



# SALISBURY

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## CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

### COVID-19 Response Plan: **2021-2022 School Year**

**Revised: January 10, 2022**

#### **PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT:**

This document outlines isolation and quarantine guidelines, per recommendations from the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) issued in January 2022. Additional, ongoing illness mitigation efforts continue at SCS (air purification, hydrostatic spray cleaning, etc.) but are no longer outlined in this document, for simplicity and clarity. SCS will continue to follow these guidelines unless changes are required by MDH/MSDE.

#### **DISCLAIMER STATEMENT:**

Due to the fluid nature of the COVID-19 virus, all plans are subject to adaptation and change as warranted by the pandemic situation. SCS will make every attempt to communicate in a timely, efficient, and clear manner regarding any necessary changes.

#### **RELEVANT TOPICS & PROCEDURES:**

##### Students/Staff Who are Ill:

It continues to be imperative that anyone who is not feeling well or exhibiting any COVID-like symptoms act with caution and stay home. For all illnesses other than COVID, students and staff may return to school after being free from fever, vomiting, and diarrhea for 24 hours without the use of medication.

##### Vaccination Statement:

We strongly believe that vaccination is a personal choice and that each individual has the right to personal privacy regarding that choice. SCS will not require nor track any documentation for COVID vaccination among students or staff at this time. We will strive to respect one another even when personal opinions may differ. While SCS has prioritized treating all individuals equally, regardless of vaccination status, the CDC/MDH/MSDE guidelines adjust quarantine requirements for vaccinated individuals. SCS will honor these adjustments in order to prioritize in-person learning for students and staff. Since SCS does not track COVID vaccination status, individuals who desire to be exempt from quarantine will need to provide evidence of vaccination status to the School Nurse each time a primary exposure occurs (see details below).

##### Persons Who Have Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 (Isolation):

All persons who test positive for COVID-19 or have suspected COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, should notify the School Nurse and then complete isolation as follows:

- Stay home for at least 5 full days from the date of symptom onset if symptomatic or the date of the positive test if no symptoms. (Day 1 is considered the first full day after symptoms started or after the positive test if asymptomatic.)
- After Day 5, if the person has no symptoms or if symptoms are improved and they have had no fever for at least 24 hours without medication, they may return to school if they wear a well-fitting mask when around others for an additional 5 days. Those choosing this option assume personal responsibility for wearing his/her mask. If the person is unable to wear a mask around others, they should remain at home for a full 10 days.

Persons Who Are Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine):

Vaccinated individuals and/or those who had a confirmed COVID case within the last 90 days are not required to quarantine for primary exposure. They should, however, wear a mask around others for 10 days after the exposure. Seeking a COVID test on or after day 5 of exposure is recommended.

Unvaccinated individuals should quarantine for 5 days after a primary exposure. If the person develops symptoms they should get tested immediately and remain at home; if the test is positive, they should follow the recommendations for isolation above. If the test is negative OR the person has not developed any symptoms after day 5, they may return to school if they wear a mask when around others until 10 days after the exposure.

Masks:

Generally speaking, SCS will operate as a mask-friendly campus. This means that we will allow each individual student, staff member, family, or visitor to take personal responsibility for his/her health by choosing whether or not to wear a mask.

Transportation:

Currently, the only federal mandate related to masks is their requirement on public transportation conveyances; according to MDH/MSDE guidance, school buses (including private school buses) are covered by this mandate. Therefore, with respect to this mandate, we ask that students and bus drivers wear a mask on our school buses.

Visitors:

To help minimize exposure for our students and staff members, visitors will only be permitted in the main entrance areas of each building (the lobby and up to the School Store area).

Athletics:

Per the ESIAC (Eastern Shore Independent Athletic Conference) expectation, masks are required for all spectators, student-athletes, and coaches for indoor sports. Masks may be removed by coaches and student-athletes when participating in game play. For away games, any additional requirements held by other schools must be followed and will be communicated to players and spectators prior to game day.