

Parent Town Hall



St. Coletta Health & Safety

- * 3 students (0.01%) and 3 staff (~0.015) have tested positive (out of 250+ students and 300 staff)
- * 3 classrooms have quarantined
- * 0 close contacts have reported testing positive for COVID
- * 0 incidents of outbreaks or spread
- * 99% of staff are vaccinated
- * Approx. 25% of eligible students have provided us proof of vaccination

Vaccination

- * Information from CDC on vaccines:
- * COVID-19 vaccines are effective at preventing infection, serious illness, and death. Most people who get COVID-19 are unvaccinated. However, since vaccines are not 100% effective at preventing infection, some people who are fully vaccinated will still get COVID-19. An infection of a fully vaccinated person is referred to as a “breakthrough infection.” (information taken from CDC website.)
- * 660,000 deaths attributed to COVID
- * 350 million doses of the vaccine, 0.0020% (7,000) deaths
- * **Reports of adverse events... following vaccination, including deaths, do not necessarily mean that a vaccine caused a health problem.**

What We Know about Vaccine Breakthrough Infections

- * Breakthrough infections are expected. COVID-19 vaccines are effective at preventing most infections. However, like most vaccines, they are not 100% effective.
- * Fully vaccinated people with a breakthrough infection are less likely to develop serious illness than those who are unvaccinated and get COVID-19.
- * Even when fully vaccinated people develop symptoms, they tend to be less severe symptoms than in unvaccinated people. This means they are much less likely to be hospitalized or die than people who are not vaccinated.
- * (information taken from CDC website)

American Pediatrics Association

- * Opening schools generally does not significantly increase community transmission, particularly when guidance outlined by the World Health Organization (WHO),³ United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is followed.^{4,5} There are still possibilities for transmission of SARS-CoV-2, especially for individuals and families who have chosen not to be vaccinated or are not eligible to be vaccinated.
- * The AAP believes that, at this point in the pandemic, given what we know about low rates of in-school transmission when proper prevention measures are used, together with the availability of effective vaccines for those age 12 years and up, that the benefits of in-person school outweigh the risks in almost all circumstances.

Layered protections

- * Mandatory masks for all adults
- * Students are encouraged to wear masks except for those with medical exemption
- * PPE
- * Regular and consistent cleaning
- * Air ventilation
- * Social distancing- desks are spaced, dividers are between desks, classrooms have alternate space
- * Following return to school procedures and staying home when sick

Visitor reminders

- * MASKS ARE REQUIRED and must be worn at all times in the school building
- * Maintain distance to others in our lobby
- * Use hand sanitizer at our front lobby station as needed
- * Limit time spent in lobby- schedule a phone/zoom meeting with teachers
- * Meetings with administrators are virtual

Student return to school

Keep students home if...

Any ONE (1) of the Red Flag Symptoms

- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fever

Any TWO (2) of the following symptoms. (For symptoms in **BOLD** we will follow our established policies of sending students home until 24 hour symptom free.)

- Chills
- Muscle or body aches
- Sore throat
- Unusual amount of fatigue
- Nausea or **vomiting**
- Runny nose or congestion
- **Diarrhea**

Student return to school after illness (not a close contact)

- A doctor's note indicating an alternate diagnosis that is not COVID. The alternate diagnosis must be included in their return to school note.
- A negative PCR COVID test, in which they could return as soon as they are symptom free for 24 hours
- If a student is sick and they are NOT seen by a doctor, they must stay home for 10 days or until they are symptom free for 24 hours WHICHEVER IS LATER.
- If a student is seen by a medical provider for non-COVID related health issues, a doctor's note stating why they were seen and indicating they are cleared to return to school is required.

Student dismissal from school due to symptoms

- * Student's exhibiting symptoms will be taken to one of 3 isolation rooms and observed by nursing
- * If symptoms do not resolve, parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up their child
- * Student's exhibiting symptoms are not permitted to ride the school bus home
- * Parents must have an emergency plan in place if they are unable to pick up their child
- * Students should be picked up within 1 hour of parent/guardian being contacted

Return to school after close contact/quarantine

- * If a student was considered a close contact, they need to follow quarantine guidance from DOH and COVID compliance manager.
- * Quarantine is 7-10 days (or more) from date of exposure given specific factors.
- * If a student is fully vaccinated and tests negative, they may return after the appropriate time (usually 7 days.)
- * If a student is NOT fully vaccinated and has a negative test, they still need to quarantine the full 10 days.
- * Return could be longer if student begins to exhibit symptoms, or there are still staff out on quarantine.

COVID communications procedure

- A positive case is reported
- Investigation to determine close contacts by admin
- Positive case reported to DOH
- St. Coletta School COVID comp. manager communicates directly with close contacts via phone, follow up with email
- A school community letter will be sent to all families and staff after close contacts have been notified
- The COVID compliance manager will follow up with a DOH findings letter and potential date of the end of quarantine
- School admin and/or nursing will follow up for student return

Close contact

- * A close contact is any person, regardless of vaccination status, who is within six feet of a COVID-19 positive individual for equal to or greater than 15 minutes. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) K-12 Exception states students will not be identified as close contacts if they are at least three feet apart and consistently wearing masks (adults are not included in this exception).

Contact tracing

- * Determine infectious period (2-5 days prior to onset of symptoms or positive COVID result)
- * Gather contact tracing lists from classroom
- * Interview staff
- * Review classroom video as applicable
- * Get bus route information
- * COVID compliance manager will communicate with all close contacts

Classroom quarantine

- * Once close contacts are determined, decisions on quarantine will be made
- * An entire class may be sent home for asynchronous instruction for two reasons:
 - * It was determined all students were close contacts
 - * It was determined the number of staff considered close contacts prevents classroom from being held in-person

Instruction while in quarantine

- * The first day will be a “pause” day to give teachers time to set up for asynchronous instruction.
- * Students will engage in asynchronous instruction using ULS activities.
- * Teacher and staff will check in virtually.
- * Videos for specials will be made available.

Answers to questions

- * Testing: we are looking into testing for students for random sample testing
- * School wide closure: this decision would come from a city-wide closure, or per DOH directive given an outbreak. Given the structure of our school, there is a low risk of a school-wide outbreak
- * Vaccination requirements: we are not requiring student vaccines at this time; however, LA County has mandated vaccinations for all eligible students, so it could happen in DC at some point
- * Vaccinated pods: we are logistically not able to do this at this time. If your child is fully vaccinated, please send us a copy of their vaccine card for us to have on file as it could determine shorter quarantine periods

Keep an eye out for...

- * Parent newsletter
- * Back To School Night- virtual event flier
 - * Wednesday, September 29 from 3:30-4:00pm
 - * Introduce House teachers/therapists, curriculum updates, theme activities