PIN pads, and asking students to use hand sanitizer before entering the Barn.
- Staff are monitoring students to ensure provided serving utensils are used. Publicly-handled serving utensils are being replaced every 15 minutes.
- Students are reminded to not touch any items except what they intend to purchase.

How can each person help?

We ask that anyone who has flu-like symptoms to stay home. If a parent/guardian has any concerns about their child's health and whether that child should stay home, parents/guardians should contact their medical provider. Information is also provided by the Washington County Public Health (<https://www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/PublicHealth/>) and the Oregon Health Authority (<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/pages/index.aspx>); we are following these guidelines, as well.

How are event cancellations being determined?

Events are being reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Included in our consideration is the location of the event, level of choice to attend, and populations involved. The school supports families in making their own decisions on family or student attendance for all events.

What about student activities that involve travel?

We have cancelled all global trips for this academic year, as well as the Middle School Breakaway trip to Seattle. We will continue to monitor circumstances and review upcoming trips on a case-by-case basis.

Are there any people who have been exposed to the virus right now at the school?

Not that we know of.

Will the school let employees or parents know if there is an exposure?

Yes, the school would share that information in conjunction with health officials. We would not, however share any specific details regarding the individuals due to legal confidentiality requirements.

What happens when a student or employee appears to be sick and is in class or the office?

Our exclusionary policies remain consistent with what is stated in our Catlin Gabel Family Handbook. Anyone who has vomited, has had diarrhea, or has had a fever (above 101°F) in the past 24 hours should not come to school. While we encourage students and employees to stay at home who are exhibiting mild symptoms, they shouldn't be excluded for signs of common cold, allergies, runny noses, or coughs.

What happens when a student or employee arrives at school sick or who becomes sick while at school?

We will follow our usual guidelines. Parents/guardians will be notified to pick up their child. Employees will be asked to go home. We have established a waiting room, the Holodeck, which is located in the lower level of the Barn (facing the Paddock) that will be available as needed.

When can the person return? Is a doctor's note required (even if 3 days or more?)

The school's guidelines remain the same. Students/employees can return after 24 hours without a fever. Because of the volume of care doctors are currently managing, the administration is choosing to modify our current policy to help alleviate overcrowding of the medical system. We will not require a doctor's notice if you have missed 3 days or more. Employees are expected to contact their supervisor directly each day that they are absent. Parents/guardians are expected to notify the school each day. Guidelines regarding extended leave remain the same, and any employee questions can be addressed by HR.

How would the school make the decision to close?

The decision would be based on input from state and local public health officials. Catlin would not make any such determination independently.

Should a shutdown be necessary, how is the school planning to continue teaching students?

Teachers have worked hard over the last week to develop plans to support remote learning. They are planning for engaging and challenging on-line and off-line learning to continue the educational arc of the year in case of school closure. Division heads are providing specifics in their newsletters.

If I have additional questions about what the school is doing, who do I contact?

We will continue to keep our web page updated. You may also direct specific questions to our Assistant Head of School Barbara Ostos via email ostosb@catlin.edu or phone (503) 297-1894 x5002.