



Magellan International School
Colegio Internacional Magallanes
麦哲伦国际学校

August 9, 2021

Dear Magellan community,

Please find below our revised **Health & Safety Protocols** for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. We had all hoped to be in a far better place this August, but the pandemic continues to have a major impact on our personal and professional lives. With Austin currently in COVID-19 stage 5 and the prevalence of the more contagious Delta variant, **we must all do our parts to keep our school community as safe as possible.**

This means following recommended safety practices both inside and outside of school and strongly encouraging eligible family members, friends and colleagues to get vaccinated against the virus. Currently, **more than 90% of Magellan's faculty and staff are fully vaccinated**, and we expect that number to increase in the weeks to come. For families that are returning from trips or may be engaging in higher risk activities right before the start of the school year, we strongly encourage you to have your children tested for COVID-19 before coming to school.

I would like to point out two things about the Health & Safety Protocols. Firstly, we strived to make this year's version more succinct and user friendly. And secondly, **the protocols will be adjusted as local health conditions improve** and we are able to roll back some of the safety measures in place.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the Health & Safety Advisory Group. These parents provide important expertise and guidance to members of Magellan's leadership team, but they are not part of a decision-making body at the school.

I greatly appreciate everyone's support in adhering to our Health & Safety Protocols.

Sincerely,

Scott Hibbard
Head of School



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HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

August 9, 2021

Masks*

- Masks are required indoors for all students, faculty and staff on both the Chimney Corners and Anderson Lane campuses (Preschool through Middle School).
- Students should come to school each day with a minimum of two clean masks.

**As local health conditions improve (APH COVID-19 stage 1 or 2), we anticipate making masking optional for our preschool students.*

Screening

- We expect community members to screen for [symptoms of COVID-19](#) before leaving home each morning. If you are sick, please advise our nursing team at nurse@magellanschool.org.
- At school, we will continue to perform temperature checks in the morning while Austin is in a critical COVID-19 stage. Last year this practice helped keep sick children at home. We will discontinue this practice when local health conditions improve significantly.

Visitors

- Only essential visitors with approved appointments will be allowed on campus while Austin is in COVID-19 stage 3, 4 or 5.
- This policy will be adjusted when Austin is in stage 1 or 2.

Social Distancing

- Students on both campuses will stay with their classes/cohorts during recess and lunch. They will not mix with other groups.
- K-8 students will be 3 feet apart in classrooms. Similar to the 2020-2021 school year, we will not “enforce” this on our preschool campus.
- There will be a maximum of 7 students in each school van.

On Campus Safety

- Portable and permanent **hand washing** stations will continue to be available throughout the school, including in all preschool classrooms. Faculty will remind students throughout the day to wash their hands.
- Faucets, soap dispensers and hand sanitizers are touchless. Hand sanitizer dispensers are conveniently located between classrooms.
- We have **two school nurses**, one for each campus.
- Last year we installed **ionization air purifiers on all HVAC units** at the preschool campus and on the main building at the Anderson Lane campus. The HVAC system in the Middle School building is new (January 2020), and the HVAC systems in all three buildings were serviced in July 2021. This included changing the filters on all units.

Sick Policy

- Students, faculty and staff displaying one or more COVID-19 symptoms must submit a negative PCR test to return to school when Austin is in COVID-19 stage 3, 4 or 5 and the positivity rate is greater than 5%.
- This policy will be adjusted when Austin is in stage 1 or 2.

Isolation

- Students, faculty and staff that test positive for COVID-19 will isolate for a minimum of 10 days.

Quarantines

- Per CDC guidelines, **unvaccinated** community members that have had **close contact*** with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for a minimum of 7 days. They may return to school AFTER day 7 if:
 - They have **not** had COVID-19 symptoms (asymptomatic) during the quarantine period.
 - They have a PCR test 5 to 7 days after their last exposure to the infected person and submit the negative test result to the school.
- Per CDC guidelines, **vaccinated** community members that have had close contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19 do not need to quarantine. However, they must continue to **mask at ALL times**, and they must have a PCR test 3 to 5 days after last exposure and submit the negative test result to the school.

**A close contact is defined by CDC as someone who was within 2 meters of an infected person for at least 15 minutes within a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic cases 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.*

Auxiliary Services

- **After School Care (ASC)** (3:20-6:00 pm) will be available on both campuses. ASC guides and students are required to wear masks indoors.
- **Early drop-off** (7:30-7:50 am) will **not** be available to start the year. This service will open when local health conditions improve significantly.
- **School transportation** to and from the Mueller area will be available. Masks are required inside the vans.
- **After school activities and clubs run by Magellan** will not open to start the school year. We hope to get these started at some point during the first semester when local health conditions improve.
- **After school clubs run by vendors** will not be available the first semester. We hope to re-open this program in January if local health conditions permit.

Communication

- School leadership will maintain communication protocols from the previous year. When a student, faculty or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, we will inform the Magellan community and report the case to Austin Public Health.