



## **2021-2022 Health-Safety COVID Guidelines**

### **HYGIENE & CLEANING**

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads primarily in the same way that the flu and other respiratory diseases spread, through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.

As such, we will:

- Teach, reinforce, and practice good hygiene measures such as hand washing and cough/sneeze etiquette.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched areas and any areas likely exposed to COVID-19 infection.
- Manage air quality through fresh air, filtration, and ventilation.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

- All students will have an assigned seat.
- To increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, windows will remain slightly open.
- All vehicles will be thoroughly disinfected at the end of each day.

### **VISITORS**

Necessary visitors are allowed on campus and are expected to follow the same health and safety requirements as employees.

### **SPACING AND SEATING CHARTS**

- Classrooms will continue to be spread out as much as possible with the minimum goal of 3' distance between students per public health official recommendations.
- Seating charts will be maintained to facilitate contact tracing.
- A separate area will be maintained to care for anyone with a suspected COVID-19 infection.

## MASKS

- Parents have the responsibility to decide whether or not their children will wear masks.
- School employees and visiting parents/guardians have the option to wear a mask.
- For employees and students, masks should not include writing or logos other than the ACA logo, nor should they feature fluorescent colors, glitter, images, or other accents or colors that might be distracting for other students.
- Neck gaiters, vented masks, and mesh masks are not permitted.
- When usage is required, masks should be worn properly, covering both the nose and mouth.
- Masks will be provided upon request.
- Following isolation, exposure, or quarantine, masks may be required for a period of time in order to return to campus, as outlined below.

## SCHOOL-SANCTIONED GATHERINGS, ACTIVITIES, & ATHLETICS

The following guidelines apply to activities on or off campus that include students.

- All gatherings including students must be pre-approved by the Director of Operations ([drosenzweig@atlantaclassical.org](mailto:drosenzweig@atlantaclassical.org)) to facilitate cleaning and preparation.  
Activity leaders will:
  - Supervise participants at all times.
  - Take note of any students who are within 3' of others for 15 minutes or more and are not both wearing masks. This allows us to contact trace should an infection occur.
- When possible, restrooms should be limited to two persons at a time. ACA will adhere to GHSA guidelines, where appropriate. The Athletics Director and coaches will monitor requirements and communicate the same to athletes, parents, and spectators.

## WHEN TO STAY HOME

- **Students and employees who have symptoms or are sick (e.g fever, cough, nausea, sore throat, respiratory distress, etc.) should stay home.**
- Parents, caregivers, or guardians are asked to monitor their children for symptoms of infectious illness every day through home-based symptom screening. **Students who are sick should not attend school in-person.**
- Students who cannot attend class should report absences to

[attendance@atlantaclassical.org](mailto:attendance@atlantaclassical.org) and their teacher(s). Employees with symptoms should notify their supervisor.

- Sick individuals should follow steps recommended by public health officials (avoid spreading germs, isolate) and should not return to campus until the recommended criteria to discontinue home isolation are met, in consultation with healthcare providers. **Questions about when to return should be directed to the school nurse ([health@atlantaclassical.org](mailto:health@atlantaclassical.org))**

## **SYMPTOMS ON CAMPUS**

Staff or students that present with symptoms of communicable disease (fever, cough, runny nose) at school will be evaluated by the school nurse for further follow-up. If symptoms are confirmed, symptomatic individuals will be escorted to the designated area at the school, and parents will be contacted for pick-up and provided further guidance by the school nurse. ACA will ensure symptomatic students safely remain under the supervision of a staff member until parents or guardians arrive. Individuals presenting with a fever cannot return until symptom-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications. If a healthcare provider suspects COVID-19 the student should remain out of school and follow quarantine and isolation guidance below. Cleaning and disinfection of the designated space will take place promptly following the student's departure.

## **RESPONSE TO POSITIVE CASES**

If a student or staff member contracts COVID-19, the school will provide information on isolation requirements and return-to-school criteria. Should a student need to isolate or quarantine, principals, teachers, and the Student Services department (when applicable) coordinate with students and families to support academic progress. As soon as possible, the school will complete contact tracing, and provide close contacts with the school's quarantine guidelines and return to school criteria. Contact tracing will protect the privacy of all parties.

## **TYPES OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**Phone Notices** will be provided to all students and employees who test positive or are identified as close contacts as a result of a school activity, followed by a written notice.

**Positive Notices** are sent to people who have tested positive for COVID-19. The positive notice outlines the requirements for isolation and returning to campus.

**Close Contact Notices** are sent to people who have been in close contact with a person who has tested positive, as recommended by public health officials. The close contact notice outlines the requirements for quarantine and returning to campus.

**Public Health Notifications** will be sent to public health officials in the case of positive infections and outbreaks, as required by GA Dept of Health.

**Legenda** will include an updated case count each week in order to remain consistent and transparent about how COVID-19 is impacting our campus.

## QUARANTINE & ISOLATION GUIDELINES

Atlanta Classical Academy adheres to the following quarantine and isolation guidelines.

**Isolate:** Self-isolation is required for those who have received a positive test result, even if they don't have symptoms. If you have tested positive for COVID, you should isolate yourself from others, including family members.

### **You may discontinue isolation after the following criteria have been met:**

5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, or, if you did not have symptoms, since the date of your positive test, and

- 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, and
- other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving. (Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation.)
- **Strict mask usage is required around others for 5 additional days.**

Note that these recommendations do not apply to people with severe COVID-19 or with weakened immune systems (immunocompromised). Talk to your healthcare provider for more information.

**Quarantine:** Quarantine from others is required for those who have been in close contact\* of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

- During quarantine, you should monitor for symptoms. If you become symptomatic or receive a positive test result, you will then be required to isolate per guidelines above.
- For people who are unvaccinated or have not received all recommended vaccine doses, **quarantine for five (5) days followed by strict mask use for an additional five (5) days.**
  - *Note- to allow time for individuals to catch up with the latest recommendations and to minimize disruption to in-person learning, we encourage boosters, but do not require them in order to forgo quarantine at this time.*
  - *Test-To-Stay (TTS) option: Instead of quarantine, asymptomatic individuals who are not fully-vaccinated with an in-school close-contact exposure may opt to:*
    - *Correctly and consistently wear a KN95 mask for the entire 10-day period*
    - *Provide daily lab-verified negative rapid test results (home testing is not accepted) through day 5.*
    - *Note: out of school close-contact exposure does not qualify for Test-To-Stay*
- If you have received all recommended vaccine doses, you do not need to quarantine following an exposure, but should **consistently and correctly wear a mask for 10**

**days after the exposure.** Please contact the school nurse - [health@atlantaclassical.org](mailto:health@atlantaclassical.org) with details.

- If you had lab-confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days, you do not need to be quarantined following an exposure, but should **consistently and correctly wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure.** Home tests are not considered lab-confirmed tests. Please provide lab results to the school nurse - [health@atlantaclassical.org](mailto:health@atlantaclassical.org).
- If a student is unable or unwilling to properly wear a required mask, parents will be called to pick them up.
- For all those exposed, a test for SARS-CoV-2 is encouraged at day five after exposure. A list of free testing sites can be found [here](#) and [here](#). If you receive a positive test result when testing on day 5 after exposure, please contact the school nurse - [health@atlantaclassical.org](mailto:health@atlantaclassical.org) and follow DPH isolation guidance.

Note that these recommendations do not apply to people with severe COVID-19 or weakened immune systems (immunocompromised). Talk to your healthcare provider for more information.

#### **\*Definition of a Close Contact**

A close contact is someone who was within 6 feet of a person who has tested positive for COVID for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, beginning from 2 days before they have any symptoms (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days before the positive specimen collection date), until they meet criteria for discontinuing home isolation. In the indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) were engaged in **consistent** and **correct** use of well-fitting masks.

## For more information

Please review the following guidance documents for additional information.

- CDC Guidance on Quarantine and Isolation  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>
- GA DPH Guidance on Covid Quarantine, Isolation, and Contact Tracing  
<https://dph.georgia.gov/dph-covid-19-guidance>
- CDC Information on Close Contacts  
[cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#contact](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#contact)
- CDC Quarantine Guidance for Schools  
[cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-contact-tracing/about-quarantine.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-contact-tracing/about-quarantine.html)
- CDC Science Brief on Transmission in Schools  
[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/transmission\\_k\\_1\\_2\\_schools.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/transmission_k_1_2_schools.html)
- A list of free testing sites can be found at  
<https://www.coreresponse.org/covid-19/atlanta-ga> and  
<https://www.fultoncountyga.gov/covid-19/covid-testing-sites>