



## Ranney School 2021-2022 COVID-19 Safety and Quarantine Policy

*August 23, 2021*

**As the pandemic lingers, we will continue to enforce this updated COVID-19 Safety and Quarantine policy as well as our Sick Policy.** This policy has been developed in partnership with Ranney’s Medical Advisory Board and informed by the latest guidelines from the New Jersey Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). This policy is subject to revision. Please visit [www.ranneyschool.org/covid-19](http://www.ranneyschool.org/covid-19) for the most up to date version of this policy.

**Community Members with any of the following symptoms or circumstances may not attend school in person.** If Community Members are found to exhibit any of these symptoms while at school, they will be sent home immediately. (“Community Members” include students, parents, faculty, staff and administrators).

Symptoms*	Circumstances
<p>At least two of the following symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temperature of 100.4+</li> <li>• Chills</li> <li>• Rigors (shivers)</li> <li>• Myalgia (muscle aches)</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• Nausea or vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> <li>• Fatigue</li> <li>• Congestion</li> <li>• Running nose</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b> At least one of the following symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Shortness of breath</li> <li>• Difficulty breathing</li> <li>• Loss of smell or taste</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID-19 Positive PCR Test.</li> <li>• Recent close contact (being within 6 feet for 15 cumulative minutes over 24 hours) with a person with COVID-19 in the past <u>10 days</u>. ‡</li> <li>• If any member of the Community Member’s household is waiting for the results of a COVID test or has COVID-like symptoms. ‡</li> <li>• Taken fever or symptom-reducing medications to alleviate symptoms listed to the left within the last 24-hours. ‡</li> </ul>
<p>* See <a href="#">symptoms of COVID-19</a>.</p> <p>‡ Individuals who are fully vaccinated or who have recovered from COVID-19 diagnosed with a PCR Test in the last 3 months are exempt from quarantine related to this circumstance.</p>	

### I. Requirement to Wear Masks Indoors

- On August 6, Governor Murphy signed [Executive Order 251](#), which mandates masking indoors for all public, private, and parochial schools with limited exceptions.
- A summary of EO 251 can be found [here](#).

## II. If a Community Member Exhibits Symptoms of COVID-19

- If a Community Member exhibits [symptoms of COVID-19](#):
  - Both vaccinated and unvaccinated Community Members must stay home until they have obtained a negative COVID-19 test (PCR/molecular tests only) ruling out that diagnosis.
  - Please consult with the Health Office to determine whether symptoms require a COVID-19 test for clearance to return to school.

## III. If a Community Member Tests Positive for COVID-19

- As soon as the school learns of a positive COVID-19 case in our community, we will:
  - Collaborate with the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission to trace contacts and notify parents of students, faculty and staff members who may have been exposed due to close contact.
  - Send a school-wide communication regarding the COVID-19 positive case while maintaining confidentiality of the positive individual.

## IV. If a Community Member Has Been Identified as a Contact with Exposure to COVID-19

- CDC definitions:
  - A “close contact” is someone who was within 6 feet of a COVID-19 case for a cumulative 15 minutes (masked or unmasked) starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.
  - [CDC Guidelines on when to Quarantine](#).
- If an unvaccinated Community Member is identified as a close contact and they have no symptoms, they will be required to:
  - Quarantine for 10 days.
  - Take a PCR/molecular test at day 5 (recommendation).
  - Participate in class via distance learning, as long as they remain healthy and free of symptoms.
- We will not require the following individuals to quarantine:
  - Vaccinated close contacts.
  - Those who have tested positive for COVID-19 within three months.
  - Siblings of close contacts.
- If a vaccinated Community Member or a Community Member who has tested positive for COVID-19 within three months is identified as a close contact and they have no symptoms, we recommend that they consider taking a PCR/molecular test at day 5. They are not required to quarantine.

## V. Quarantine Policy for Community Members Who Are Fully Vaccinated

- A person is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the last recommended dose of the vaccine (two weeks after second dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine and two weeks after first and only dose of the J&J vaccine).
- Community members who are fully vaccinated are exempt from quarantine due to exposure.
- If a vaccinated Community Member is identified as a close contact and they have no symptoms, we recommend that they consider taking a PCR/molecular test at day 5 (although they will not be required to quarantine).
- To be exempt from quarantine, Community Members must provide the Health Office with documentation of their vaccine.
- Vaccinated individuals must still abide by the school’s masking and physical distancing policies.

**VI. Quarantine Policy If a Community Member Has Recovered from COVID-19**

- Community Members who have clinically recovered from COVID-19 confirmed with a PCR test within 3 months do not need to quarantine if identified as a close contact as long as they remain asymptomatic following the new exposure. We recommend that they consider taking a PCR/molecular test at day 5.
- To be exempt from quarantine, Community Members must provide the Health Office with documentation of their PCR test results.
- Individuals with natural immunity must still follow the school's masking and physical distancing policies.

**VII. Return to Campus Protocol for a Community Member Who Tests Positive for COVID-19**

- **If a Community Member tests positive for COVID-19, they may not return to campus until they are cleared by a medical professional.**
- [CDC Guidelines for individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19](#) (subject to change) indicate that an individual may be cleared if the individual:
  - Has had no temperature for 24 hours; and
  - Symptoms have been improving for 24 hours; and
  - It has been 10 or more days since symptoms began (longer in cases of high risk or severe illness)
  - An individual may also be cleared if they have received two negative PCR COVID-19 tests 24 hours apart.
- If a Community Member tests positive for COVID-19 but has no symptoms, they can return to campus 10 days following the positive test.
- Unvaccinated family members caring for COVID-19 positive individuals (assuming they are not able to isolate the COVID-positive individual) will begin their 10-day quarantine period on the day the COVID-positive individual is cleared to return to campus.

**VIII. If an Unvaccinated Faculty Member is Identified as a Contact and Required to Quarantine**

- If a faculty member must quarantine and they are asymptomatic, they will be able to teach from home.
- If the faculty member's students are still on campus (assuming they are not required to quarantine as well), another faculty member or administrator will oversee the classroom while the faculty member teaches remotely.

**IX. International Travel Quarantine Protocols**

- See the [latest CDC guidance related to international travel](#).
- If the Community Member is fully vaccinated with an FDA-authorized vaccine or a [vaccine authorized for emergency use by the World Health Organization](#), they should:
  - Obtain a COVID-19 PCR test 3 to 5 days after return to the U.S.
  - The vaccinated Community Member is not required to quarantine while awaiting results.
- If the Community Member is fully unvaccinated:
  - Obtain a COVID-19 PCR test 3 to 5 days after return to the U.S. **AND** self-quarantine for a full 7 days. The Community Member must quarantine even if the PCR test is negative.
  - Alternatively, the Community Member can self-quarantine for 10 days after travel without a test.

## **X. Event-Related Quarantine Protocols**

- While there are currently no numerical limits for indoor or outdoor gatherings, we recommend that Community Members use caution and wear a mask when gathering indoors off campus.
- Ranney cannot approve the format of any event off campus. If you choose to host an event or gathering, we ask you to take responsibility for following physical distancing guidelines.

## **XI. Performing Arts Protocols**

- Ranney's performing arts program (including orchestra, jazz band, chorus, and theater) will observe the following safety protocols:
  - Students will be required to wear masks indoors when not singing, performing, or playing an instrument that requires the use of their mouth (unless class is outdoors and distance can be maintained).
  - When possible, we will conduct class outdoors.
  - When class is held indoors, we will use large spaces and enforce physical distancing (6 feet apart).
  - We will continue the use of transparent shields, where possible.

## **XII. Athletics Protocols**

- Ranney's athletics program will observe the following safety protocols:
  - Students who compete and practice outdoors will not be required to wear masks.
  - Students who compete in indoor sports (basketball, swimming, indoor track, and fencing):
    - Are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated (if eligible).
    - Will be required to wear masks indoors when not exerting themselves strenuously.
    - Will be encouraged to maintain physical distancing whenever possible.
  - Ranney will consider mandatory testing of students who play indoor sports.

Effective communication between the Ranney Health Office and home is extremely important to help your child in the event of an illness or injury. Our Health Office will be proactive in reaching out to you in the event your child becomes ill so that we support your child and assess potential risk of COVID-19. Please return calls from the Ranney Health Office and the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission. Please feel free to contact the Ranney Health Office directly with details about the Quarantine Policy or questions regarding your child.

### ***Health Office***

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