



2021-22 COVID-19 Health & Safety Protocols

Updated March 2022

Canterbury School's health policies are based on detailed school-specific guidance provided by the [StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit](#), produced by the NC Department of Health and Human Services. Advice from these authorities and Canterbury's application thereof is subject to change based on factors in our local community, state, and country.

After reviewing these health and safety protocols, Canterbury parents must sign the form assigned to them in CLAW acknowledging their understanding of the policies and procedures below.

Key Protocols

Illness

- You must keep your child at home and contact Nurse Lauren Varkey to discuss their safe return to campus if they have any symptoms of illness, including:
 - Fever (temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher)
 - Sore throat
 - Cough (for people with chronic cough due to allergies or asthma, a change in their cough from baseline)
 - Nasal Congestion
 - Difficulty breathing (for people with asthma, a change from their baseline breathing)
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea or vomiting
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- If you have any questions about whether your child should attend school because of symptoms they are having, keep them home for the day.
- If a child starts to feel unwell at school, a parent or guardian will be asked to pick them up.
- Families must coordinate with Nurse Lauren for return-to-school testing. We cannot accept home COVID-19 tests for students' or staff members' return to school after symptoms of illness.

- Even if your child tests negative for COVID-19, we ask you to keep them at home until their symptoms are improving for 24 hours. If your child does return to school, we suggest that they wear a mask until their symptoms have resolved.
- Parents must keep sick students at home for at least 24 hours after a fever related to *any* illness subsides without the use of anti-fever medicines.

Masks

- Canterbury is a mask-optional learning environment for students, faculty, and visitors.
- Masking is required for 5 days after a student or staff member returns to school following isolation at home due to a positive COVID-19 test, as outlined by the CDC.

Sanitation

- Canterbury has hand sanitizer stations throughout the campus. Students are asked to bring personal sanitizer for use at their desks.
- Canterbury asks students to wash hands or use hand sanitizer each time they enter and exit class and frequently throughout the day.

Classroom safety and dynamics

- We have prepared our spacious campus for outdoor classes and teachers may hold classes outside.
- Windows and doors are opened as much as possible to allow ventilation. Students should dress for the weather, as classrooms may be colder or warmer than usual.
- Children should not share food.

Communication

- Please continue to monitor the school's [COVID-19 Dashboard](#). It is the most current and efficient way to communicate our community's overall health each day. Canterbury's dashboard includes information about the number of people in our school community who are quarantining due to an exposure or any known positive cases within our student and staff community.
- Contact tracing within a mixed-masking classroom is no longer feasible, nor is it recommended by the StrongSchools NC Toolkit for the reasons outlined on page 15 [here](#). As a result, if we are concerned that students have been exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual, we will notify parents on a lower school homeroom or middle school grade level basis. While the other students in the class or grade may continue to come to school, we encourage parents to monitor them carefully for symptoms. We also recommend that students and faculty members in these groups wear masks for 10 days, according to CDC guidelines.

Family responsibility

- We ask for Canterbury families' good faith commitment to our school community's health via their decisions about carpooling, travel, participation in large social gatherings, mask wearing, etc. In order to keep our school community safe and our students learning on campus, we all must be smart, informed, and if necessary, quarantine ourselves and our families in order to keep the rest of the Canterbury community safe.
- It is important for us as a community to be empathetic and supportive toward each other. Keeping in close communication with the nurse and informing her of illness (of any kind) will be the best way we can mitigate the spread of COVID-19, should someone in our community become infected.

Daily School Life

Dropoff and pickup

- In the lower school, students enter via their classrooms' external doors or the nearest hallway door.
- Students will wait in their classrooms after school for their carpool numbers to be called, rather than gathering in Phillips Chapel. The lower and middle schools will run their carpools separately.

Chapel, assemblies, and performances

- We will work within COVID-19 guidelines and current local conditions to hold as many in-person activities as possible.
- 8th grade sermons, one of our program's capstone experiences, will continue, and guests may attend, as long as they adhere to Canterbury's continued universal masking guidelines in Phillips Chapel.
- Gatherings of adults are encouraged to be held in outdoor venues whenever possible. Special safety considerations will be made for indoor events, if necessary.

Off-campus travel

Buses will be used for travel to service learning, field trips, and athletics. Safe practices for school bus travel include masking, keeping windows open, and spacing out students throughout the bus.

Specials

Students travel to specialist teachers' classrooms for music, art, and world language instruction.

PE and recess

- We believe strongly in the value of physical education for students' social-emotional development. Canterbury's PE classes will be held outdoors as much as possible.
- Lower-school students will mix during recess with students from the other classroom in their grade. Middle school students will mix across grades before school and during recess, PE, and lunch.
- Middle school students will wear their PE uniforms to school on the days they have physical education classes to eliminate close contact in locker rooms.

Interscholastic athletics

- We are offering middle school athletics in 2021-22. Students will play on mixed-grade teams. Each sports season is evaluated based on conditions at the time.
- In general, masking is not required for outdoor sports and is evaluated based on current COVID-19 conditions for indoor sports. Universal masking will be enforced on bus travel to events.
- Spectators are welcome.
- Athletes should bring their own water bottles to practices and games.

Lunch

- Lunch will be eaten outside as often as possible.
- Parents are asked to send any food and water necessary for the day to school with students in personalized containers. We ask parents of younger students to practice opening containers with their children to minimize the need for teacher assistance.

Extended Day and Encore

- Encore and Extended Day after school programs are open with the same school-wide precautions: optional masking, sanitizing, and a preference for holding activities outdoors.

Quarantine and Isolation Policies and Procedures

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, they may return to school if it has been at least five days since the first day of symptoms, they have not had a fever in 24 hours, and their symptoms of COVID-19 are improving. The individual must continue to wear a mask for an additional five days.

Unvaccinated individuals who are exposed to COVID-19 in a *non-household setting* can continue coming to school if they have no symptoms. If an unvaccinated student or staff

member is exposed to COVID-19 through a household contact, they will be required to quarantine for a full five days after their last day of exposure. They may return to school after five full days of quarantine, if at the end of that quarantine they are not having any symptoms. The individual should test on day five, if possible, and continue to wear a mask for an additional five days.

If we are concerned that students have been exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual, we will notify parents on a lower school homeroom or middle school grade level basis. While the other students in the class or grade may continue to come to school, we encourage parents to monitor them carefully for symptoms. We also recommend that students and faculty members in these groups wear masks for 10 days, according to CDC guidelines.

This document was updated in March 2022. Canterbury's COVID-19 protocols are subject to change, based on evolving guidance from state and national authorities.