

2021-22 SHELTON COVID POLICIES

Mask Policy for Starting the School Year:

For the beginning of the year, masks will be required indoors, **temporarily**, for students and staff regardless of vaccination status. During this period, we will continue to closely monitor the conditions related to the pandemic.

Masks will be optional for outdoor activities.

Shelton will continue to consider the recommendations of [UT Southwestern Medical Center](#), the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#), [Dallas County Health and Human Services](#), the [National Association of School Nurses](#), [Cook Children's Medical Center](#) doctors, and the [Centers for Disease Control](#). We also consult and communicate regularly with our medical advisors.

Policy Updates (COVID Related)

*The policies described herein are subject to change as necessary.

- *Temporarily, masks will be required.*
- *Students should wear a clean face mask daily, and masks will be available if a student forgets, if the mask gets dirty or if the mask gets lost.*
- *Neck gaiters and masks with vents are not acceptable.*
- *Breaks from masks will occur throughout each day. This may include outdoor time when kids are 6 feet apart.*
- *Face shields will be available for EC-2nd graders for use during language therapy and speech. Face shields will be available to 2nd-12th graders upon request.*
- *Accommodations will be made for our youngest students according to their developmental needs.*
- Food will be served in both pre-packaged and self-serve options.
- Lockers will be used for MS and US students (6th - 12th grade).
- Circulation of library materials will return to pre-COVID procedures.
- Daily wellness screenings
- will be discontinued.
- Visitors may be allowed in limited numbers. Band, theater, sports, and other extracurricular activities will be held.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available and frequent use will be encouraged.
- 3 feet of social distancing (as much as possible/appropriate for age level) will be encouraged.
- Regular and frequent sanitizing of desks, materials, and equipment will be continued, as will regular cleaning of door handles and other surfaces.
- Plastic table shields will be in place in the dining hall.
- Highest level of filters will be maintained in our HVAC system.

- Field trips will be reinstated on a limited basis.
 - A negative COVID test may be required for overnight trips.
 - Seating on buses may be at a reduced number.
 - Masks may be required on the buses.
- A student/staff member must stay at home if he or she:
 - Has a fever of 100.0 degrees or higher.
 - Has one of the following symptoms: cough, sore throat, congestion, headache, nausea, fatigue, body aches, shortness of breath or abdominal pain.
 - Experiences loss of the sense of taste and smell.
 - Has exposure to someone who tests positive for COVID if not fully vaccinated.
 - Requires breathing treatments using a nebulizer during the school day.
 - **A student with symptoms must be tested for COVID with a PCR test. If the test is negative, then the student can return to school. Any Shelton siblings must stay home until the results are back. If the child is not tested, the student can return to school symptom free after 10 days.**

Quarantine Policy

Quarantine for **Positive Cases**:

Students who test positive for COVID, must:

1. Isolate for 10 days,
2. Have improvement in symptoms, AND
3. Be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medicine

before returning to school.

Definition of Close Contact:

Close Contact through [Proximity and Duration of Exposure](#): Someone who was within [6 feet of an infected person](#) (laboratory-confirmed or a [clinically compatible illness](#)) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, *three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes*). An infected person can spread SARS-CoV-2 starting from 2 days before they have any symptoms (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days before the positive specimen collection date), until they meet criteria for [discontinuing home isolation](#).

- Exception: In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a [clinically compatible illness](#)) *if* both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting [masks](#) the entire time.

This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

Quarantine for **Close Contacts**:

- Those who are vaccinated do not need to quarantine unless symptomatic, but should wear a mask after exposure and get tested with a PCR between 3-5 days after exposure. If the test is negative, the person can remove his or her mask, though it is recommended that it be worn for 14 days after exposure. If the close contact is a family member who is unable to isolate from the family, the close contact who is vaccinated must stay home for 10 days from the onset of symptoms. If additional family members subsequently test positive, the quarantine period starts over.
- In cases involving a high number of positive cases in a short period of time, all students on a team, in a group or class may be asked to quarantine and/or get a PCR test, regardless of vaccination status.
- A close contact who has had a lab confirmed case of COVID within the prior 90 days does not need to quarantine. If it has been longer than 90 days, then that contact will need to quarantine.
- Those who are **not** vaccinated must quarantine for 7 days if they test negative by PCR test on or after day 5. If no testing is done, a 10-day quarantine is required.
- Those who are **not** vaccinated AND have had a positive COVID test within 90 days, do not need quarantine unless they are symptomatic.
- Those who are **not** vaccinated and **did not have a positive test** for COVID but have been tested for antibodies within the last 90 days and found to have antibodies for COVID, do not need to quarantine. If it has been more than 90 days, quarantine is required.
- Those who are **not** vaccinated and have had a **presumed** positive case, i.e. had symptoms of COVID but were never tested, must quarantine for 7 days if they test negative by PCR test on or after day 5. If no testing is done, a 10-day quarantine is required.
- Those who are vaccinated and test positive must:
 - Isolate for 10 days
 - Have and improvement in symptoms, and
 - Be fever-free without fever reducing medicine for 24 hours before returning to school.

We ask that parents continue to help by keeping students home if they are sick, and communicating with our nurses regarding any illness, exposure, vaccination, or positive COVID test.

See the [Shelton website](#) for Frequently Asked Questions.

