



From the desks of

*Mrs. Laura Bernauer and  
Mrs. Angie Tennison*



## Covid-19 Protocols Update

Dear Parents,

We have had questions regarding our policy on COVID 19 positive students returning to school sooner than the required 10-day isolation period that the CDPH had previously recommended. On January 12, CDPH updated their prior guidance for schools.

After much thought and deliberation, moving forward St. Albans will follow a 2-tiered policy. It is as follows:

### **When community spread is greater than 10%:**

#### **Vaccinated Students and Staff Members:**

Vaccinated individuals who test positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and who either have had symptoms or are asymptomatic, may return to work or school when:

- **Stay home** for at least 5 days.
- Isolation can end after day 5 if symptoms are not present or are resolving **and** a diagnostic specimen collected on day 5 or later tests negative. Antigen test is best.
- If unable to test or choosing not to test, and symptoms are not present or are resolving, isolation can end after day 10.
- If fever is present, isolation should be continued until at least 24 hours after fever resolves (without use of fever-reducing medications).
- If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after day 10.
- Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings.

- KN94 or surgical/disposable masks are preferred and offer better protection compared to cloth masks.

### **Unvaccinated Students and Staff Members:**

Unvaccinated individuals who test positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and who have had symptoms, may return to work or school when:

- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, AND
- At least 24 hours have passed with no fever (without use of fever-reducing medications), AND
- Other symptoms have improved.

Unvaccinated individuals who test positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, but have remained asymptomatic, may return to work or school when:

- At least 10 days have passed since positive test result AND no symptoms have appeared.
- If symptoms appear, follow guidelines above.

Individuals who have an immediate family member (living in your household) test positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19:

Keep your child at home. If they remain asymptomatic, test on or after the 5th day. If they receive a negative test result, they may return to school. If they receive a positive test result, follow the protocols above for individuals who test positive for SARSCoV-2, the virus that causes COVID 19.

### **When community spread falls below 10%:**

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, previous infection or lack of symptoms who test positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and who either have had symptoms or are asymptomatic, may return to work or school when:

- **Stay home** for at least 5 days.
- Isolation can end after day 5 if symptoms are not present or are resolving **and** a diagnostic specimen collected on day 5 or later tests negative. Antigen test is best.
- If unable to test or choosing not to test, and symptoms are not present or are resolving, isolation can end after day 10.

- If fever is present, isolation should be continued until at least 24 hours after fever resolves (without use of fever-reducing medications).
- If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after day 10.
- Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings.
- KN94 or surgical/disposable masks are preferred and offer better protection compared to cloth masks.

Please remember that when calculating days for isolation, you must start with Day 0. Day 0 is your first day of symptoms or a positive viral test. Day 1 is the first full day after your symptoms developed or your test specimen was collected.

We know that this 2-tiered policy is different than surrounding schools however we are trying to prevent a wide-spread outbreak at school. Prior studies have shown that the risk of in school transmission increases with high rates of community spread and currently Placer County has a 7-day positivity rate of 25%. Due to our small size and lack of substitute teachers, a large outbreak that includes teachers and staff would most definitely force us to switch to distance learning. Our hope is that this new policy will allow us to keep our students at school and in classrooms learning.

We look forward to the Placer County 7-day positivity rate decreasing so we can return to one standard policy. As always, we appreciate your support and understanding.

Sincerely,  
Laura Bernauer Angie Tennison  
Head of School Assistant Head of School

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