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# Safety Protocol for Classes During COVID-19/Delta Variant (as of August 26, 2021)

## **Personal Preventative Measures**

- Wear masks properly – must cover both nose and mouth.
- Handwashing and using hand sanitizers will be encouraged and enforced.
- At least 3-feet physical distance between each person will be maintained, where feasible. Increased ventilation is provided in classrooms.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Stay home if feeling unwell.
- Don't share food or drinks.

## **School Measures**

- Face masks, not face shields, are required for everyone inside our building whether vaccinated or not.
  - UV lights are installed in air handler coils and ducts with a 254 nm. This system has proven to kill up to 99.9% of bacteria, pathogens and mold.
  - Students will bring water bottles to school and will only use water fountains to fill their bottles when needed.
  - Social distancing will be observed at all times.
  - Student desks will be paced a minimum of 3-feet apart when possible. When not possible, we plan for more frequent hand sanitizing and increased airflow from outdoors.
  - Students will travel between classes and desks will be sanitized between classes.
  - Masks must fit securely over the nose and mouth and not hang openly below as with a bandana.
  - Masks need not be worn outside unless social distancing cannot be maintained.
  - Lunches will be eaten outside as long as masking is mandated. On bad weather days we can have lunch inside strictly maintaining social distancing and increase ventilation by opening windows, etc.
  - An isolation area, which will be cleaned and disinfected after each use, will be available for anyone feeling ill or showing any of the COVID-19/Delta symptoms.
  - Dr. Fauci stated that children as young as 4 years old "would likely be able to get vaccinated by the time we reach the end of calendar year 2021, and at the latest, into the first quarter of 2022." When all children are able to be vaccinated, and show proof of vaccination, we will be able withdraw the mandate for mask wearing inside our school building.
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## **COVID-19 and Delta Variant Symptoms**

The symptoms of COVID-19 and the new Delta variant are very similar. The difference is that the **Delta variant symptoms** are more like those of a common cold, such as cough, fever or headache, with the addition of significant loss of smell.

Following are COVID-19 symptoms:

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting

## **When to Quarantine**

Quarantine if you have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a total of 15 minutes or more) with someone who has COVID-19 or its Delta variant, unless you have been fully vaccinated. People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who had COVID-19/Delta variant unless they have symptoms.

If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you should get tested 3-5 days after your exposure, even if you don't have symptoms. You should also wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until your test result is negative. You should isolate for 10 days if your test result is positive.

## **You may be able to shorten your quarantine:**

Your local public health authorities make the final decisions about how long quarantine should last, based on local conditions and needs. Follow the recommendations of your local public health department if you need to quarantine. Options they will consider include stopping quarantine:

- After day 10 without testing
  - After day 7 following a negative test result (test must occur on day 5 or later)
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## **Individuals Confirmed or Suspected with COVID-19 or its Delta Variant**

1. Any individuals who themselves either: (a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 or the Delta variant; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID-19 or the Delta variant (listed above) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until they are screened to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:

- In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19 or the Delta variant, the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:
    - i. at least one day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
    - ii. the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
    - iii. at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
  
  - In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 or the Delta variant and is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19 or the Delta variant, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19/Delta variant, and the individual may not return to campus until the individual has completed the same three-step set of criteria listed above.
  
  - If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 or symptoms of the Delta variant and wants to return to school before completing the above stay at home period, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis, or (b) obtain an acute infection test at an approved testing location.
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## **Identifying Possible COVID-19/Delta Variant Cases on Campus**

- Any student who shows symptoms of these infections while at school will be immediately separated until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian.
- All areas used by the individual who shows symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) will be disinfected as soon as is feasible.
- Students who report feeling feverish will be given an immediate temperature check to determine whether they are symptomatic for COVID-19 or its Delta variant.

## **Practices to Respond to a Lab-Confirmed Case in the School**

*Required Actions if Individuals with Lab-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School:*

1. If an individual who has been in the school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 or its Delta Variant, Kirby Hall will notify our local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
  2. Areas will be closed off that were heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 7 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
  3. Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, Kirby Hall will notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 or Delta variant case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate in any on-campus activities.
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## Travel and Quarantine

**Kirby Hall will not have distance or hybrid learning for the 2021-2022 school year. Children will have to obtain class and homework assignments for any absences and return completed assignments upon return to school.**

### Those who have been fully vaccinated:

- Participate in many of the activities that they did prior to the pandemic; for some of these activities, they may choose to wear a mask.
- To reduce the risk of being infected with the Delta variant and possibly spreading it to others, mask wearing is mandated inside of Kirby Hall whether vaccinated or not.
- If you travel in the United States, you do not need to get tested before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel.
- You need to pay close attention to the situation at your international destination before traveling outside the United States.
  - o You do NOT need to get tested **before** leaving the United States unless your destination requires it.
  - o You still need to **show a negative test result** or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 **before** boarding an international flight to the United States.
  - o You should still get tested 3-5 days after international travel.
  - o You do NOT need to self-quarantine after arriving in the United States.
  - o If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you should get tested 3-5 days after your exposure, even if you don't have symptoms. You should also wear a mask indoors for public for 14 days following exposure or until your test result is negative. You should isolate for 10 days if your test result is positive.

### Those who are not fully vaccinated:

If you are not fully vaccinated and must travel, take the following steps to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. The most important thing is to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

- Before you travel:
    - o Get tested with a **viral test** 1-3 days before your trip.
  - While you are traveling:
    - o **Wearing a mask over your nose and mouth is required** on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and while indoors at U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations. Travelers are not required to wear a mask in outdoor areas of a conveyance (like on open deck areas of a ferry or the uncovered top deck of a bus). CDC recommends that travelers who are not fully vaccinated continue to wear a mask and maintain physical distance when traveling.
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- Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet/2 meters (about 2 arm lengths) from anyone who is not traveling with you.
  - Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol).
  
  - After you travel:
    - Get tested with a **viral test** 3-5 days after travel **AND** stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.
      - Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
      - If your test is positive, **isolate** yourself to protect others from getting infected.
    - If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
    - Avoid being around people who are at **increased risk for severe illness** for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
    - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
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