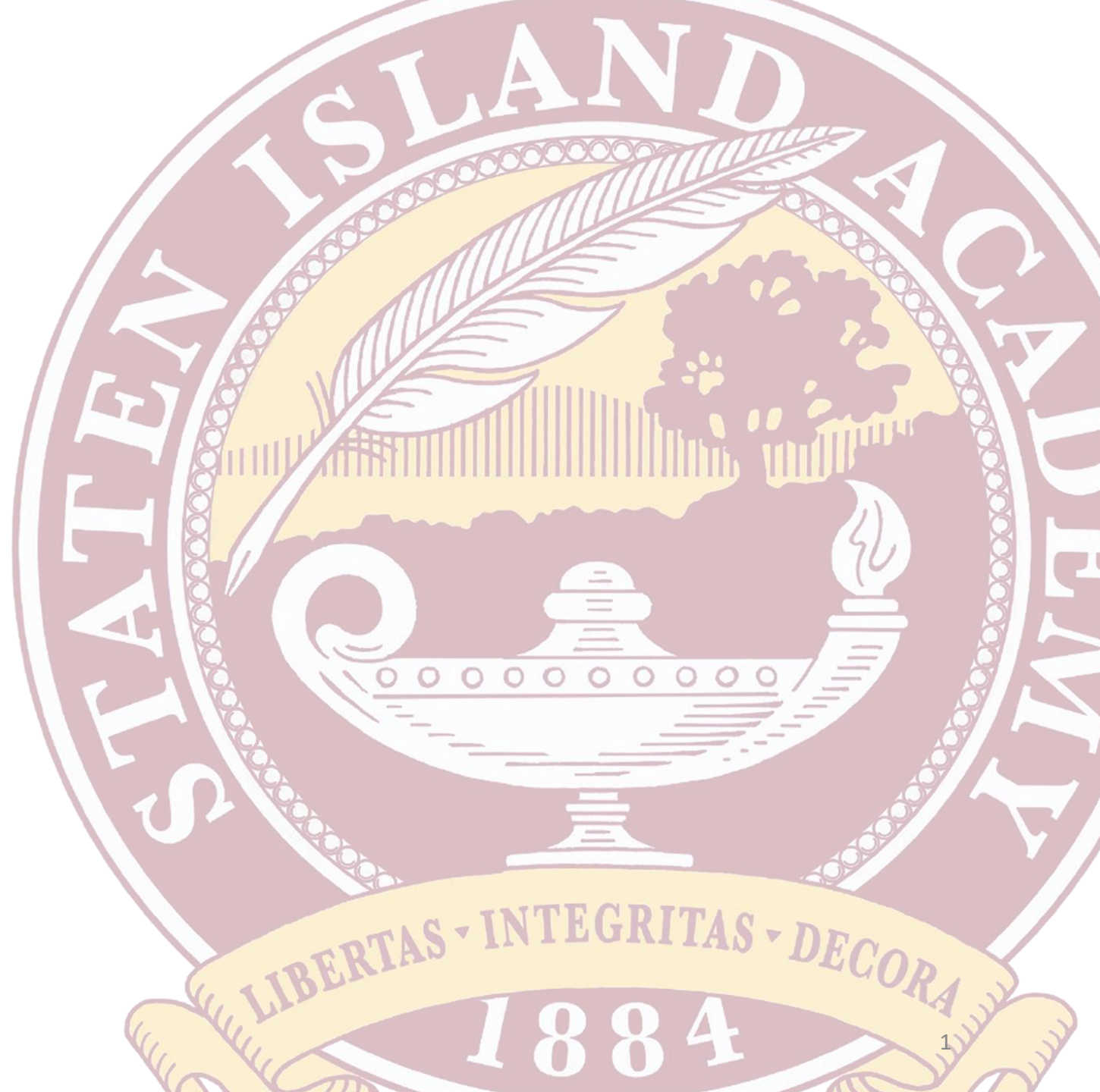


Staten Island Academy
COVID-19 Plan

School Year 2021-2022

Stronger Together!



The following is provided as an overview of the COVID-19 protocols for School Year 2021-2022 by Staten Island Academy. Policies will be reviewed regularly and updated based on current community (school, NYC and NY State) parameters. COVID-19 cases and close contact tracing will continue through 2021-2022. As policies and protocols have been developed, scientific evidence and ability to ensure high compliance implementation are considered within reasonable resources.

The most important public health measure to protect oneself and their loved ones, family, and community is for all eligible individuals to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. The higher the SIA community vaccination rate is, the more we will protect the SIA populations that are not able to be vaccinated at this time, as well as, the very small percentage of individuals who have a weakened immune system.

Edits since release date of August 24, 2021

August 19, 2021

- Page 4; New Back to School PCR testing schedule
- Page 9; within 3 to 5 days
- Page 16; Vaccine information & Early Childhood Educators must get the Flu Vaccine
- Page 26; Spectators will be allowed but may be limited in number, masking rules will apply indoors and outdoors regardless of vaccination status
- Page 27; May return to school if symptoms have improved and remain fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications

Return to School PCR Testing Schedule for Non-Vaccinated Community Members

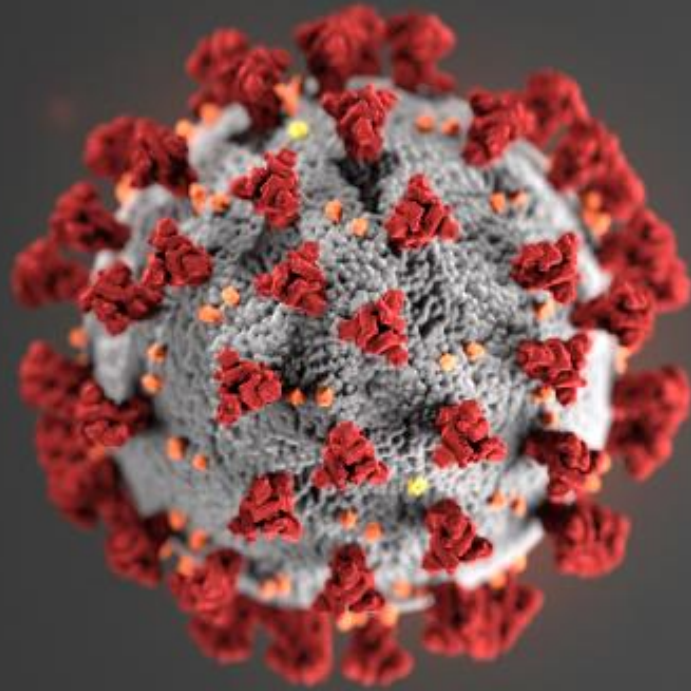
(or anyone that traveled outside of the contiguous United States)

As defined by the CDC, an individual is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after his/her second dose in a two-dose series.

Please note that Rapid Tests are not accepted.

Test results must be submitted to the School Nurse, Anna Yavorsky – ayavorsky@statenilandacademy.org

Student Group	Return Date	Test Date Range
All US Advanced Placement Students	August 23, 2021	August 18-22
All US Pre-Season Athletic Practices	August 23, 2021	August 18-22
Grade 9 Orientation (If not tested for any of the dates above)	August 30, 2021	August 25-29
US Drama Auditions (If not tested for any of the dates above)	August 30, 2021	August 25-29
Grade 10 Orientation (If not tested for any of the dates above)	September 1, 2021	August 27-31
Grade 11 Orientation (If not tested for any of the dates above)	September 1, 2021	August 27-31
Early Childhood Playground Party	September 2, 2021	August 28- September 1
Middle School Orientation	September 3, 2021	August 29- September 2
First Day of School (If not tested for any of the dates above)	September 9, 2021	September 4- 8



Overview: What is COVID-19?

- COVID-19 is a viral infectious disease caused by a novel coronavirus
- The virus that causes COVID-19 is called SARS-CoV-2
- SARS-CoV-2 is a novel coronavirus – same viral family as the common cold virus
- Discovered in late 2019
- Given the name “COVID-19” for the type of virus & year discovered



Overview: What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Symptoms of COVID-19

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**.

Children may be less likely to present with fever as an initial symptom and may only have gastrointestinal (GI) tract symptoms.

- **Fever (100.0 F or higher)**
- Chills, feverish (feeling feverish but temperature <100.4 F), shaking chills, flushed face when at rest
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of smell or taste
- Sore throat
- Headache, when in combination with other symptoms on this list
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Fatigue, when in combination with other symptoms on this list
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes such as allergies), when in combination with other symptoms

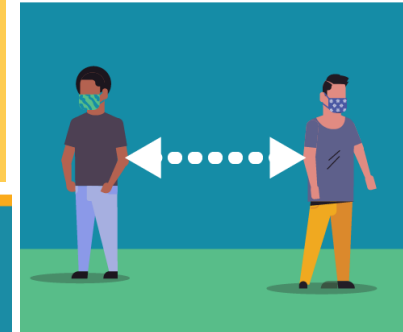
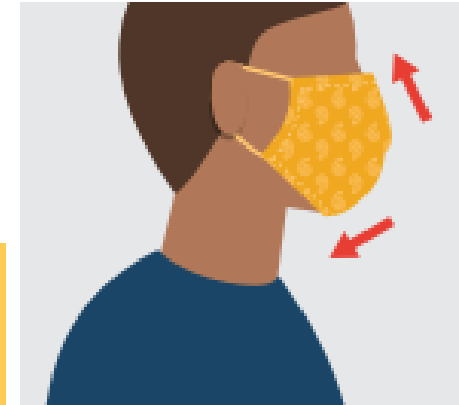
WEB LINK: [CDC Symptoms of COVID-19](https://www.cdc.gov/symptoms/covid-19/)



Overview: How is COVID-19 spread?

- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
 - Close contact with one another. (within about 3 feet without a mask and for 10 minutes)
 - Respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.
 - COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

**Your best protections
against COVID-19**





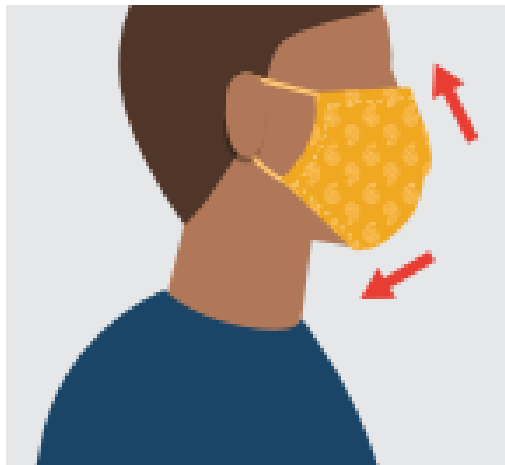
Overview: How to prevent the spread of COVID-19 & keep our friends & family safe?

Your best protections against COVID-19

Stay home when sick, except to get medical care.



Masks are required



Wash your hands – a lot!



Observe social distancing cues & use of barriers



Cleaning high touch surface areas



Testing to return to campus:

- Unvaccinated employees and students must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test to return to campus dated within 3 to 5 days of their return date.
- Vaccinated employees and students must have a negative COVID-19 PCR test to return to campus dated within 3 to 5 days of their return date ONLY if they:
 - Traveled internationally within the week prior to returning to campus
 - Exposed to COVID -19
 - Experiencing symptoms of COVID-19
- Test results are due to the nurse's office within 3 days prior to the students/employee's first day back on campus.

Some Daily Changes from 2020-2021 School Year

- Mask optional outdoors (unless in formal instructional settings, masks must be worn)
- Mask must be worn by all spectators during a school event outdoors
- Athletic Locker room use for Upper School only (normal dress code back in effect for US)
- Masks optional for athletics outdoors unless in close proximity (on bench, close drills etc.)
- Indoor Sports with Masks – outdoor sports mask optional – dependent on the situation
- Guests allowed on campus by appointment only or fans of a scheduled athletic game – masks required inside and out regardless of vaccine status
- Remote teaching and learning is reserved ONLY for a community member that has a documented COVID-19 related absence
- Early Childhood and Lower School can move to other classrooms for instruction
- Morning Meetings with 120 participants can take place
- Fall play, masked with masked audience members, maximum 120
- Desk cleaning optional or when mixed cohorts are using the same space
- Removal of directional cues (One way stair case, doors, hallways etc.)
- No temperature scanners at the entrances of the buildings - scheduled, rotating temperature checks
- No barriers in classrooms unless eating

Overview

ACTIVITY	Fully Vaccinated	Unvaccinated (vaccination status must be submitted through Magnus Health Portal to be officially documented as vaccinated)
Risk of contracting COVID-19 after receiving COVID-19 vaccine	0.08% up to 2.6% (i.e., breakthrough infection rate)	100%
Mask indoors	Yes, always for everyone	Yes, always for everyone
Mask outdoors	Optional for students and faculty	Optional for students and faculty
Close contact	No quarantine Watch for symptoms for 14-days If symptoms develop within the 14-day, then required to remain home (not attend school) and get tested. *Testing with symptoms – PCR test required	Yes, quarantine Must test. If negative, then still required to be out for the 10 days. If positive, then follow “positive COVID-19” test case protocol. COVID-19 test must be a PCR test as we are testing unvaccinated, asymptomatic individuals.
Exhibiting symptoms of COVID19	Stay home, get tested for COVID-19 Test must be PCR	Stay home, get tested for COVID-19 Test must be PCR
Vendors delivering to/working on campus	Indoors and Outside: Masks required regardless of vaccination status	
Parent-teacher meetings	Indoors and Outside: Masks required regardless of vaccination status	
Sporting events at SIA	Indoors and Outside: Masks required of all fans regardless of vaccination status	
Drama/Music events – OUTSIDE	Masks required of all audience members at ALL times inside and outside	

Remote Teaching and Learning

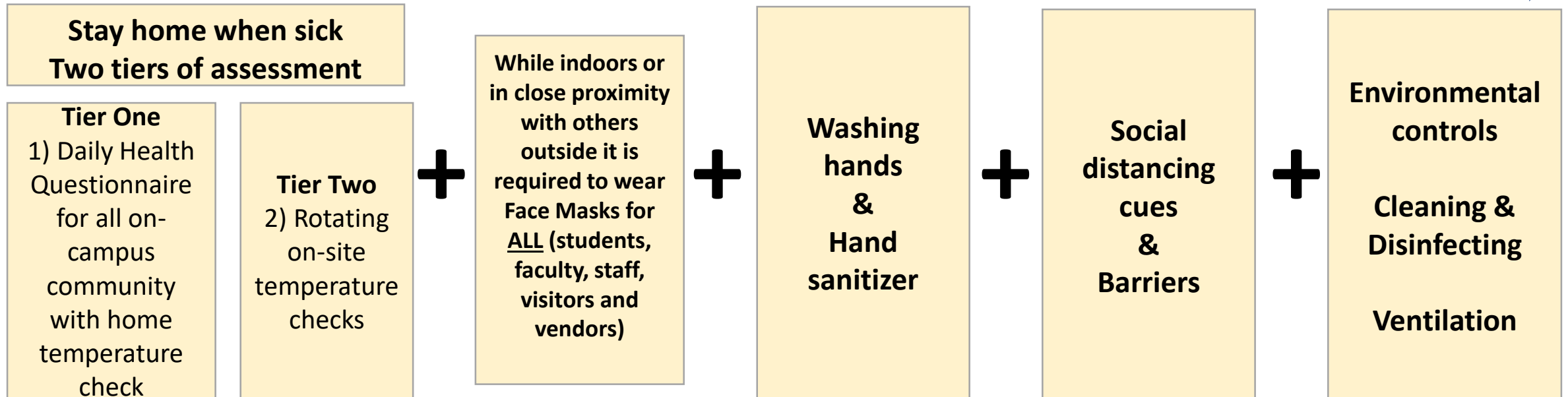
- Remote teaching and learning is reserved ONLY for a community member that has a documented COVID-19 related absence
- All other absences will be treated as usual, the community member will be encouraged to stay home, rest and return when able
- If a non COVID-19 related absence is for 2 or more days, your health care provider must provide written medical clearance to return to campus



How to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19?

As a community we will:

Layers of steps – taken together – to mitigate risk of COVID-19 spread





Educational Models

Plan A

**As planned for the opening of the
2021-2022 School Year**

On-Campus Model

The **on-campus** model approaches instruction in the similar manner to which parents and students are accustomed. The on-campus model will include students, faculty and staff wearing face masks, social distancing, health and hygiene measures, and environmental controls being monitored by faculty and staff, in accordance with health and governmental officials.

Plan B

ONLY If required by the City or State

Full Remote Learning Model

Remote learning for the entire school community, as required by health or government officials, will keep school buildings closed for the safety and security of all the schools' constituents.



Full Remote Learning Model – ONLY If Required by the City or State

Remote learning for the entire school community, as required by health or government officials, will keep school buildings closed for the safety and security of all the schools' constituents.

- All students and faculty will follow the full **8-day schedule through Microsoft Teams**
 - Modifications for PreK-Grade 3 as needed
- Parents, students & faculty will be asked to check their portal, e-mail and Teams daily
- Live camera feeds from classrooms
 - Some teachers may be able to teach from the classroom for the day (in self-isolation)



Best practice for individuals...

Flu season typically runs October – April.

Flu vaccines are usually available starting in August.



On-site Flu Clinic for Faculty/Staff scheduled for September 14, 2021

Early childhood educators are required to get their flu vaccine as mandated by the Department of Health.



The most important public health measure to protect oneself and their loved ones, family, and community is for all eligible individuals to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. See the resources on page 32 for more information.



Community Commitment



Everyone (families, students, faculty, staff) must be committed to adhering to the new behaviors to ensure a safe and effective learning environment.

I/we agree to:

- Comply with truthful and prompt notifications about health status
 - COVID-19 symptoms
 - Knowingly being in contact with or exposed to an individual who has COVID-19; either in or out of your home
 - Travel;
 - <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/>
 - <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-individuals-traveling-new-york-two-additional-states-virgin-islands>
- We recommend that every family to have an at-home quarantine plan
- Comply with required mask wearing, hand hygiene, and social distancing while on campus
- If asked to fix a mask, social distance or wash/hand sanitize hands, I will gladly do so to keep our community safe.
- I will not judge others with regard to one's fear or concerns about COVID-19. We all live with different circumstances – live with someone who is undergoing immunocompromised treatment or has asthma or a chronic condition such as diabetes or heart/lung/kidney disease.

International Travel

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

International Travel RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS		
	Not Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated
Get tested 1-3 days before traveling out of the US	✓	
Mandatory test required before flying to US	✓	✓
Get tested 3-5 days after travel	✓	✓
Self-quarantine after travel for 7 days with a negative test or 10 days without test	✓	
Self-monitor for symptoms	✓	✓
Wear a mask and take other precautions during travel	✓	✓



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

CS323515-A 04/02/2021

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>

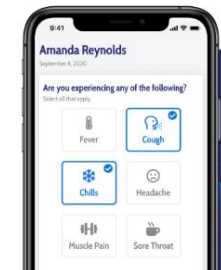


Daily Screenings

Health questionnaire (prior to arrival on campus)

Health Questionnaire

- REQUIRED: Complete Ruvna Pre-Screening prior to arrival in order to be allowed on campus
- Text from Ruvna (See a user guide within the back to school documents)
 - Each student is sent his/her own text to a parent phone
 - Sent by 6:00AM each morning
 - MUST be completed by 7:30AM each day
- Daily screening questions
 - Parents will complete the questionnaire for their child
 - All Faculty/staff will complete their own questionnaire
 - Questionnaire reviewed daily by SIA prior to start of school
 - Permitted to attend School = no COVID-19 symptoms; no recent contacts with COVID-19 cases
 - Asked to remain home: one or more risk factors
 - student/staff contacts School Nurse (nurse follows assigned protocol)





Hand hygiene – new normal!



Hand wash for at **least 20 seconds** (sing the Happy Birthday song twice!)

Visual & verbal cues will remind students/staff to wash hands frequently

Use **hand sanitizer** when soap and water are not available. (> 60% alcohol)*

* Early Childhood may differ to allowable use of hand sanitizer

TIP: Worried about dry hands from a lot of hand washing/hand sanitizer?



Find a good hand lotion or cream. *Neutrogena's Fisherman's Hand Cream (Fragrance Free)* or similar used nightly often helps relieve minor irritation from chapped hands.

Best practices:

- Hand sanitize/wash when **entering/leaving your car (or bus)**
- Hand sanitize/wash when **entering/leaving any room (i.e. classroom, bathroom, offices, Commons) or building**
- Hand sanitize/wash when **entering/leaving your home**
- Hand sanitize/wash **before/after taking off your mask**
- Hand sanitize/wash **before/after eating/drinking**
- Hand sanitize/wash **after touching shared items**
- Hand sanitize/wash **after touching garbage**
- **Wash hands after using the bathroom**
- If age appropriate, send small (labeled!) bottle of hand sanitizer (talk to your child's teacher)



Face Masks required at ALL times when indoors!

Optional outdoors for students, faculty and staff.

- Face Mask requirements

- If using cloth face masks, **2-ply or 3-ply of material**

- 2-ply or 3-ply tight weave material have similar effectiveness as surgical masks
 - Some masks have the layers fused together
 - You should **not** be able to see through your mask (no small holes)
 - Tightly woven materials (cotton, polyester, etc.)



Fully covers **over nose** *and* **under chin**



No masks with valves

- **NO bandanas** or **gaiters**

- Bring one or two masks as back-up
 - LABEL with name clearly on both sides
 - **Wash daily with hot soap and water; dry completely**



- Special times and places for mask breaks are included throughout the day
- This ruling is in place regardless of your vaccine status





Cohorts

What is a cohort?

- Cohorts (or “pods”) are groups of students, and sometimes teachers or staff, that stay together throughout the school day to minimize exposure for students, teachers, and staff across the school environment.
- Cohorts at the Academy are students and faculty that are within 3-feet of one another, even with mask and, at least **10 minutes** in a classroom, in other school spaces, on the bus, or at an extracurricular activity.
- Cohorting is another measure to reduce spread of COVID-19 by:
 - decreasing opportunities for exposure to or transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2)
 - facilitating more efficient contact tracing in the event of a positive case
 - allowing for targeted testing, quarantine, and isolation of a single cohort instead of school-wide measures in the event of a positive case or cluster of cases

Cohorts
PreK3 + PreK4 + Kindergarten
Grade 1
Grade 2
Grade 3
Grade 4
Middle School by classes when possible (Grades 5 – 8)
Upper School by classes when possible (Grades 9 – 12)



Environmental Controls

Environmental controls applied across the campus and buildings through these Barriers:

- Using the outdoor space as much as possible
- Dividers when eating indoors
- Ventilation
 - doors open
 - windows open
 - fans on and directed to ceiling (not into room directly) or pulling air to outside (i.e. window fan)
 - AC on (if needed) – pulling air to outside
- Cleaning & Disinfecting (per CDC | EPA guidance)
- Facility cleaning during the day and overnight, as well as, frequent spot cleaning of high-touch surfaces by all faculty and staff

Campus signage underway...

**Thank You For
Social Distancing**



**Hand Sanitizer
Station**



**Face Coverings
Required**





Food Service

- Parents/students **MUST** “pre-order” ahead of time a select meal offering for the upcoming week(s)
 - This allows the meal service teams to create a pre-box meal for your child
 - No individual food ordering to campus from outside services
- No sharing of food / no self-serve
- Barriers at tables

Food Service Dining Locations

Cohorts	Dining Location
PreK3 + PreK4 + Kindergarten	Individual Classrooms
Grade 1	Commons
Grade 2	Commons
Grade 3	Commons
Grade 4	Commons
Middle School (Grades 5-8)	Commons and Other Locations
Upper School (Grades 9 – 12)	Commons and Other Locations



Visitors

Students, Faculty & Staff – allowed on campus

- Critical vendors allowed
- Emergency services vendors allowed
- No individual food ordering to campus from outside services

Other visitors are allowed under the following conditions:

- All visitors must wear a mask at all times on campus, indoors and outside regardless of their vaccine status
- Parents/guardians/friends etc. are allowed on campus through appointment only or to attend a scheduled athletic game
- Picking-up a sick child (and a few other necessary circumstances deemed by faculty and staff)



Athletics

- Players will be **required** to wear masks at practice and at games indoors, this includes bus transportation to and from games
- Masks optional for athletics outdoors unless in close proximity (on bench, close drills etc.)
- If, while playing, a student-athlete needs to remove his/her mask for a brief moment or two, that will be permitted
- There will be mask breaks throughout play
- During training – coaches will take necessary steps to ensure proper spacing and social distancing during practice sessions
- Hand hygiene stations available at field or within gym
- No sharing equipment – each athlete should have well-marked/labeled equipment
- No sharing water bottles / athletes must bring their own individual water bottles
- Games: Check-in for opposing teams – list of coaches and players arriving on-campus
 - Including temperature checks upon entrance
- Spectators will be allowed but may be limited in number – masking rules will apply indoors and outdoors regardless of vaccination status
- Mask must be worn by all spectators during a school event outdoors
- Athletic Locker room use for Upper School only (normal dress code back in effect for US)



PROTOCOL: Faculty, Student, Staff tests positive for COVID-19

1. Immediately notify the School Nurse (NOTE: test results should be sent after the immediate phone call)
2. Individual self-isolates at-home for 10 days (leaves home only to get medical attention)
 - May return to school if symptoms have improved and remain fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications
3. Individual instructed to wear a mask within the home when interacting with household members; and when outside the home for medical care
4. Determine if individual was “on campus” 2 days prior to date tested positive
 - Close contacts (cohorts identified) and notified
5. If individual is at school when positive test result discovered
 - Ensure mask is on correctly; escort to “medical waiting area”
 - Areas visited by individual are closed off & cleaned
 - Close contacts/cohort(s) will finish the day and go home (see next PROTOCOL: Close Contact)
6. Communications
 - “Close Contact (or within Cohort)” of a COVID-19 Confirmed-Case
 - ALL School Notification: COVID-19 Confirmed-Case within the Staten Island School Community
7. Local public health authority notified
 - Individual must comply with NYC Test and Trace communications (pick up phone calls from 212 area code *or* “Test and Trace” identifier



PROTOCOL: Close contact of a Faculty, Student, Staff tests positive for COVID19

1. **Immediately** notify the School Nurse
2. **Close contacts will quarantine at-home for 10 days from date of exposure** (leaves home only to get medical attention) Must have PCR test 5 days after exposers with negative results to return to campus.
3. Close contacts will monitor for COVID-19 symptoms
 - **If COVID-19 symptoms appear**, contact Primary Care Physician (PCP) or Pediatrician
 - Individual and household members should wear a mask
 - **Get tested** → notify of school nurse of test date & results of a PCR test – school nurse will instruct on next steps after test results
 - Immediately notify the School Nurse
 - Report first date of symptoms
4. If **no symptoms appear for 10-days after date of exposure**, then individual may return to campus after producing a negative PCR COVID 19 Test result.
 - School Nurse and school will track 10-days from date of exposure

Close contact is defined as:

Being within less than 3-feet of COVID-19 case for at least 10 minutes (even with masks and environmental barriers)



PROTOCOL: Student is symptomatic at home

Complete DAILY screening (review symptoms of COVID-19)

Immediately call/notify the School Nurse

Contact Primary Care Physician or Pediatrician

- **If COVID-19 symptoms are present**, student is **REQUIRED** to be **PCR TESTED** for active **COVID-19** infection (COVID-19 PCR test is required)
 - If test is **NEGATIVE** → student stays home until no symptoms are present for at least 24 hours
 - To return to school after having COVID-19 symptoms, an individual will be required to provide:
 1. Copy of a **NEGATIVE** PCR test results sent to School Nurse, **and**
 2. Evaluation note/documentation from your PCP/pediatrician or other health care provider
 - If test is **POSITIVE** → student remains home
 - **Immediately** call/notify the School Nurse
 - Send copy of PCR test results to School Nurse
 - Report first date of symptoms

Protocol: Faculty, Student, Staff Attending Large Gatherings

Guidance for attending large gatherings (funerals, weddings, social events) are as follows:

- Practice social distancing
- Maintain personal protection strategies - wear mask, frequent handwashing, or hand sanitizing



Return to School Policy if symptomatic or exposed

Staten Island Academy requires a Negative PCR COVID-19 test prior to returning to school if one or more apply to you/your child:

- Develop COVID-19 symptoms
- Are exposed to someone who has COVID-19

If not COVID related, your health care provider must provide written medical clearance for return to campus if you are out for 2 or more days.

Contact the School Nurse for more details

COMMUNICATION PLAN

All communications about COVID-19 cases or exposures will be sent from the School Nurse.

COMMUNICATION:

1. “Close Contact (or within Cohort)” of a COVID-19 Confirmed-Case
2. ALL School Notification: COVID-19 Confirmed-Case within the Staten Island School Community



Helpful Resources

CDC K-12 Guidance

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>

Test Sites:

<https://www.statenislandusa.com/covidtesting.html>

<https://pmpediatrics.com/directory/>

Vaccine Sites:

<https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov/>

American Academy of Pediatrics :

<https://www.aap.org/en/news-room/news-releases/aap/2021/american-academy-of-pediatrics-updates-recommendations-for-opening-schools-in-fall-2021/>

CDC Isolation information:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html>

COVID-19 Community Stats:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data-vaccines.page>

Travel Guidelines:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>



Important School Contacts

	Title	Name	Email	Office Phone
COVID-19 Contact	School Nurse	Anna Yavorsky	ayavorsky@statenilandacademy.org	718-303-7838
Back-up COVID-19 Contact	Assistant Head of School	Eileen Corigliano	ecorigliano@statenisalndnacademy.org	917-692-3547
Lower School General Contact	Lower School Assistant	Marianne Contini	mcontini@statenilandacademy.org	718-303-7835
Middle School General Contact	Middle School Assistant	Laura Rizzo	lrizzo@statenilandacademy.org	718-303-7820
Upper School General Contact	Upper School Assistant	Dina Large	dlarge@statenilandacademy.org	718-303-7823