



2021-2022 COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

SAS continues to prioritize the health and wellness of our school family during the COVID-19 pandemic.

GUIDELINES FOR FAMILIES:

- Families and caregivers should notify the school of any current COVID-19-related illness or exposure in the household.
- **Daily** health checks should be conducted by families, at home, before arriving at school for drop off.
- Students should remain at home if any of the following occur:
 - Student has a **temperature of 100.4F** or higher (student should be fever free without the aid of medication for 48 hours before returning to school).
 - Student has any other **signs of illness** including a sore throat, runny nose or congestion, cough, diarrhea, severe headache, vomiting, or body aches (student should be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school).
 - Student is experiencing any other **symptoms consistent with COVID-19** or has received a **positive diagnostic test** for COVID-19.
 - Any member of your household receives a positive diagnostic test for COVID-19, or the student has been in **direct contact** with any other individual who received a positive diagnostic test for COVID-19.
- Please send 1-2 spare masks in your child's backpack each day.

VACCINATION INFORMATION

SAS and Leon County Schools strongly encourages all eligible students and their families to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. This is a critical public health measure in ensuring a safe and productive school year.

Visit [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find vaccination providers for in the Tallahassee area. This includes vaccines for children 5 years of age and older.

It's free, it's safe, and it's easy. <https://www.leonschools.net/Page/53137>

SAFETY PROTOCOLS IN PLACE ON CAMPUS:

- Classes will eat snacks and lunch distanced.
 - All staff and students will wear masks indoors (see “Masking on Campus” for more details).
 - Physical distancing will be maintained to the maximum extent possible.
 - Respiratory etiquette will continue to be taught and practiced.
 - Proper hand washing and sanitizing will continue to be taught throughout the school day.
 - Cleaning and disinfection of high traffic areas will occur regularly throughout the day.
 - Cohort isolation will be maintained when feasible, keeping groups of students together throughout the school day.
 - SAST has upgraded HVAC filtration to MERV 11 filters and installed bipolar ionization in every HVAC unit on campus. When possible, windows are opened. HEPA filters were purchased for those classrooms without windows that open.
 - Visitors will not be allowed on campus.
 - Volunteers may be on campus with prior approval for purposes of supporting academic and special programs/activities or facility improvements.
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WHEN THERE ARE COVID-19 POSITIVE CASES ON CAMPUS

The school will notify parents if there is a positive case in their child’s classroom.

The school will notify the school community of a positive case on campus. The school will work with the local health department to follow contact tracing protocol and contact anyone determined to be a “close contact.”

QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS FOR THE FOLLOWING ARE OUTLINED BELOW:

- 1) Students with COVID-19 Symptoms
- 2) Students who test positive for COVID-19
- 3) Students who have been exposed to COVID-19
- 4) Students with prior COVID-19 infections

1.0 PROTOCOLS FOR STUDENTS experiencing COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

COVID-19 symptoms include (but are not limited to) sore throat, runny nose or congestion, cough, diarrhea, severe headache, vomiting, and/or body aches.

We **strongly encourage anyone with symptoms to be tested for COVID-19**. A rapid diagnostic test will help us determine if any contact tracing is needed on campus. It is also recommended that the rapid test be followed by a PCR test to confirm the rapid test results.

Students experiencing any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should not attend school, school-sponsored activities, or be on school property.

Students can return to school if/when one of the following occurs:

- a) The student receives a **negative diagnostic COVID-19 test**, is **fever free** for 48 hours without the aid of medication and is symptom free for 24 hours.
- b) The student receives **written permission** to return to school from a medical doctor licensed under chapter 458, an osteopathic physician licensed under chapter 459, or an advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 464.

2.0 PROTOCOLS FOR STUDENTS WHO TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, please notify the school immediately.

Students can return to school if/when one of the following occurs:

- a) **Ten (10) days have passed** since the onset of symptoms or positive test result, the student remains fever free for 48 hours without the aid of medication, and the student's other symptoms are improving.
- b) A **negative COVID-19 PCR test** and the student is **asymptomatic**.
- c) The student receives **written permission** to return to school from a medical doctor licensed under chapter 458, an osteopathic physician licensed under chapter 459, or an advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 464.

3.0 PROTOCOLS FOR STUDENTS WITH EXPOSURE TO COVID-19

Students who are known to have been in direct contact with an individual who received a positive diagnostic test for COVID-19 should not attend school, school-sponsored activities, or be on school property.

Students can return to school if/when one of the following occurs:

- a) The student is **asymptomatic** and receives a negative diagnostic COVID-19 test on or after day five (5) from the date of last exposure to the COVID-19 positive individual.
- b) The student is **asymptomatic**, and nine (9) days have passed since the date of last exposure to the COVID-19 positive individual.
- c) Students who are fully vaccinated (2 weeks after their final dose) may test on or after day 3 from the date of last exposure to the COVID-19 positive individual.
- d) **If a student becomes symptomatic following exposure to an individual that has tested positive for COVID-19, the student should follow the procedures set forth in sub-section 1.0 above.**

4.0 PROTOCOL FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE FULLY VACCINATED OR PRIOR COVID-19 INFECTION:

- a) A student who has received a positive diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the previous 90 days and who is known to have been in direct contact with an individual who has received a positive diagnostic test for COVID-19 is not subject to the protocols set forth in sub-section 3.0 **so long as the student remains asymptomatic**.
- b) If a student with a previous COVID-19 infection becomes symptomatic, the student should follow the procedures set forth in subsection 1.0 above.
- c) **This applies equally to students who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19.**

MASKING ON CAMPUS

Following [CDC](#) and [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) guidelines, as well as the Leon County School policy, mask wearing will be required indoors for all staff and students. It's our collective responsibility to help keep each other safe.

Students will be given short mask breaks during the day, and masks will come off during the day for eating and drinking. Masks are optional while outdoors.

Is there an exemption from the mask requirement?

For a student to be exempt from wearing a mask, a signed form by a licensed health professional or legal guardian is required to be on file. Contact SASOffice@leonschools.net for more information.

What type of mask should my child wear?

Please follow [CDC guidelines on masks](#). Masks should fit well over the nose and mouth and under the chin and there should be no gaps around the side. Masks should fit snugly to prevent airflow around its edges. Handkerchiefs, neck gaiters and face shields do not meet these guidelines. Please see [CDC guidelines](#) for further helpful information.

DO choose masks that



Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric



Completely cover your nose and mouth



Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps



Have a nose wire to prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask

Do wear a mask that



- Covers your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin.
- Fits snugly against the sides of your face.

How NOT to wear a mask



Around your neck



On your forehead



Under your nose



Only on your nose



On your chin



Dangling from one ear



On your arm

What happens if my student forgets their mask, or it is soiled/lost?

We encourage families to send 1-2 spare masks in the backpack each day, just like a spare set of clothes. The school will have backup masks for students and staff who need them.

What happens if a student refuses to wear a mask?

At SAST, adults are Safe Keepers and students are responsible for helping keep it safe. We regularly work to empower students to keep it safe on campus. During this pandemic, this will include wearing a mask.

If a child refuses to wear a mask, we would use the same approach as other situations. We would remind the child of the expectation, and if there was still a refusal to wear the mask, we would problem solve with the child and the family as needed.

We encourage medically vulnerable staff and students and those living with medically vulnerable family members to work with their doctor to develop a safe plan for attending school. We thank you for your continued support and dedication to the safety of our entire school family.