

Archbishop John Carroll High School

2021-2022 School Year

Frequently Asked COVID-19 Questions

This document will be updated as new information becomes available.

Last Update - 9/2/21 - All updates are highlighted in yellow.

- What is the school's masking policy?

As of Monday, August 30, 2021, per the directives from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, all students, regardless of vaccination status, must wear their masks indoors unless actively eating or drinking. Masking outside is optional.

- When is the first day of school?

There will be one day for each grade to start the school year and orient themselves to the new procedures and layout of the building:

- Wednesday, Sept. 8 - 12th Grade reports - Full Day*
- Thursday, Sept. 9 - 11th Grade reports - Full Day*
- Friday, Sept. 10 - 10th Grade reports - Full Day*
- Monday, Sept. 13 - 9th Grade reports - Full Day*

Students are expected to bring their Chromebook with them, fully charged. New students and 9th grade students will be issued their Chromebooks on their day.

All students will report for the full school's first day on Tuesday, September 14.

- How will classrooms be set up?

Each classroom will have desks spaced 3 feet apart and all facing the same direction. Students will have their masks on at all times, and the teacher will be wearing either a face shield or mask. Rooms with larger tables for seating (Labs, art room, etc.) will have students spaced 3 feet apart. On their first day of school, all students will be instructed on disinfecting procedures for all classrooms.

- What is the procedure for student drop off?

The school building will open to students at 7 a.m. All students who are arriving at school between 7:00 a.m. and 7:40 a.m. MUST report and enter the building through the Cafeteria doors. Staff will be there to meet them and ensure that all students have their masks on when they enter the building. They will then be directed to a larger location in the building where they will socially distance until the warning bell rings at 7:35 a.m., for students to move to their lockers. After 7:40 a.m., students should enter through Door "A".

- What is the pre-screening procedure for students and staff?

This year, parents are not required to complete a form after screening their child for symptoms. However, Should a student be deemed a close contact of a person who is experiencing symptoms, has tested positive for COVID-19, or if the student themselves is experiencing symptoms, the parent/guardian should inform the

school administration immediately. The administration and/or school nurse will then provide further guidance on the student's ability to attend in-person instruction.

- Are there any uniform modifications for this school year?

The full school uniform will be in effect for the 21-22 school year. Guidelines can be found online in the Parent/Student Handbook. Questions on dress code should be directed to the Office for Student Life - KBuchanan@JCarroll.org.

- Have there been any modifications to the PE uniform or classes?

Students will be socially distanced and will not share equipment on the days that they will be doing physical activity. Outdoor spaces will be used as the weather permits. On the days when they are doing physical activity, those students are permitted to wear athletic clothing as outlined in the course syllabus. On all other days, they should be in their school uniform.

- What will the mask requirement be?

To start the school year, students, faculty, and staff are expected to wear a mask at all times when indoors. Faculty are also permitted to wear a face shield. All masks must be a solid color or a simple medical mask. No graphics, writing, or lettering are permitted on masks. Bandanas, scarves and gaiters (neck scarves) are NOT permitted.

Masks must remain on at all times, except when a student is seated in the cafeteria, eating lunch or when outdoors. Failure to follow the policy will result in students being sent home and possibly not being permitted to come on campus.

Per the letter from the Archdiocese sent on August 24, the masking policy will be reassessed every two weeks during the school year. Should anything change, it will be communicated to the wider school community at that time.

- What is the bell schedule?

Time in between classes for the 21-22 school year will be 7 minutes with a staggered dismissal from classes to minimize crowding in the hallways. Each class will be 42 minutes in length. Students will report to their homeroom first by 7:45AM, and then first period will begin at 8:00AM. The full bell schedule will be included in the Parent-Student Handbook, which will be online the week of August 30th.

Dismissal will still occur at 2:25 p.m., but it will be staggered. Students who ride the bus will be dismissed first, followed by student drivers and students taking other modes of transportation. This will allow for less crowding in the halls at the end of the school day.

- Will students be assigned lockers?

Yes. A locker will be assigned to each student.

- What will the procedure be for students using Aramark for lunches?

Aramark will provide lunches daily. Lunch choices will be limited and will be of a grab-and-go style. Students are strongly encouraged to use their pre-paid accounts to keep the lines cashless.

- How will students be distanced at lunch?

Cafeteria tables will be used to start the 21-22 school year. Students will be spaced at each table and staggered across from each other to ensure at least 3 feet of distancing. Students may remove their masks while they are seated and eating lunch, but if the student leaves the table, they must put their mask back on. Each grade will be assigned an area in the cafeteria where they are able to sit during their lunch period. The assigned seating will assist if there is a need for contact tracing.

- What is the procedure for visitors?

Due to the current climate surrounding COVID-19 and the need to keep our students and staff as safe as possible, visitors will be very limited during the school day, and by appointment only. Parents or other visitors who attempt to enter the building without a confirmed appointment will be turned away. Any necessary appointments will be held virtually wherever possible.

- What are the school's policies if my child tests positive for COVID-19?

Should a student test positive for COVID-19, please notify one of the following people immediately:

- Mrs. Maureen Lerario - School Nurse - Nurse@jcarroll.org
- Mr. Thomas Quintois - Pandemic Coordinator - TQuintois@jcarroll.org
- Mrs. Kaitlin Buchanan - Assistant Principal for Student Life - KBuchanan@jcarroll.org
- Mr. William Gennaro - Principal - WGennaro@jcarroll.org
- Mrs. Allison Papantoniou - Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs - APapantoniou@jcarroll.org

The student will then be required to isolate for 10 days and can return to school after those ten days, so long as they do not have a fever and symptoms have improved. The school nurse and administration will have the final determination on a student's return to school/activities date.

- What is the school's policy if my child is considered a close contact of a COVID-19 Case?

Archbishop Carroll High School follows guidelines provided by the PA Department of Health, which works in conjunction with the CDC. We have provided links to these guidelines which Archbishop Carroll will work to follow here:

- [CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)
- [COVID-19 Diagnosis Flowchart](#)

As the school works to follow the guidelines, the school nurse and administration will have the final determination on a student's return to school/activities date.

- What is the school's policy if my child starts to exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 while in school?

If a student is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, the school nurse and administration will determine if the child needs to be isolated and be home to be tested. If this is the case, the student will be placed in the school's isolation room, and his/her parent/guardian will be contacted to come pick the student up immediately. The parent will not be permitted to enter the building; rather, the nurse will bring the student to the door designated by the nurse. If a student drives themselves to school, the nurse may determine that the student is permitted to

drive themselves home after speaking with the parent. The student will not be permitted to drive anyone else with them, unless it is a member of their household (brother, sister, etc.).

The nurse will provide specific instructions for how a student is to be tested and when they would be permitted to return to school. The school nurse and administration will have the final determination on a student's return to school/activities date.

- What cleaning practices will be in place for the 2021-2022 School Year?

Students and teachers will clean their learning or teaching areas prior to leaving the space. Maintenance will clean all high touch surfaces and communal areas (bathrooms, water fountains, cafeteria, library, chapel, auditorium, etc.) during the school day, after school, and during the evening cleaning. Students and staff will only be permitted to use the water hydration stations as bottle fillers. The water supply to the old water fountains in other locations in the building has been turned off.

Ventilation systems were checked and are operable. Teachers will be asked to keep classroom windows and doors open as weather permits to improve ventilation. Any areas with suspected incidents of COVID-19 will be cordoned off for 24 hours and then thoroughly sanitized based on the recommendations from the PA Department of Health.

Students and staff will be required to frequently wash their hands. Announcements will be made to remind students and staff to wash their hands regularly. Signs will be posted. Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and communal spaces as well.

- How will events and other functions (Dances, field trips, retreats, awards assemblies, shows, sporting events) be handled at the school?

The administration at Archbishop Carroll understands the fluidity of the COVID-19 situation, as well as our students' desires to participate fully in the 2021-2022 school year. And while the school wants to accommodate as many events as possible for our students, we will adhere to the guidelines provided to us by the Centers for Disease Control, State of Pennsylvania, and PA Department of Health, and make decisions with the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff as our number one priority.

- How does the school handle any student that travels during the school year?

The Parent-Student Handbook states that the school does not support student vacations during the school year, and with any vacation, a student is responsible for any work that they miss and a teacher is not required to provide them with any extra time on those specific assignments.

