



Columbus Academy

COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies and Protocols

Continue to follow guidelines of CDC, AAP, ODH, FCPH and local infectious disease experts

- Monitor level of community transmission
- Monitor percentage of population vaccinated against COVID-19 in community

COVID testing

- Students/faculty/staff with symptoms of COVID will be tested with BinaxNOW COVID-19 home test or referred for a PCR test
- COVID-19 screening testing may be utilized during sustained high levels of transmission in the community

Promoting vaccination

- Provide reliable information about vaccines to the community
- Conduct vaccine clinics on-site for influenza and COVID-19
- School nurses will document vaccination status of faculty/staff/students

Mask use

- All individuals (faculty/staff/students), regardless of vaccination status, will be masked while indoors or in close contact outside, as recommended by CDC, AAP, ODH and FCPH (<https://vax2normal.org/maskadvisory/>)
- Masks will not be required outdoors, during PE classes or during athletic competitions
- Masks are required for any student-athlete on the sidelines who is not actively participating

Physical distancing

- Classroom desks will be spaced three feet apart

Lunch

- Return to pre-COVID dining service
- Students will wear masks until seated and eating
- Students in Lower School and Middle School will have three feet of spacing while eating and will have assigned seating at lunch for contact-tracing purposes

Ventilation

- Upgraded ventilation systems to MRV 13
- Continue to open windows and doors
- Continue to utilize outdoor classrooms and spaces as much as possible

Encourage frequent handwashing

- Hand hygiene before and after eating and using the lavatory
- Continue to utilize hand sanitizers

Reinforcing illness policies

- Students will be sent home if exhibiting COVID symptoms or other communicable infections, regardless of vaccination status, until a negative COVID test or an alternative diagnosis is determined

Contact tracing, isolation and quarantine

- School nurses will conduct case investigation and contact tracing for COVID-19 exposures and provide isolation and quarantine guidelines in accordance with FCPH and the CDC
 - Individuals who are fully vaccinated will not be required to quarantine or test for COVID after exposure unless symptoms are present
 - Unvaccinated persons will have a community quarantine if an exposure occurred during school and were masked at the time of exposure
 - Unvaccinated persons who have an exposure outside of school will complete a full quarantine
 - 14 days since exposure
 - 10 days since exposure without symptoms of COVID
- OR**
- 7 days since exposure without symptoms AND a negative COVID test on day 5-6
 - COVID positive persons will complete 10 days of isolation and may return to school if fever-free for 24 hours and symptoms are resolving

Cleaning and disinfecting once a day

- Additional cleaning of high-touch surfaces or visibly dirty surfaces may be done at the classroom level

Limit nonessential visitors during periods of high community transmission