



INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19 AND INFORMED CONSENT

COVID-19 is an illness caused by a virus that can spread from person to person. The symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe, typically appearing two to 14 days after exposure to the virus and may include, among other symptoms, fever or 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, and diarrhea. Some individuals with COVID-19 may not show symptoms, and it may be spread by people who are not displaying signs of illness.

COVID-19 is a new disease and there is limited information regarding risk factors. Based on current information, people who are 65 years or older or people of any age with underlying medical conditions (such as chronic lung disease, moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, severe obesity, diabetes, chronic kidney or liver disease, or those who are immunocompromised) are at higher risk of experiencing severe illness as result of COVID-19.

Due to the contagious nature of this virus, it is possible that contact with others, as well as with surfaces that have been exposed to the virus, can lead to infection. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control currently advises that individuals stay home as much as possible, avoid close contact with others, and engage in social distancing. The CDC further advises people to wear a cloth face-covering in public settings, particularly when social distancing is not possible; to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, and to wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

Wilbraham & Monson Academy plans to have a number of protocols and preventative measures in place consistent with current and applicable guidance to minimize risks associated with this virus. These safety measures may include, but are not limited to, requiring cloth face masks, social distancing, regular handwashing, avoiding the use of shared items and mandating regular screening of participants. Despite these protective measures, however, it remains possible for a student participating in on-campus or in-person programs to become infected with COVID-19 or to infect others, even if a student is asymptomatic.

Wilbraham & Monson Academy contracted with CIC Health, in association with Broad Institute's laboratory, the Clinical Research Sequencing Platform (CRSP), to provide SARS-CoV-2 testing to its students, faculty, and staff. The following information explains the SARS-CoV-2 test and who will get your results. The test that students will receive is designed to detect if students have SARS-CoV-2, also known as the "coronavirus." SARS-CoV-2 is the virus that causes the disease known as COVID-19. The results of this test will not tell the student if they had the virus in the past or if they have immunity to getting the virus in the future. It only tests for the presence of the virus in their specimen at the time of the test. The specimen will be collected through a shallow nasal swab.

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, you have the right to request from Wilbraham & Monson Academy the records disclosed to CIC pursuant to this written consent.

As outlined in recent communications from the School, Wilbraham & Monson Academy is closely monitoring current health guidance regarding this virus and has a variety of protocols and preventative measures in place for the 2020-2021 school year. Though these measures are designed to minimize the chance of exposure and transmission in our community, the risk inherent in any in-person activities due to COVID-19 cannot be eliminated.

Additional information regarding COVID-19 is available on the following websites:

- CDC's website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health website at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/departments-of-public-health>
- Wilbraham & Monson Academy's School Policies/Protocols located at <https://www.wma.us/>

INFORMED CONSENT

In signing below, I attest that I am the parent/guardian of the student identified below and that I have read this information and understand the COVID-19 related risks associated with in-person participation in programs at Wilbraham & Monson Academy. In signing below, I further attest to the following:

- I have read and understand the rules, protocols and expectations of Wilbraham & Monson Academy and understand that the School may modify and update its health and safety protocols throughout the school year in accordance with evolving public health guidance.
- I have had the opportunity to review current information from the resources listed above and will continue to monitor these resources for updated recommendations related to COVID-19.
- I understand the testing procedures the School will be using throughout the 2020-2021 year. I understand that following the School's testing protocols and health procedures is compulsory in order for my child's continued enrollment in in-person classes and activities at the School. These include, but are not limited to the following:
 - antigen testing with shallow nasal swab using on-campus Quidel Sofia2 machines
 - PCR testing administered on campus with shallow nasal swab and analyzed through the CIC Health/Broad Institute Laboratory
 - practicing social distancing (six feet)
 - wearing face covering at all times
- I understand that if we are from a country, state or province with a higher rate of COVID-19 cases, the School may ask for my child to be tested prior to arrival on campus.
- I understand that my child should monitor any COVID-19-like symptoms. If my child is a day student, they should stay home if they are feeling sick and follow the "WMA at Home" academic learning plan until they are able to safely return to campus.
- I understand that the health and safety risks posed by COVID-19 cannot be completely eliminated, despite the implementation of reasonable and age-appropriate precautions and protocols.
- I understand that people who are 65 years and older and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions or are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are recommended to stay at home. A list of medical conditions associated with a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 can be found in CDC's guidance. Individuals and families should consult their health care provider to determine whether they have medical conditions that place them at risk.

Finally, I acknowledge that promoting public health is a shared responsibility and that every member of the School community must do their part to minimize risks. For this reason, I understand that in permitting my child to enroll at Wilbraham & Monson Academy, I agree to abide by, and reinforce with my child, the importance of following each of the health and safety protocols that the School may require throughout the school year.

I attest that I have read and understand the above information and consent to my child's enrollment at Wilbraham & Monson Academy for the 2020-2021 school year.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Student Name