

HEALTHY AT ASSUMPTION COVID PROTOCOLS
FOR
2021 – 2022 SCHOOL YEAR

COVID-19 MASK POLICY

- On January 11, 2022, the Kentucky Department of Health, (KDPH), updated its COVID-19 policies for K-12 schools. Per the KDPH, **contact tracing and quarantining are no longer required for in school exposures if universal masking is in place and the exposed individual remains symptom free. With this change, AHS will remain in masks until further notice.**
- In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors, though mask use may be considered in outdoor settings that involve sustained close contact with other people who are unvaccinated.
- Those who are unable to wear a mask due to a medical condition may, with supporting documentation from their health care provider, wear a face shield in lieu of a mask.
- Per federal mandates, anyone riding on our bus or in our vans must be masked at all times regardless of vaccination status.
- Should the above requirements change, AHS will re-evaluate our mask policy.

COVID-19 VACCINATION:

- We strongly recommend that students get vaccinated against COVID. While the vaccine is not mandatory, we are encouraging students be vaccinated not just to avoid the possibility of catching and spreading COVID but also to avoid the real risk of frequent quarantines.
- In addition to the above, we recommend receiving the COVID booster shot, at the recommended time, for the additional protection offered against the disease.
- If a student has been recently vaccinated or received the booster, parents should submit updated proof of vaccination by scanning or taking a photo of the vaccination card and sending it to Laura.burnam@ahsrockets.org.

FEELING ILL:

- Students **must** stay home and seek an evaluation by her health care provider if experiencing COVID like symptoms such as:

- **Fever (100.4 or above)/Chills**
- **Uncontrolled cough**
- **Shortness of breath**
- **Severe Fatigue**
- **Muscle or body aches**
- **Severe headache**
- **Loss of taste or smell**
- **Sore throat**
- **New onset of congestion or runny nose**
- **Vomiting or Diarrhea**

NOTIFICATION:

- Students **must** notify our school nurse if they:
 - **Have tested positive for COVID-19; or**
 - **Suspect they may have COVID-19; or**
 - **Are placed under Isolation or Quarantine**

TESTING:

- Both rapid and PCR testing are widely available for COVID-19 screening.
- Students should not return to school while COVID-19 testing is in progress under these scenarios:
 - If they have been advised by their health care provider to undergo testing; or
 - If they are undergoing testing because they suspect they may have COVID or have COVID like symptoms; or
 - If they are unvaccinated and someone in their home either has COVID or has suffered an exposure to COVID; or
 - If they undergo a PCR test for any reason, even if it's for peace of mind testing, they should isolate at home until they receive their test results.
- Students who test positive for COVID-19 through an **“at-home” test should self-isolate and obtain an additional test (either rapid or PCR) from a medical provider to confirm the result.**
- A student who experiences COVID like symptoms and does not undergo testing, may not return until she has been cleared by our school nurse.
- AHS reserves the right to require students to provide evidence of a negative COVID test result (medically administered rapid test) to attend certain events and activities such as retreat. Said test must be performed 24 hours or less before the start of the event or activity.

ISOLATION:

- Students who are COVID positive must isolate at home and can return to school after consultation with our school nurse and if she meets one of the criteria below:

- If released by the local health department or her health care provider; or
- If symptomatic, after 5 days (return on day 6) from the onset of symptoms if her symptoms are fully resolved or after 10 days if she has lingering symptoms; or
- If asymptomatic after 5 days (return on day 6) from the date of testing.
- In the above cases, the student must continue to properly wear a mask for a full 10 days (after positive COVID test result or onset of symptoms) when around others indoors.

QUARANTINE:

- **At School Exposure** - In school settings with universal use of masking, students do not need to quarantine following at-school exposures to a person diagnosed with COVID if they if they are not experiencing symptoms. The KDPH recommends testing 5-7 days after a known at-school exposure.
- **Outside of School Exposure** - Students who suffer an exposure outside of school (ex. at home) do not need to quarantine if she meets one of the conditions below:
 - Is fully vaccinated and is not experiencing symptoms. If she is experiencing symptoms, she must quarantine per this policy.
 - Is within 90 days of having been COVID positive, as documented by a medically administered PCR or rapid test.

***Please note:** We consider our students to be fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving their second dose in a two dose series such as Pfizer or Moderna or two weeks after a single dose vaccine such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.

- **Quarantine** – Students who are quarantined must stay at home and can return to school after consultation with our school nurse and if she meets one of the conditions below:
 - After day 5 (return day 6) if she is asymptomatic during that time and receives a negative COVID-19 test on day 5 or later after the last date of exposure; or
 - After day 10 (return day 11) of the last day of exposure if she is symptom-free and does not undergo COVID-19 testing.
 - In both cases above, the student must properly wear a mask indoors and in public settings for 10 full days from the **last exposure**.

*** Please note:** The last day of exposure to the case is considered day 0. If the individual is continually exposed to COVID-19 (i.e., a household member that they are unable to isolate away from) then the last day of exposure is the last day that the case is considered infectious (day 5-10 as determined by the individual's last day of symptoms)

PHYSICAL DISTANCING:

- Physical distancing will be maintained to the extent possible depending on circumstances and space limitations.

SANITATION & HAND HYGIENE:

- Frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer will be encouraged throughout the day. Hand sanitizer, wipes, and cleaning supplies will be available in all classrooms and other areas throughout the school and frequent sanitizing of high touch spaces and nightly cleaning and sanitizing of the school will occur.

COVID RELATED ABSCENCES:

- Any absence related to isolation or quarantine for COVID will be considered an excused absence.
- Students missing school due to isolation or quarantine must check Powerschool LMS to access course information and class assignments. Participating in class virtually from home is not an option at this time.

TEST TO STAY PROTOCOL

In conjunction with the move to a mask optional policy, AHS is adopting a “test to stay” modified quarantine program which allows **unvaccinated individuals who are exposed to COVID-19 to continue with in-person learning with repeated negative COVID-19 testing**. This program is optional and eligible students may choose to quarantine at home instead of test to stay.

- **Qualifications to participate in Test To Stay:** To qualify for test to stay, an unvaccinated student must:
 - Have been exposed to a person with COVID-19. This exposure can be either a school related exposure or an exposure that occurs outside of school (e.g. at home or from a social activity, etc.).
 - Be entirely asymptomatic, without any signs or symptoms of COVID-19; and
 - Properly wear a mask indoors for the entirety of the program even if all test results are negative. The mask should fit securely over the nose and mouth; and
 - Quarantine at home when not at school except in situations noted below.
- **Procedure for Test To Stay:** Students who meet the requirements above for test to stay will be notified by our school nurse that they are eligible for the program and must abide by the following to participate and remain in the test to stay program for their full period of quarantine:
 - Students must arrive at school between 7:30am and 7:45am and enter through the Theatre entrance (former main entrance) and go directly to the nurse’s office. On 9:15am start days, students should arrive between 8:30-8:45am.
 - Students will be tested each day of their quarantine, via rapid test, by our school nurse or designee. Rapid results will be ready in 15 minutes or less. Students

will be held in the nurse's office or a nearby holding area until results are ready. No other testing, including at home administered test kits/results, will be accepted

- Students who test negative will be released to classes by our school nurse/designee. If the student continues to test negative, she will be notified of her last day of testing and released by our school nurse from the test to stay program once she has completed her period of modified quarantine.
- Students who test positive at any time must be picked up immediately by a parent/designee and should isolate at home. Covid positive students will be contacted by our school nurse and notified when they can return to school based on the above procedure outlined under **Isolation**.
- Students who are in the test to stay program must properly wear a mask (covering both nose and mouth) at all times except for lunch. The school nurse or designee will communicate to select administrators and staff which students are in the test to stay program on a daily basis.
- Students in the test to stay program must check in at the start of lunch with the lunch proctor. The lunch proctor will direct the student to a designated area at the counter overlooking the courtyard in the cafeteria to eat lunch. Students in the program cannot eat at the cafeteria tables since they must remove their masks to eat. Students who do not check in with the lunch proctor at the start of their lunch period risk having their name called over the microphone by the lunch proctor.
- Students must quarantine when not at school and cannot participate in athletics. Students may be allowed to participate in other school related extracurricular activities as determined on a case by case basis and considering protective measures that will be in place for that activity (including universal masking) as well as the risk of exposure to others.
- Any student who is found not adhering to the mask policy (which means both nose and mouth are fully covered) or any other requirements of this policy will be removed from the test to stay program and required to complete their remaining period of quarantine at home.
- Student must show up every day of their modified quarantine period as instructed by our school nurse or designee (students cannot be absent) otherwise they will be removed from the program and required to complete the remaining period of quarantine at home.

IDENTIFICATION, INVESTIGATION, AND CONTACT TRACING:

AHS must follow all state and local health mandates for reporting COVID-19 cases and assisting with identification, investigation, and contact tracing when required.

KHSAA REQUIREMENTS: The KSHAA requires that a student athlete who tests positive for COVID be examined by a physician (either MD or DO) and receive medical clearance from her physician using the KHSAA COVID-19 Return to Play Form [found here](#) before she is eligible to begin the KHSAA mandatory COVID-19 Return to Play Protocol.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS:

This policy is a starting point in addressing issues related to students and COVID-19. Additional situations will be considered on a case by case basis and with direction of our school nurse, other medical experts if necessary, and the local health department. Assumption High School reserves the right to direct a student not to return to school or to provide a medical release from their health care provider before returning to school if AHS deems it in the best interest of the health and safety of the school community.

- In the event that the state restricts travel due to COVID, AHS may recommend that families comply with any travel ban or travel advisory in effect.
- With continuous changes related to COVID-19, these guidelines may be modified at any time.

UPDATED: February 4, 2022