



November 12, 2021

Hello wonderful parents,

First off, let me say thank you again for your understanding and compliance with our COVID plan. Recently, we discovered a strategy called the “Pod System.” This system is put in place to limit the number of students having to quarantine, virtual learning, and maintaining the safety of all at MCA.

The pod system consists of four or less students grouped together. Each group of students will be always at least 3ft apart from another pod. The students will remain in their pods while in the classrooms, related arts, and lunch. The pods can be changed based on the teachers discretion.

By doing this, if a student in the pod is COVID positive, only the other students in the pod will be required to quarantine.

Students will still be allowed to interact with their friends during recess. The major change will be the student’s lunch time, where they are required to stay with their pods.

We hope by implementing this system, we will be able to control the number of COVID cases at our school and only quarantine the necessary number of students. This is meant to be a temporary system until the COVID cases decline.

MCA will continue to use the Contact Tracing Method for Afterschool care. The children in afterschool will continue to be separated by grade level; this has been our practice throughout the school year.

Thank you again, for your support and understanding. As always, please reach out to us with any questions.

In Christ,

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MCA School Nurse
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MAULDIN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY COVID PLAN

PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS

- If your child is having symptoms with OR without fever, please keep them home.
 - Symptoms including but not limited to:
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fever or chills
 - Sore throat or headache
 - New or worsening cough
 - Nausea/ vomiting
 - If symptoms are explainable with an underlying illness exclusion from MCA may not be necessary
- Parents are **NOT** allowed to enter a child's classroom
 - If your child's class is in on the playground, please set bookbag down under their name in the hallway and walk AROUND outside to the playground
 - If you need to speak with the teacher, please do so in the hallway or make an appointment to speak with them later.

**** Only MCA Faculty and Staff are allowed to enter the classrooms****

SYMPTOMATIC CHILDREN

- If your child is sick or experiencing signs or symptoms of an illness, please keep them home
- Fever of 100.5 or greater, vomiting, or diarrhea (per student handbook) will be sent home. Students are not permitted to return prior to 48hrs.
- To return to school your child must:
 1. Be fever free for 48hrs

2. Symptoms must be improved AND no new or worsening symptoms and no new in 48hrs prior to returning to school
3. If symptoms are continuing beyond the 48hrs, a child must have a doctor's note before returning.
 - Testing for illnesses such as COVID, will be at the medical provider's discretion
 - If a child is tested for COVID, the family must follow the COVID protocol in order to return to school

IF A MEMBER OF HOUSEHOLD is being tested for COVID

****Viral test must be performed at least 5 days AFTER exposure****

- **Child may not attend MCA**
 - This is including every member of the household or children in direct contact with person suspected of COVID
- **Negative Results**
 - If a negative result is received from a test performed at least 5 days after exposure, child may return to school on the next school day
- **Positive Results**
 - Child must quarantine 10 days from last exposure to infected person.
 - To return to school:
 - Quarantine period must be completed
 - Quarantine can end after **day 10** without testing AND if no symptoms were reported
 - Quarantine can end after **day 7** if a viral test (taken after 5 days) is negative **AND** if no symptoms were reported. A doctor's note is acceptable with the above criteria met.

The viral test must be collected no sooner than Day 5 after exposure to be used to shorten quarantine, but quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than Day 7.

IF A SYMPTOMATIC TEACHER IS BEING TESTED FOR COVID

- **Class** and/ or grade level will be quarantined until the school receives the test result
- If the teacher receives a positive COVID test result, class members and teacher must remain in quarantine for 10 days, and a return date will be given by MCA.
 - All children who have **NOT** experienced symptoms are able to return on the given date

- If the child **HAS** had symptoms, they must quarantine starting 48hrs to the start of symptoms
- If a teacher is NOT displaying symptoms a class quarantine is not necessary at that time

IF A STUDENT IS BEING TESTED FOR COVID

- That student must quarantine until tests results are received
- **If the student has POSITIVE result,**
 - only then will the class and individuals expose be required to quarantine for a **10-day** period and may return on the specified date given by MCA
 - Individuals exposed-
 - A person is considered to have a direct exposure when
 - They were in contact 15minutes or longer AND less than 6ft apart of possible infected individual.

POSITIVE COVID RESULTS FOR CHILD

- Positive child must quarantine for 10 days from positive test
- Child must be fever free for 48hrs prior to returning to school
- If a member of the household tests positive after child, the family must follow the guidelines listed under “positive results” from this paper

STUDENT QUARANTINE GUIDELINES

- **CLASS quarantine guidelines**
 - IF a student in your child’s class tests positive the ENTIRE class will be required to quarantine for 10 days. This is due to the continual exposure in the classroom.
- **Individual Student Quarantine (Due to CONTACT TRACING)**
 - If an individual student is determined to have a positive EXPOSURE using the contact tracing method
 - To return to school
 - Quarantine period must be completed

- Quarantine can end after **day 10** without testing AND if no symptoms were reported
- Quarantine can end after **day 7** if a viral test (taken after 5 days) is negative AND if no symptoms were reported. **A doctor's note is acceptable with the above criteria met.**

The viral test must be collected no sooner than Day 5 after exposure to be used to shorten quarantine, but quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than Day 7