

Updated Covid-19 Policy 2/8/21

New Policy: Students in all grades must wear masks at all times. This now includes the Preschool classes, Kindergarten and Grade 1.

Updated Travel Requirements: With February vacation approaching, if you travel to any of the high risk states, you must quarantine for 10 days, or produce a negative Covid-19 test result that has been administered up to 72 hours, prior to your arrival back in Massachusetts. If not obtained before entry into Massachusetts, a test may be obtained after arrival, however, all such arriving travelers must immediately begin the 10 day quarantine until a negative test result has been received. We will not accept a rapid test for this requirement.

These are the Mass DPH and State guidelines. Please see link below for more information.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order#lower-risk-states->

We have been doing so well because everyone has been so diligent regarding keeping their child out if they are sick. We want to keep our school open. Hence, our firm resolve and commitment to our policies.

If your child is sick and has any symptoms as stated below, keep them home and have them tested (we will not accept the Rapid Test, it must be the PCR Test). If the test comes back negative, they may return to school when their symptoms and fever have subsided for 24 hours without use of medication. If the test comes back positive, they must remain out of school for a minimum of 10 days from the onset of first symptoms and also must be symptom and fever free without medication for 24 hours before they return. Release from isolation is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health where the child resides.

If you do not want to get them tested, they may return to school 14 days from the start of symptoms, as long as their symptoms have improved and they have been without fever for at least 24 hours prior to their return to school without the use of fever reducing medicines.

Anyone who is a close contact must be tested and self-quarantine for 14 days after the last exposure to the person who tested positive regardless of their own personal test result.

If a child goes home sick or is out sick with Covid-like symptoms, all family members must stay home as well until Covid is ruled out.

If you travel to a high-risk area, you must quarantine for 10 days, or produce a negative Covid-19 test result that has been administered up to 72 hours, prior to your arrival back in Massachusetts. If not obtained before entry into Massachusetts, a test may be obtained after

arrival, however, all such arriving travelers must immediately begin the 10 day quarantine until a negative test result has been received. We will not accept a rapid test for this requirement.. Please notify the school office if you will be traveling to a high-risk area. Your child has the ability to continue their education remotely, and the school will do what is needed to support that. Students who learn remotely will not be marked absent IF they participate in class for the day.

Again, we realize that these are very strict policies, but we feel this is the only way we will be able to keep the school open as we head into the winter months.

COVID 19 RELATED SYMPTOMS – (most children diagnosed with Covid have very mild symptoms)

(Students with any of these symptoms must stay out of school and be tested for Covid-19)

- ***Fever (temperature of 100.0F or above) and/or feel feverish and/or have chills)***
- ***Cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)***
- ***Sore throat***
- ***Difficulty breathing/shortness of breath***
- ***Gastrointestinal symptoms (diarrhea, nausea, vomiting)***
- ***Nasal congestion or runny nose***
- ***Fatigue***
- ***Headache***
- ***New loss of smell/taste***
- ***New muscle/body aches.***

Remember to stay in your family cohorts and avoid large family and friend gatherings during the holidays. Wear your masks and stay six feet apart! Prevent the spread of Covid!!

The Covid-19 Response Team
St. Monica School