

COVID Protocol Updates

Revised November 16, 2022

Below are updated COVID protocols that the school will follow. These protocols will continue to be reviewed and updated, as needed, by the GBS Task Force in consultation with our medical advisory team as the relevant CDC, State and Local guidelines and regulations evolve.

Topic	Update
<p>Symptoms</p>	<p>When to stay home, get tested, and notify the school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A temperature greater than or equal to 100.0° F (37.8° C) ● Feel feverish or have chills ● Muscle pain or body aches ● Headaches ● Nasal congestion / runny nose ● Cough ● Sore throat ● Shortness of breath or trouble breathing ● Loss of taste or smell ● Fatigue/feeling of tiredness ● Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
<p>Screening</p>	<p>All staff and families are expected to monitor for symptoms on a daily basis and report any positive results or in-home exposures to the school as soon as possible.</p>
<p>Testing</p>	<p>Symptomatic Testing Serial rapid antigen tests (2 tests) or PCR tests are acceptable for testing in the event that a student misses school for (or is sent home with) symptoms. If using serial rapid antigen tests, the tests must be timed appropriately per the manufacturer’s directions (e.g., 24 hours apart). Test results must be sent to Nurse Marissa.</p> <p>Testing After Exposure Please see the quarantine section of this document for guidance on testing after exposure. The school will provide rapid tests for this purpose.</p> <p>Rapid Testing at School The school may administer rapid tests at school as needed. Parents will be notified when a rapid test has been used.</p>
<p>Quarantine</p>	<p>Unvaccinated individuals Unvaccinated individuals will choose one of two options below after being exposed to COVID.</p> <p>Option 1 - Quarantine (remain home)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quarantine for 5 days from exposure. On Day 5 of quarantine, unvaccinated individuals may test, and with a negative result can return to school in-person on Day 6. Masks are required both indoors and outdoors through Day 10. <p>Option 2 - Test-to-Stay (return to school)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Unvaccinated individuals will be required to test every morning with a rapid test on Days 1-5 after exposure and submit a picture of each negative result to Nurse Marissa <i>prior to arrival</i>. Masks are required both indoors and outdoors through Day 10. ● This option is not available in the case of an in-home exposure.

	<p>Vaccinated individuals Vaccinated individuals who are exposed to COVID are exempt from quarantine and can continue to come to school <i>provided they wear a mask for 5 days</i>. On Day 5 after exposure, vaccinated individuals must test, and with a negative result, can continue attending school in-person. Rapid antigen tests or PCR tests are acceptable for this purpose. Symptoms will be handled in accordance with the school's illness policy.</p> <p>Vaccinated individuals who have been <i>exposed to someone in their household (e.g., parent, sibling, etc.)</i> can continue to come to school provided that they submit a negative test result on Days 1, 3 and 5 after exposure and wear a mask for 5 days. Rapid antigen tests or PCR tests are acceptable for this purpose. All such individuals must monitor closely for symptoms and submit each negative result to Nurse Marissa <i>prior to arrival on each of the days listed</i>.</p>
Isolation	<p>Vaccinated & Unvaccinated individuals All individuals who test positive for COVID will be directed to isolate for 5 days from the time of symptom onset or if asymptomatic, from the day the positive test was collected. Vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals will be allowed to return on Day 6 as long as they have been fever-free for 24 hours and their symptoms are resolving. A negative test will no longer be required to return. All individuals will be required to wear a mask through Day 10 upon their return.</p> <p>Individuals who are unable to return on Day 6 due to continued symptoms will be able to return once they have been fever-free for 24 hours and their symptoms are resolving.</p>
Masking	<p>Mask-Optional Policy</p> <p>Masks will be optional for students and staff, with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Post-positive: Any individual who returns to school after a positive test must mask for Days 6-10. ● Post-exposure: Any individual who is exposed to a positive case must mask for 5 days (vaccinated individual) or 10 days (unvaccinated individual). ● As these events occur, the school will notify affected staff and families of applicable masking guidance. Cloth masks are not sufficient for these required categories; in the case of a requirement, a surgical mask or KN95 / KF94 mask is necessary. In cases where masking is not a requirement (i.e., voluntary), a cloth mask is sufficient. Double-masking is not required in any instance.
Vaccination	<p>All eligible staff and students ages 5+ are required to be fully vaccinated. Staff who are eligible for the initial booster vaccine are required to have them. GBS currently recommends vaccination for students under 5 years of age and may require it in the future. Parents are encouraged to speak with their pediatricians if they have any questions about the vaccine for this age group.</p>
Illness Policy	<p>Please see the school's illness policy. As we adopt evolving guidance surrounding shorter isolation and quarantine periods, it is absolutely essential that all community members adhere to our policies regarding symptoms of illness.</p>
Visitor Policy	<p>Vaccinated visitors will be mask optional. (Proof of vaccination will be required upon entry.) Unvaccinated visitors will be required to wear a mask.</p>
Travel	<p>Community members should refer to CDC guidelines regarding travel and follow these guidelines accordingly.</p>
Remote Learning	<p>Remote programming will generally consist of synchronous therapy and asynchronous classroom work. Remote programs will generally begin one full school day after notification so that teams can prepare.</p>

	<p>Healthy students in quarantine (i.e., as a result of an in-home exposure) will receive remote programming. Fully asymptomatic students can receive remote programming (i.e., the student was not tested in response to symptoms).</p> <p>Remote programming will not be provided for any symptomatic COVID-positive students.</p> <p>There are certain circumstances that may lead us to pivot to temporary remote learning at a class or school-wide level (e.g., COVID-related staffing shortages, unmanageable numbers of simultaneous positive cases and quarantine requirements). In these situations, we will follow our protocol where the first day of remote learning will follow a modified schedule to allow staff to pivot in-person planning into remote programming.</p>
<p>Afterschool Therapies and Tutoring</p>	<p>Afterschool therapy and tutoring are allowed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● After 4:00pm. ● Afterschool clients may not have contact with staff members other than the teacher or therapist that sees them. ● Parents may not wait in the lobby. ● All eligible clients are required to be fully vaccinated, and are subject to the same screening requirements as GBS students (e.g., symptoms of illness, any relevant travel restrictions, etc.). ● Each therapist is responsible for collecting proof of vaccination and handling all family communication regarding exposures. ● If a therapist has multiple clients in one day, they are responsible for any cleaning / sanitization etc (i.e., do not page cleaning crew).