



## 2021-22 COVID-19 Health & Safety Protocols

Canterbury School's 2021-22 COVID-19 policies follow guidance from the CDC, American Academy of Pediatrics, NC Department of Health and Human Services, and local health authorities. The [StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit](#), produced by the NCDHHS, provides detailed school-specific guidance that we will follow closely this year. 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

- Parents should check students each morning for the following symptoms and report them to the school nurse if present:
  - 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)
  - 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
- 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.
- Parents must reach out to the school nurse to make a plan for a child to return to school after any fever or the symptoms above.
- If a child starts to feel unwell at school, a parent or guardian will be asked to pick them up.

## Masks

- Masks are required indoors for all adults and students, Cubs-8th grade. Students should bring a backup mask, as well.
- Masks must cover a student's nose, mouth, and chin and provide as much coverage of the cheeks as possible.
- We encourage students to wear masks that are comfortable for them and fit them well, while expressing their personal style. Graphics must be school-appropriate, and no text or advertisements will be allowed. Canterbury-branded masks are available for purchase in limited sizes in the administration office. Canterbury has disposable masks available for temporary use, if necessary.
- Masks with valves, scarves, bandanas, and neck gaiters are not permitted.
- Students whose masks do not meet these guidelines will be provided a disposable mask for the day and will be asked to return the following day with an appropriate mask.
- Masks are optional outdoors for students, parents, and teachers.

## Sanitation

- Canterbury has hand sanitizer stations at the entrances to every building and classroom. Students are asked to bring personal sanitizer for use at their desks.
- Canterbury requires students to wash hands or use hand sanitizer each time they enter and exit class and frequently throughout the day.
- We rely on parents to promote the same hygienic practices students use at school, including washing hands regularly, keeping hands away from their face, and avoiding the sharing of personal items.
- The school employs additional janitorial support who clean high-touch surfaces such as doorknobs, bathrooms, desks, etc. daily.

## Classroom safety and dynamics

- We have prepared our spacious campus for outdoor classes and teachers hold classes outside often.
- 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.
- Student desks and tables for kindergarten-8th grade are distanced as much as possible and we enforce indoor distancing of at least three feet between children.
- Teachers maintain a six-foot social distance from children and other adults for their own safety and the health of our school community.
- Students have assigned seats in all of the places where they do academic work to facilitate contact tracing, should the need arise.
- Children should not share individual classroom supplies or food.

### Visitors and volunteers

- Adults must adhere to Canterbury's universal masking policy indoors when on campus to volunteer or meet with school staff.
- All visitors, including parents, will sign in and out at the administration office so that we may keep careful records of visitors to campus buildings.
- School staff are encouraged to hold meetings outdoors when possible for all parties' safety and protection.

### Communication

- We will communicate with parents on a bi-weekly basis with data regarding COVID-19 exposures and infections among students and faculty, and up-to-date information is always available via our COVID-19 dashboard. If there is a breach in our protocols and our nurse has any concern about other students being close contacts of an infected child or adult, we will notify parents immediately.
- Our COVID-19 precautions of masking, handwashing, distancing, and ventilation mean that even if one student is pulled out of class for quarantine or isolation, other students who have followed these precautions will not be affected. As a result, parents can be assured that it is safe for their child to attend school without individual notifications by incident.

### 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 in the upcoming school year and always. It will be an especially sensitive year for us in regards to illness and your partnership in following these protocols. 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.

### Social distancing

- Students must keep a three-foot distance from other students indoors. Faculty, staff, and visitors must distance six feet from students and other adults.
- Students may mix outdoors and in classrooms, as long as they adhere to safety guidelines of distancing, consistent correct indoor mask use, and frequent hand-sanitizing, and proper ventilation is available.
- Student gatherings such as Canterbury families, Chapel Buddies, and other activities will be restarted with a strong preference for outdoor meetings.

### Chapel, assemblies, and performances

- Large group restrictions have been removed, and we will work within COVID-19 guidelines and our school vaccination status to hold as many in-person activities as possible.
- The whole student body may be assembled for chapel and other gatherings in the Outdoor Chapel, on the soccer field, and on the commons.
- All students K-8th grade will gather this fall for twice-weekly chapel services in the Outdoor Chapel, and the lower and middle schools will alternate weekly services in Phillips Chapel. We will reassess our Chapel plans for the winter based on COVID-19 and vaccination conditions at that time. Chapel streaming will be kept to a minimum.
- 8th grade sermons, one of our program's capstone experiences, will continue, and guests may attend as long as they adhere to Canterbury's indoor masking guidelines.
- Gatherings of adults are limited to 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. Masking and safe social distancing will be enforced at the destination, as well.

## Specials

Specialist classrooms have reopened and students will travel to those teachers 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 PE and lunch. Physical contact between students is still prohibited.
- 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 will offer middle school athletics in the fall 2021-22 season. Students will play on mixed-grade teams. We will continue to evaluate each sports season based on conditions at the time.
- In the fall 2021 season, students playing soccer, tennis, and cross country may play unmasked, but volleyball players will be required to wear masks during indoor practices and matches. Universal masking will be enforced on bus travel to events.
- Spectators are welcome. Guests for indoor events must keep a six-foot distance between family groups and wear masks, independent of vaccination status. All visiting athletes and spectators must wear masks indoors on Canterbury's campus, regardless of requirements at their own schools.
- Concessions will be offered at outdoor sporting events only. Athletes should bring their own water bottles to practices and games.

## Lunch

- Lunch will be eaten outside as often as possible. If lunch cannot happen outdoors due to inclement weather, we will strive for six feet of distance between all students.
- 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 will be allowed with the same school-wide precautions: indoor masking, distancing, sanitizing, and a preference for holding activities outdoors.
- Extended Day will allow drop-ins, and attendance will be documented in the case of potential quarantine.

## Quarantine and Isolation Policies and Procedures

Canterbury's quarantine practices for 2021-22 will be focused on contact tracing the individuals in close proximity to an infected student or faculty member. We strive to prevent unnecessary quarantine by enforcing social distancing of at least three feet, consistent correct indoor mask use, frequent hand washing/sanitizing, and ventilation. As long as these conditions are met, students will not meet current CDC guidelines for close contact resulting in quarantine. Adults must continue to maintain a six-foot distance indoors from all adults and other students.

If an unvaccinated student or staff member does meet the criteria for close contact as determined by our nurse through activities *at school or outside of Canterbury*, they may return after the following period:

- 10 calendar days of home quarantine and no symptoms
- 7 calendar days of home quarantine, no symptoms, and a negative test no earlier than Day 5 after exposure.

Vaccinated students and staff will not need to quarantine, as long as they are not experiencing symptoms, under current recommendations. Vaccinated individuals will be required to have a PCR test on Day 3 to 5 after a COVID-19 exposure to confirm that they are not infected, per current guidance from the CDC and Guilford County Department of Health. These students must mask indoors and outdoors until the return of a negative test result.

An individual (unvaccinated or vaccinated) who is infected with COVID-19 may return to school 10 calendar days from symptom onset, as long as they have not had a fever over 100.4 in the prior 24 hours and their symptoms are improving. All returns to campus following COVID-19 infection and isolation must be coordinated with our school nurse.

*This document was finalized in August 2021. Canterbury's quarantine and isolation protocols are subject to change, based on evolving guidance from state and national authorities.*

