



MALDEN CATHOLIC

The Codivisional High School

Malden Catholic COVID-19 Updated Policies - Spring 2021

Large Group Gatherings

Malden Catholic has established a Culture of Health that has allowed us to successfully operate our school since September 2020. We have gone to great lengths and have made a significant investment in measures to provide a safe environment for our school. Data has shown that a classroom experience provides low-risk environment for the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. In fact, to date we have not had a known transmission in the Malden Catholic environment. This is a testament to our entire communities' commitment to following proper protocols and providing a safe educational setting for our students.

As we move into warmer weather this spring, and the vaccine is distributed to larger groups of our population, we understand that individuals within our community may feel the desire to gather for celebrations. Unfortunately, we are still in a pandemic and it is important that we maintain best practices to ensure that our community is as safe as possible by continuing to observe social distancing practices and following all guidelines established by national and state health agencies.

Events that cannot accommodate proper social distancing place our students and our entire community at extreme risk. With this in mind, Malden Catholic has strict guidelines in place regarding large gatherings, travel and revised quarantine requirements. The guidelines below will help keep our families safe as the weather becomes warmer and the end of the pandemic approaches.

Current State Attendance Guidelines (as of March 23, 2021)

Current state guidelines for **private residences** are 10 individuals for indoors and 25 individuals for outdoors.

Current state guidelines for event venues in **public settings** is limited to 100 individuals for indoor events and 150 individuals for outdoor events.

Malden Catholic Large Gathering Policy

Malden Catholic will remain committed to student safety and following state guidelines. We expect our families to do the same. Every Malden Catholic family is a partner with the school in their efforts to mitigate the spread of the virus. It is imperative we remain vigilant and protect our school community from an event that could be a "super-spreader" that would jeopardize the safety of our community as well as those in other communities.

All Malden Catholic families are expected to NOT plan or host events that place our students and community at risk. This would include gatherings that exceed the current above-stated guidelines or place students in situations that prevent them from maintaining appropriate social distancing. This includes team dinners, parties and similar gatherings.

Without exception, all students who have participated in events that violate our large gathering policy will be subject to a period of quarantine.

Quarantine Duration Revision

Based on state guidelines, the revised length of the quarantine for individuals who have been exposed to COVID-19 will be 7 days, with a test on the 5th day. If the test result is negative, the student will return on the 8th day. If the individual does not take a test or takes a test on the wrong day, they may return to school on the 10th day if they are not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. We also ask that you monitor your student for symptoms for 14 days after exposure. If your student has a positive test result on the 5th day, and has any of the COVID-19 symptoms, the quarantine will be extended to 14 days.

Updated Travel Guidelines

Malden Catholic, remains dedicated to mitigating the risk of COVID-19 and decreasing any potential disease transmission due to travel.

Local Travel Within the New England States for Vaccinated Individuals

Any fully vaccinated individual who has received their final dose (2nd dose for Pfizer and Moderna, single dose for Johnson & Johnson vaccines), and has waited two additional weeks:

- 1) Does not need to quarantine if they are in close contact unless they have symptoms
- 2) Does not need to quarantine with domestic travel unless they have symptoms.

Domestic Travel Outside of the New England States for Non-vaccinated Individuals

Travel to high-risk states and large gatherings may put others at risk in our community. Therefore, to provide the entire community with the most protection possible, we will ask that non-vaccinated individuals provide to the School Nurses a PCR test with a negative result.

The PCR test should be taken 72 hours (or 3 days) after your student **return home** to determine the most accurate status of possible infection. All test results must be sent to the School Nurses in writing. During this quarantine period, the student will remain **in class** remotely until test results are received.

Malden Catholic High School would like to remind students and their families that Malden Catholic does not accept Rapid Antigen Tests for Covid-19. MC will only accept PCR testing for COVID-19.

International Travel

Per CDC guidelines, all individuals must take a test prior to arriving in the US. This includes individuals who have been vaccinated. Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms (whether fully vaccinated or not) must take a COVID-19 test and remain out of school until they can provide negative test results to **one of** the MC School Nurses.

Confidentiality and Sharing Personal Information Related to Covid-19

Due to the nature of COVID-19, Malden Catholic does not offer confidentiality for any health information shared with a faculty or staff member. Employees of schools have a responsibility to share such information to ensure the health and safety of our campus community. Malden Catholic will only share information with faculty and staff on a need-to-know basis. MC understands and respects the need for privacy but must balance that need with our responsibility to act on behalf of the community public health.