

Notes from the Nurse: FAQ for the Nurse-

What happens when there is a positive Covid case on campus?

When there is a positive case, contact tracing begins immediately. The nurse will speak to the student and sometimes the parent to determine who would be considered a close contact to this case. We look at the previous 48 hours and determine any close contacts that need to be notified about the positive test result. Once close contacts have been determined, we determine who is vaccinated. If your son is vaccinated and remains asymptomatic, he can remain in school as a close contact. If your son is not vaccinated, he will be sent home to quarantine for 10 days.

What is the definition of a close contact?

A close contact is defined by the Chester County health department as being within 3- 6 feet, for more than 15 minutes over a 24 hour period, indoors, without a mask, or masks being worn incorrectly. Masks need to be well fitting and worn correctly and consistently while indoors on campus.

Who is notified when there is a Covid-related issue?

Parents are notified via email/text when there is a positive test result on campus. Teachers are notified if there is a positive case in one of their classes. All close contacts are notified as well.

If my son is quarantined, how does he attend school?

The quarantine period for Covid-19 is 10 days but may depend on dates of exposure and/or symptom onset. Since we are not offering virtual learning this school year, your son will need to contact his teachers for accommodations for his school work during this time to make a plan for missed class time.

Why do I need to update my son's vaccination card?

We keep track of your son's vaccination status in case we need to identify close contacts to a positive case. If we know your son is vaccinated, he will not need to quarantine unless he is symptomatic.

Also, when determining field trips and travel opportunities for school, knowing his vaccination status helps us determine best practices for these events.

Why should I get my son vaccinated?

Vaccination for Covid-19 is the best way to protect your son from the Covid-19 virus. CDC recommends the vaccine for ages 12 and older for protection against this virus.

The vaccine keeps people from spreading COVID-19 to others. It can also help keep your child from getting seriously sick even if they do get COVID-19. Help protect your whole family by getting yourself and your children 12 years and older vaccinated against COVID-19.

What do I do if my son is symptomatic?

Please keep your son home if he is symptomatic in any way. We want to keep our doors open and want to keep our campus healthy.

If your son is not vaccinated, please get him tested to determine if he is infectious with Covid. Please contact attendance to call your son out sick.

Who do I contact if my son is sick?

If your son is sick and will not be coming to school, please contact the attendance office at attendance@malvernprep.org or call Chrissy Leonard at 484-595-1151.

Please contact the nurse if your son is sick for more than 24 hours, if they have been tested for Covid, or if they have been exposed, etc. The more information we have the better, in order to keep our campus safe and open. Email works best: emalone@malvernprep.org or please call 484-595-1160.

Are masks required for everyone on campus?

Yes, at this time masks are required for everyone who is indoors on campus, as mandated by PA/Governor Wolf. Masks are properly worn over the nose and mouth. If it is not worn correctly then it is not considered on - for contact tracing purposes.

What do I do if my son is not feeling well during the school day?

If your son is not feeling well during the school day, please direct him to the nurse's office. If he needs to be sent home a parent will be notified.

He can not be sent home or picked up by a parent for any health-related reason unless he visits the nurse first. The nurse can dismiss him and mark him as an early dismissal straight from the nurse's office.

What do I need to know if my son is going on a field trip?

Please do not pack any food for your son that contains peanuts or nuts in the ingredients. We have many students that have allergies to these foods and in order to keep our students safe, we ask that you refrain from packing snacks with these ingredients for off-campus trips.

If your son has any emergency medication that he might need on the trip (EpiPen, inhaler) please have your son carry it with them on the field trip AND contact the nurse so we can make the chaperone aware of this.

What should I remind my son when leaving for school?

Wear your mask correctly; wash your hands, and stay home if you don't feel well.