



**St Mary's School Covid-19 Protocol for Students and Staff  
Updated August 2023**

*This policy is subject to change during the course of the school year in accordance with Massachusetts DPH and the Tri-City Board of Health guidelines.*

**Individuals who test positive**

- Individuals who test positive must isolate for at least 5 days.
- Return to school after Day 5 **if**: asymptomatic or symptoms are resolving and the individual is fever free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication).

**If ABLE to mask:** Must do so through Day 6 – 10. Individual will eat separately and remain masked at recess.

If individual has a negative test on Day 5 or later, they do not need to mask

**If UNABLE to mask** after testing positive for Covid; the individual **MUST** stay home for a full 10 days. Unless documentation is provided of a negative test after day 5

NO Quarantine is required or recommended for individuals who have been vaccinated and boosted following a close contact with Covid.

SMS will continue to support the staff and students who choose to wear masks.

**Please keep your child home if s/he are sick!**

- Fever (100.0 Fahrenheit or higher), chills, or shaking chills
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- Sore throat
- Nausea, vomiting
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies)

**In School Testing**

SMS staff can perform a Covid “home” test on a student if there is a concern for covid-like symptoms while at school. Signed consent from parents must be on file prior. If the test is negative and child’s symptoms are mild (i.e. no fever, no severe cough) the child may stay in school.