

Dear parents,

I appreciate you taking the time to review the **important updates below to our Health & Safety Protocols**. We have made these adjustments in light of the updated isolation and quarantine recommendations issued by the CDC and the return of the city to stage 5 of the Austin Public Health (APH) COVID-19 Risk-Based Guidelines.

You will note, however, that they are not a “copy and paste” of the CDC guidelines. It’s important that we customize our protocols to meet the needs of our community and to best protect our students, teachers, staff members and parents. For example, although quarantine periods have been shortened, testing will be required to return to classes. **There will also be small differences between preschool protocols versus K-8 protocols**. We must keep in mind that very few of our youngest learners are vaccinated, and they do spend time indoors without masks (e.g. nap time).

We recognize that the ongoing pandemic is challenging for all community members, and we greatly appreciate your understanding and collaboration with the updated protocols. We are committed to keeping our students and teachers learning safely together in their classrooms, and with your help, I’m confident we can do so. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Scott Hibbard  
Head of School

### **Definition of key terms**

**Isolation:** Community members must isolate when they test positive for COVID-19, even if they are asymptomatic. People in isolation should stay in a specific room and use a separate bathroom if available.

**Calculating Isolation:** Day 0 is your first day of symptoms or a positive COVID-19 test. Day 1 is the first full day after your symptoms developed or your test specimen was collected.

**Quarantine:** Community members may have to quarantine and stay away from others when they have been in close contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19.

**Calculating Quarantine:** Day 0 is the date of your last exposure to a person who has COVID-19. Day 1 is the first full day after your last contact.

**Close contact:** A close contact is someone who was less than six feet away from an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes over a 24-hour period.

# Updates

## Vaccines

Magellan recommends that you vaccinate against COVID-19 to reduce the possibility of community spread and protect you from becoming seriously ill in the event you become infected. The CDC defines **fully vaccinated** as follows:

- **Children ages 5-11** are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the second dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Adolescents ages 12-17** are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the second dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. However, they should receive a booster shot 5 months after completing the Pfizer vaccine series in order to continue to be fully vaccinated.
- To remain fully vaccinated and optimally protected, **adults ages 18** and above should receive a booster shot:
  - 6 months after completing the Moderna COVID-19 vaccination series.
  - 5 months after completing the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccination series.
  - 2 months after receiving the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccination.

## Isolation - Kindergarten to 8th grade

- K-8 students that test positive will isolate for a minimum of 5 days. They should stay at home and isolate from others in the household. In order to return to school after 5 days, they must:
  - Present a negative antigen test taken on day 5 (or later) of isolation.
  - Have significantly improved symptoms or be asymptomatic.
  - Be fever-free for a minimum of 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
  - Continue to wear a well-fitting mask at all times for five additional days.

## Isolation - Preschool

- Preschool students that test positive will isolate and stay at home for a minimum of 7 days. In order to return to school after 7 days, they must:
  - Present a negative antigen test taken on day 6 or 7 of isolation.
  - Have significantly improved symptoms or be asymptomatic.
  - Be fever-free for a minimum of 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
  - Continue to wear a well-fitting mask at all times for three additional days.

## Quarantine - Kindergarten to 8th grade

There are three scenarios to consider when determining whether or not your child needs to quarantine after they have had close contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19:

## **I. NOT FULLY VACCINATED**

If your child is **NOT** fully vaccinated and has been exposed to a person with COVID-19, they must **quarantine for 5 days**. Please follow the quarantine instructions below:

- Keep your child at home for 5 days.
- Monitor for symptoms for 10 days and test if any symptoms develop.
- Test (rapid antigen or PCR) your child on day 5 and send the results to [nurse@magellanschool.org](mailto:nurse@magellanschool.org).

## **II. HOUSEHOLD CONTACT & FULLY VACCINATED**

If your child has been exposed to a **household contact** (i.e. lives in the same household) with COVID-19, they must **quarantine for 5 days regardless of whether or not they are vaccinated**. We expect to be able to relax this measure and other parts of our protocols once Austin returns to stage 3 or lower. In the meantime, however, please follow the quarantine instructions below:

- Keep your child at home for 5 days.
- Monitor for symptoms for 10 days and test if any symptoms develop.
- Test (rapid antigen or PCR) your child on day 5 and send the results to [nurse@magellanschool.org](mailto:nurse@magellanschool.org).

## **III. NON-HOUSEHOLD CONTACT & FULLY VACCINATED**

If your child is **fully vaccinated** and has been exposed to a **non-household contact** with COVID-19, they will **NOT** need to quarantine. However, you must take the following steps:

- Send an electronic copy of your child's vaccination card to [nurse@magellanschool.org](mailto:nurse@magellanschool.org).
- Monitor for symptoms for 10 days. Keep your child at home and test if any symptoms develop.
- Test (rapid antigen or PCR) your child on day 5 and send the results to [nurse@magellanschool.org](mailto:nurse@magellanschool.org).

## **Quarantine - Preschool**

There are three scenarios to consider when determining whether or not your child needs to quarantine after they have had close contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19:

### **I. NOT FULLY VACCINATED**

If your child is **NOT** fully vaccinated and has been exposed to a person with COVID-19, they must **quarantine for 7 days**. Please follow the quarantine instructions below:

- Keep your child at home for 7 days.
- Monitor for symptoms for 10 days and test if any symptoms develop.
- Test (rapid antigen or PCR) your child on day 6 or 7 and send the results to [nurse@magellanschool.org](mailto:nurse@magellanschool.org).

### **II. HOUSEHOLD CONTACT & FULLY VACCINATED**

If your child has been exposed to a **household contact** (i.e. lives in the same household) with COVID-19, they must **quarantine for 7 days regardless of whether or not they are vaccinated**. We expect to be able to relax this measure and other parts of our protocols once Austin returns to stage 3 or lower. In the meantime, however, please follow the quarantine instructions below:

- Keep your child at home for 7 days.
- Monitor for symptoms for 10 days and test if any symptoms develop.
- Test (rapid antigen or PCR) your child on day 6 or 7 and send the results to [nurse@magellanschool.org](mailto:nurse@magellanschool.org).

## II. NON-HOUSEHOLD CONTACT & FULLY VACCINATED

If your child is **fully vaccinated** and has been exposed to a **non-household contact** with COVID-19, they will **NOT** need to quarantine. However, you must take the following steps:

- Send an electronic copy of your child's vaccination card to [nurse@magellanschool.org](mailto:nurse@magellanschool.org).
- Monitor for symptoms for 10 days. Keep your child at home and test if any symptoms develop.
- Test (rapid antigen or PCR) your child on day 6 or 7 and send the results to [nurse@magellanschool.org](mailto:nurse@magellanschool.org).

## Masks

- While Austin is in **stage 4 or 5** of the APH COVID-19 Risk-Based Guidelines, masks are required for all students, faculty and staff both **indoors and outdoors** on the Chimney Corners and Anderson Lane campuses. Preschool students will not be required to wear masks during nap time.
- While Austin is in **stage 1, 2 or 3** of the APH COVID-19 Risk-Based Guidelines, masks are required for all students, faculty and staff **while indoors** on both the Chimney Corners and Anderson Lane campuses. Preschool students will not be required to wear masks during nap time. Mask wearing will be optional when students are outdoors.
- Students should come to school each day with a minimum of two clean masks that:
  - Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric.
  - Fit snugly over the nose and mouth and under the chin.
  - Do NOT have gaps around the sides.