

# Covid-19 Pandemic Handbook 2022/2023

As we begin the 2022/2023 school year, masks are optional for children and staff. The only exception to this is when Richmond City is at a **High Community Level** according to the CDC's Community Level Tracker.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>

When the City of Richmond is at the **High Level**, we are recommending that all staff & children will follow the CDC's guidance which states:

- Wear a well-fitting mask indoors in public, regardless of vaccination status (including in K-12 schools and other indoor community settings)

## Quarantine Guidelines

if a person is exposed to COVID-19, but has:

- (1) tested positive for and recovered from COVID-19 within the last 6 months, **or**
- (2) is up to date on vaccines- including all eligible boosters, **or**
- (3) both of the above conditions

...that person will no longer be recommended to quarantine, but rather should monitor for symptoms and follow isolation protocols should they appear.

If a person is exposed to Covid-19 and has **not**:

- (1) tested positive for and recovered from COVID-19 within the last 6 months, **or**
- (2) is not up to date on vaccines- including eligible boosters

...that person will need to quarantine and follow the guidelines below unless they are participating in the Test To Stay Program at St. Thomas' Day School.

- Quarantine (stay home) and separate yourself from other people and pets as much as possible for at least 5 days (Days 0–5) after your last exposure.
- Get tested on or soon after Day 5, if possible. If your test is positive, follow the isolation guidance.
- You can end quarantine (leave your home) after Day 5 if you have no symptoms and can wear a mask when around others for Days 6–10. If you cannot wear a mask around others, quarantine at home until Day 10.

- If you end quarantine after Day 5, you should avoid areas where you cannot wear a mask, avoid people with weakened immune systems or who are at high risk for severe COVID-19, avoid other people when you are eating, and avoid travel for Days 6–10.

If a person is exposed to Covid-19 and has **not**:

- (1) tested positive for and recovered from COVID-19 within the last 6 months, **or**
- (2) is not up to date on vaccines- including eligible boosters **and**
- (3) is participating in the Test To Stay Program

...that person can remain at school/work if they follow the Test To Stay Guidelines which include

- Have a signed consent form on file
- Test negative after exposure for 5 days, rather than quarantining at home using the proctored covid tests provided by the VDH and distributed at the Day School
- Wear a mask at school/work for 10 days following the exposure

If a person tests positive anytime during this time, they will stay home and follow the current isolation/quarantining guidelines for a person testing positive for covid-19.

**If ST. THOMAS' DAY SCHOOL has a case of Covid-19 and staff or children have been exposed**

- St. Thomas' Day School will notify families and staff of the exposure while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If it is an outbreak which is defined as 3 or more epidemiologically linked cases, the Day School will report it using the online RHHH School RedCap portal and notify Epidemiologist Chtaura Jackson by email.

**Additional Precautions**

- Daily health screening
- Electronic check in/out
- Sanistride Sanitizing Mat
- Washing hands upon arrival
- Wiping down high touch areas in the classrooms and bathrooms multiple times daily
- Wiping down high touch areas on the playground each morning before school begins
- Sanitizing stations available when soap & water are unavailable
- Individual classroom toys, art bins, and sensory bins
- Childcare classes will be grouped with the same children as much as possible
- Daily cleaning each day after the children leave
- Air purifiers with hepa filters in all of the classrooms
- Any additional guidelines from the VDH, CDC, and VDOE as needed

**Extended Closing of the Center Due to COVID-19**

In the case of a public health crisis such as Covid -19, St. Thomas' Day School will follow the guidelines from the Department of Health and CDC in regards to closings. If St. Thomas' Day School needs to close for 2 consecutive weeks, full tuition will be due. If St. Thomas' Day School needs to close for 3-4 consecutive weeks, 50% tuition will be due. If St. Thomas' Day School needs to close for over 4 consecutive weeks, no tuition will be due. If a family would like to make a tax deductible donation, a receipt will be issued for tax purposes.