



FAMILY AWARENESS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT COVID-19 Pandemic Policies | January 2021

As an Antilles School community, we recognize that the decisions we make individually have an impact on both the physical safety and the social and emotional well-being of every member of the School. We believe it is important for students, families, and employees to demonstrate positive expectations and to uphold community agreements that promote the health and well-being of all. Our collective goal is to keep our community safe and in crafting this document, we recognize and accept our shared responsibility in achieving that goal and understand that a successful, healthy reopening of campus will require trust, collaboration and open communication between everyone involved.

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization and other governmental authorities. Antilles School has implemented protocols that require students, families, and employees to adhere to certain practices to protect the health and safety of all community members. The School expects all students, families, and employees to support those practices both at school and at home. The School will continue to monitor current conditions and governmental recommendations, and will implement additional measures as necessary.

We cannot eliminate the risk of exposure while learning in-person, but we are trying to minimize the risk with our numerous safety protocols. However, even when required health and safety rules are followed, it does not mean that attending school on-campus is free of risk. Contracting COVID-19 in the midst of a global pandemic is a possibility and each parent or guardian must determine whether they are willing to take the risk of having their child learn on campus, and whether they need to take additional precautions to protect the health of their child and others in the household. We encourage families who feel more comfortable keeping their students at home to choose the remote learning option.

We appreciate our School community agreeing to create and maintain continuity between school and home and reinforcing our efforts to promote healthy choices and proven practices to limit any potential COVID-19 exposure.

We ask all community members to please commit to following on-campus protocols and School guidelines, including:

- Reporting any instances of off-island travel to the Antilles School Nurse and completing a required 10-day self-quarantine.

- Completing the required temperature check each morning.
- Wearing a two or three-layer face mask that fits snugly over the mouth and nose.
- Maintaining at least a six-foot distance from community members.
- Washing hands upon entry to school, before eating, after bathroom use, and when putting on or taking off a face mask. Hand sanitizer is used before entering and when leaving shared spaces on campus, and/or when a sink or handwashing station is not readily available.
- As part of our shared responsibility, encouraging other community members to adhere to these agreements.
- Continuing to follow the measures outlined by the Virgin Islands Department of Health to reduce the spread of the virus, including practicing physical distancing outside of the home, wearing masks in public, and frequently washing/sanitizing hands.
- Explaining to children the requirement of using face masks, washing hands frequently, and following other preventative hygiene measures while on the Antilles School campus.
- Practicing these measures prior to having children return to campus.
- Reporting information about symptoms to the School Nurse's Office and keeping children at home when sick. Antilles employees should also stay home when sick. If your child is going to be absent from school, notify the School Nurse of the reason for the absence.
- Notifying the School Nurse about positive COVID-19 tests, or exposure to a person who is confirmed to have COVID-19.
- Recognizing the importance of contact tracing and cooperating with the VI Department of Health's efforts to contact trace in an effort to reduce the risk of potential spread.
- Contacting health care providers when COVID-19 related symptoms begin to present themselves, and making plans to begin the process of testing when recommended.
- Responding in a timely manner to any calls, requests, or updates from Antilles regarding the health of any student, including picking up a child within 60 minutes of being notified by the school. Employees who present symptoms while on campus must also notify the School Nurse and leave immediately. In all illness-related instances, COVID must be ruled out prior to returning to campus.

- Avoiding any nonessential travel, or, if such travel outside of St. Thomas is unavoidable, committing to quarantining for 10 days. Producing a negative COVID-19 test or positive antibody test will not eliminate the quarantine requirement.
- Avoiding mass gatherings and events where physical distancing is impossible to maintain, and also smaller gatherings where people are not adhering to appropriate guidelines.
- Working in partnership with the School in order to keep our community safe as possible.

Antilles School strongly recommends that its community members receive the seasonal flu vaccine and future vaccination for COVID-19 when available. Local health providers have also suggested that receiving the seasonal flu vaccine and pneumonia vaccine could help prevent the acceleration of the virus in anyone infected.

Failure to comply with these protocols, or additional measures deemed necessary, may put members of the Antilles community at greater risk to contract and/or spread COVID-19. As such, the School will address any failure to comply by possibly asking students to learn remotely. Each member of the Antilles School community shares responsibility for the health and safety of all.

**These agreements were created in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and VI Health Department guidelines and are subject to change.*

I have read the above and understand the risks. I also agree to follow all safety requirements that Antilles School imposes as a condition of enrolling my child.

By signing below, I acknowledge receipt and have read and understand the Antilles School Family Awareness Acknowledgment.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date

Print Name of Child/Children