



2021-2022 SLS Health and Safety Protocol

Please note that this is a fluid SLS document. The following protocol could change due to updates from CDC/RIDOH or changes within our school community.

In preparation for the school reopening, SLS has ordered Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in accordance with recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and/or the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH). When encountering an ill individual at school, such equipment would include but not be limited to: paper surgical masks, N95 masks, plastic face shields and gowns. We have multiple infra-red thermometers on hand. We will have an ample supply of equipment to begin the school year and we plan to reorder supplies as they are needed.

General Precautions:

- **The Infectious Illness and COVID measures recommended by the CDC, RIDOH, RIDE, AAP and professional nursing judgement, supersede current recommendations about illness in the SLS Family Handbook.**
- Regardless of vaccination status, staff and students will not need to wear masks outdoors on school grounds. "However, particularly in areas of substantial to high transmission, CDC recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated."
- Regardless of vaccination status, students, staff and visitors will need to wear a mask indoors at all times except for eating/drinking. While unmasked, the individual must adhere to the current physical distancing recommendations(3-6 feet).
- Regardless of vaccination status, parents/guardians will attest at the beginning of the school year that they will monitor their student(s) for Covid symptom(s) or any other contagious illness symptom(s) each morning before school for the 2021-2022 school year. They agree to keep their student home if they exhibit any symptom(s) before leaving for school. Each week, an email reminder will go out to families to continue to monitor their student(s) for symptom(s).
- Regardless of vaccination status, each staff member will attest at the beginning of the school year that they will monitor themselves for Covid symptom(s) or any other contagious illness symptom(s) each morning before school for the 2021-2022 school year. They agree to stay home sick if they exhibit any symptom(s) before leaving for school. Each week, an email reminder will go out to staff to continue to monitor for symptom(s).

- Visitors/volunteers must be vaccinated to enter SLS. They should be prepared to show proof of vaccination. Even though they are vaccinated, they should self-screen themselves for Covid symptom(s) via the form outside of Mrs. Sullivan's office as they sign in:
https://health.ri.gov/forms/screening/COVID19_Employee_Screening_Tool.pdf
If they answer "Yes" to any question they should not enter the school. They may call the main office at 246-0990 to let SLS know they cannot volunteer that day. They should consult their personal physician for further assistance.
- The nurse's office will have an isolation room for students who present with one or more Covid symptoms
- In addition, whenever it is needed the nurse's office will be divided into a "well area" (bandaids, ice packs, etc.) and an "isolation area" for additional ill students
- The Preschool will have an isolation room for any student with illness symptoms.
- Nurses will wear PPE when caring for symptomatic students/staff members.
- Nurses will wear a face mask when caring for all "well" students.
- Anyone experiencing illness symptoms will be sent home based on current recommendations from the CDC, RIDOH, RIDE and professional nursing judgement.
- The school nurse(s) will be part of the team that addresses plans to meet the needs of students identified to be medically vulnerable to COVID.
- **The school nurse will not dispense cough drops to students nor will they be allowed to be brought in by students as it masks possible symptoms.**
- **No cold medicines will be administered to students at school.**
- *To keep everyone at St. Luke's school healthy and safe, we need everyone in our St. Luke's family to do their part by completing their at-home screenings in a forthright manner. **We reserve the right to send anyone home sick at any point of the day if the nurses or staff learn that someone has come to school with a symptom (or been sent to school medicated for a symptom) that was present during their at-home screening.***
- A nurse will be at the school 7:30am-1:30pm each school day.
- **No medications should be taken to suppress fever or COVID symptoms before coming to school.**
- *If a parent is called to pick up a student for illness, it is expected the student will be picked up within the hour. They will wait in a designated COVID isolation area accompanied by a staff member wearing full PPE if necessary.*

After Absence

- The After Absence Form must be completed after ANY absence from school.

Sick Students and Staff

A student or staff should remain home from school when sick with symptom(s) of any infectious illness, including COVID, to help reduce transmission risk. These symptoms include:

- Cough (new onset)
 - Shortness of breath
 - Difficulty breathing
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Fever or chills
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - Fatigue
 - Congestion or runny nose (new onset)
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
-
- ****Regardless of vaccination status, if a staff member or student develops any of these symptoms, they should remain at home or be sent home and obtain a COVID PCR test (as shown in the slides below). Unvaccinated household members should remain at home until the results of the PCR tests are obtained. This guidance should also be followed if a household member has COVID-like symptoms; the student SHOULD NOT be sent to school until the household member gets a PCR COVID test and receives their test results. ****

Symptoms of COVID-19

In the absence of a more likely diagnosis by a healthcare provider, any person with one or more of the following symptoms should isolate and get a test:

- Fever or chills
- Cough (new)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose (new)
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea



Protocol for a Symptomatic Individual

Updated

Situation	Isolation and quarantine protocol	Recommended testing protocol	Requirement to return
Staff or student has a symptom(s) of COVID-19	<p>Symptomatic individual is isolated, sent home,</p> <p><u>Unvaccinated household contacts</u> must quarantine while test results are pending</p> <p>School close contacts do NOT need to quarantine while test results are pending the</p>	<p>Advise symptomatic individual to seek medical advice and get a PCR test.</p> <p><i>RIDOH may recommend testing for others in certain situations.</i></p>	<p>Attestation that confirms one of the following (parent/guardian attests if a minor)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not tested <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has been fever free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms improved (back to usual health). • Must have attestation from a professional health care provider if there's a more likely diagnosis. • Tested negative (PCR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has been fever free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms improved (back to usual health). • Tested positive (PCR or antigen) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has met RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation.

8/27/2021

62

RHODE ISLAND

PRESCHOOL

- After a staff member or student has been identified as a symptomatic individual, then, TO RETURN TO SCHOOL, **THE STAFF MEMBER OR STUDENT IN PRESCHOOL IS REQUIRED** to have an After Absence Form stating that the individual:
 - Tested negative for COVID (PCR test), has been fever free for at least 24 hours (one full school day, without a fever reducing medication) and **for at least 24 hours (one full school day) they have returned to USUAL health**. Please be in touch with the school nurse if you are unsure if your child may return to school with their current health. Students who return to school too soon will be sent home by the school nurse
 - Tested positive for COVID (PCR test or antigen test) and has since met RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation (see below) OR
 - Not tested, the individual **MUST** have a current doctor's note explaining why a COVID PCR test was not needed (that for these symptoms there is a more likely diagnosis than COVID) and that the current symptom(s) are not contagious. And

the parent MUST complete an After Absence Form (all due on the student's first day back to school) **OR**

- Not tested, isolate for 10 days, household contacts should quarantine and the student may return to school following the guidelines for a confirmed case (see the slide below and/or contact the school nurse for information).
- If your child/staff member returns to school and develops new symptom(s) or worsening symptom(s), you MUST keep your child home sick from school again and consult the school nurse.

GRADES K-8

- After a staff member or student has been identified as a symptomatic individual, then, **TO RETURN TO SCHOOL, THE STAFF MEMBER OR STUDENT IN GRADES K-8 IS REQUIRED** to have an After Absence Form stating that the individual:
 - Tested negative for COVID (PCR test), has been fever free for at least 24 hours (one full school day, without a fever reducing medication) and **for at least 24 hours (one full school day), the symptom(s) has significantly improved or returned to usual health**. Please be in touch with the school nurse if you are unsure if your child may return to school with their current health. Students who return to school too soon will be sent home by the school nurse
 - Tested positive for COVID (PCR test or antigen test) and has since met RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation (see below) **OR**
 - Not tested, the individual MUST have a current doctor's note explaining why a COVID PCR test was not needed (that for these symptoms there is a more likely diagnosis than COVID) and that the current symptom(s) are not contagious. And the parent MUST complete an After Absence Form (all due on the student's first day back to school) **OR**
 - Not tested, isolate for 10 days, household contacts should quarantine and the student may return to school following the guidelines for a confirmed case (see the slide below and/or contact the school nurse for information).
 - If your child/staff member returns to school and develops new symptom(s) or worsening symptom(s), you MUST keep your child home sick from school again and consult the school nurse.

PRESCHOOL-GRADE 8 (Remainder of document)

Protocol for a Confirmed Case

Update
d

Situation	Isolation and quarantine protocol	Recommended testing protocol	Requirement to return
Staff or student tests positive	<p>Person testing positive is isolated per CDC/RIDOH guidelines</p> <p>Close contacts are quarantined per CDC/RIDOH guidelines</p>	<p>Close contacts in quarantine should self-monitor for symptoms and seek medical advice as needed. RIDOH recommends all close contacts get tested three to five days after the exposure.</p> <p>Close contacts who are fully vaccinated do not need to quarantine but should get tested three to five days after the exposure.</p> <p>Individuals who have tested positive in the past 90 days do not need to quarantine and should not get tested.</p>	<p>Individuals must meet the CDC/RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation: RIDOH recommends the symptom-based strategy for ending isolation. Isolate until:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and • Symptoms have improved and • 10 days since symptoms first appeared (20 days if severely immunocompromised) <p>OR time-based approach if asymptomatic when tested positive. Isolate until:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 days since date of specimen collection (20 days if severely immunocompromised)

- After a staff or student tests positive for COVID, then, TO RETURN TO SCHOOL THE STUDENT/STAFF member MUST meet the CDC/RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation, BEFORE returning to school. They must return with a completed After Absence Form, to be given to the school nurse on the student or staff member's first day back to school.
 - RIDOH recommends the symptom-based strategy for ending isolation. Isolate until:
 - fever free for at least 24 hours (one full school day, without a fever reducing medication)
 - symptoms have improved AND
 - it has been 10 days since symptoms first appeared (20 days if severely immunocompromised).
- OR
- the time-based approach if asymptomatic when tested positive.
 - Isolate until: 10 days since date of specimen collection (20 days if severely immunocompromised).

COVID and Allergies, Asthma or Chronic Illness:

- Regardless of vaccination status, if a student or staff has a new onset symptom(s) that are consistent with either COVID or their seasonal allergies, asthma, or other chronic illness (for instance first time allergy symptom this year after usual health; asthma/chronic illness exacerbation after individual was of usual health), they should remain at home sick, consult their primary care professional and get a COVID PCR test.
- TO RETURN TO SCHOOL THE STAFF OR STUDENT IS REQUIRED to:
 - Give a completed After Absence form to the school nurse stating the individual has tested negative for COVID (PCR test).

COVID and Allergies, Asthma, or Chronic Health Problems

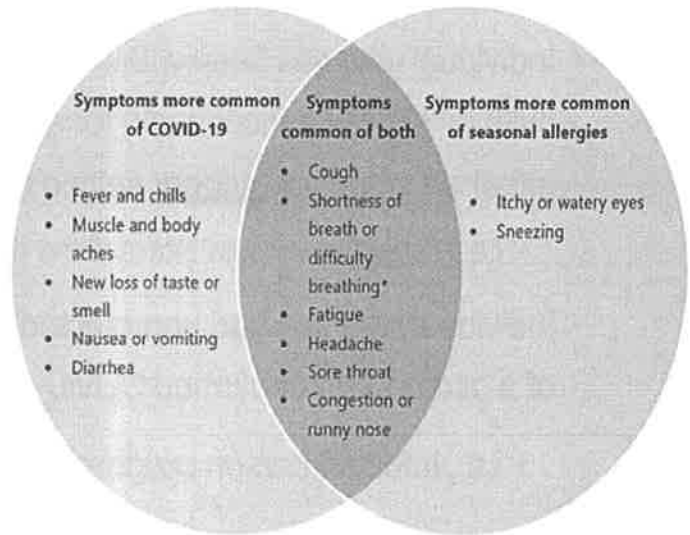
If you have new onset of ANY COVID-19 symptom, stay home and get tested:

- If the test result is negative and **symptoms are consistent with allergies, asthma, or other chronic health problems**, then the individual may return to school/sports after being fever-free for 24 hours.
 - If symptoms are a result of allergies, they may last as long as the allergen (i.e. pollen) is present. This may be for weeks or longer. The child may attend school/sports as long as there is no fever, no new symptoms of COVID-19, and no sudden change of symptoms.
- If there is any **new additional COVID-19 symptom** or **sudden change or worsening** of runny nose, nasal congestion, or other symptom then,
 - Dismiss home;
 - Seek medical advice; and
 - Get tested, as required to return to school/sports.

COVID-19 and Allergies

When you have new onset of ANY symptom, it could be COVID-19 not allergies:

- Stay home
- Get tested
- Spare your contacts



Close Contacts:

How Is a Close Contact Defined?

- Close contact

- Individual who has been within six feet of an infected person (with or without a face mask) for a cumulative 15 minutes over a 24-hour period in either an indoor or outdoor setting regardless of vaccination status:
 - i.e., Three five-minute interactions during the day.
- Individual who has had unprotected direct contact with secretions or excretions of a person with confirmed COVID-19 in either an indoor or outdoor setting:
 - i.e., Infected person coughed directly in someone's face.

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/transmission_k_12_schools.html

8/27/2021

| 18

RHODE
ISLAND

Close Contacts Exempt from Quarantine

New

Names and contact information of ALL close contacts should be provided to RIDOH during case investigations and contact tracing.

- **The following groups of people should still be considered close contacts and reported to RIDOH but are exempt from quarantine:**

- Fully vaccinated close contacts
- Close contacts who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 during the past 90 days
- Individuals who meet the criteria for the new K-12 Close Contact Exception (see next slide for details)

8/13/2021

| 25

RHODE
ISLAND

New K-12 Student Close Contact Exception

New

- A K-12 student exposed to another K-12 student infected with COVID-19 does not need to quarantine if all of the following apply:
 - Both the infected person and exposed close contact are K-12 students;
 - The exposure occurred in an **indoor** K-12 classroom;
 - Both the exposed (close contact) student and the infected student wore face masks at all times during the close contact exposure; and
 - At least three feet of physical distance was maintained at all times during the exposure.
- **This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.**

8/13/2021

26

RHODE ISLAND

Unvaccinated Close Contacts:

- After an unvaccinated staff member or student is identified by SLS/RIDOH to be a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID, that individual(s) will be notified by SLS and/or RIDOH. The class and school will be notified by email of a positive case of COVID at SLS.
- Per the Governor's Executive Order from September 1, 2021, any person who is identified as a close contact and is not fully vaccinated must get tested immediately after being identified as a close contact (PCR test).
- The non-exempt close contact identified by SLS or RIDOH **MUST** quarantine for 7 days after the last date of exposure to the confirmed case.
- To end quarantine, and return to school following the 7 day quarantine approach (returning to school on day 8 or after), the individual **MUST** have a PCR COVID test on day 5 or after (It should not be an antigen/rapid test). A test before day 5 will not be accepted by SLS. **For those who choose not to test, they must complete a 10 day quarantine.**
- The exempt close contacts identified by SLS or RIDOH (see criteria on slide above that defines exempt students) per the Governor's Executive Order from September 1, 2021, must get a COVID PCR test immediately after being identified as a close contact. They must also get a COVID PCR test on day 5 after exposure. They do not need to quarantine but must monitor for COVID symptoms for 14 days following exposure. If they develop any symptom(s) in that 14 day period, they should stay home, get a COVID PCR test, consult their health care provider, and call out sick to SLS.
- **If there is a "non outbreak situation" as decided by SLS/RIDOH and a student or staff member refuses to test then they must complete a 10 day quarantine before returning to school (return on or after day 11) and household contacts should quarantine (sibling should remain at home and quarantine).**

- If there is an “outbreak situation” as decided by SLS/RIDOH and a student or staff member refuses to test then they must complete a 14 day quarantine before returning to school (return on or after day 15) and household contacts should quarantine (siblings should remain at home and quarantine).
- A completed After Absence Form must be completed and returned to the school nurse on the first day back to school.
- Once returning to school after a 7 or 10 day quarantine, the individual should continue to monitor for symptoms through day 14. If any symptom(s) occur in that 14 day period, the individual should not come to school, consult their healthcare provider, get a PCR COVID test and call out sick to SLS.

Vaccinated Close Contacts:

- After a vaccinated staff member or student is identified by SLS/RIDOH to be a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID, that individual(s) will be notified by SLS and/or RIDOH. The class and school will be notified by email of a positive case of COVID at SLS.
- Fully vaccinated individuals may choose to get tested as soon as being notified of being a close contact **AND**
- **After a fully vaccinated individual is identified to be a close contact, they MUST get a COVID PCR test on day 5 after the date of exposure and wear a mask in public indoor setting for 14 days or until they receive a negative COVID test result per the Governor’s Executive Order from September 1, 2021.** The COVID PCR test from day 5 should be attested to on an After Absence form submitted to the school nurse.
- After a vaccinated staff member or student is known to be a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID, unless SLS or RIDOH notifies them differently, the asymptomatic staff or student may return to school the following school day and MUST monitor themselves for symptom(s) of COVID for 14 days from the exposure date. If any symptom(s) occur in that 14 day period the individual should not come to school, consult their healthcare provider, get a PCR COVID test and call out sick to SLS. **If a symptomatic student/staff member does not get a COVID test, they must quarantine for 10 days from onset of symptom(s) (return to school on day 11 or after if they have had no fever for at least 24 hours without fever reducing medication, and symptoms have improved).**

Unvaccinated Travelers:

- Domestic Travel- SLS recommends that unvaccinated domestic travelers get a COVID test on day 5 after returning from travel and self quarantine for 7 days after travel (return to school on day 8). The student/staff member is REQUIRED to return an After Absence Form to the school nurse indicating dates of travel on their first day back to school (and test results if a COVID test was completed).
- **In addition, student/staff member must monitor for COVID symptom(s) for 14 days following their return to Rhode Island. If the student/staff develops any symptom(s) of COVID in the 14 days following travel, the individual should remain home from school, consult their physician, obtain a PCR COVID test and call out sick from SLS.**

- International travel: Students/staff returning from international travel **MUST** get a COVID PCR test on day 5 after travel **AND** quarantine for a full 7 days after travel (returning on or after day 8). A test before day 5 will not be accepted by SLS. **If a student/staff member does not get tested, they must stay home and quarantine for 10 days after travel.** On the day of return to school, the student/staff member is **REQUIRED** to give the school nurse an After Absence Form that indicates the individual's dates of travel and that they:
 - Tested negative for COVID (PCR test) AND quarantined for a full 7 days **OR**
 - No test done AND, completed a 10 day quarantine **OR**
 - Tested positive for COVID (PCR test) and has since met RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation
 - **Students/staff MUST monitor for COVID symptom(s) for 14 days following their return to Rhode Island. If the student/staff member develops any symptom(s) of COVID in the 14 days following travel, the individual should remain home from school, consult their physician, obtain a PCR COVID test and call out sick from SLS.**
 - **Unvaccinated students who travel to places requiring quarantine upon returning to Rhode Island will not have access to virtual learning/distance learning during travel or the travel quarantine.**

Vaccinated Travelers:

- Domestic: Student/staff are currently not required to quarantine or get tested when traveling within the United States. Student/staff returning from travel are **REQUIRED** to return an After Absence Form to the school nurse that includes:
 - The individual's dates of travel.
 - Student/staff must monitor for COVID symptom(s) for 14 days following their return to Rhode Island. If the student/staff develops any symptom(s) of COVID in the 14 days following travel, the individual should remain home from school, consult their physician, obtain a PCR COVID test and call out sick from SLS.
- **RIDOH/CDC strongly recommends that fully vaccinated people get tested after travel.**
- International: Student/staff returning from international travel are **REQUIRED** to get a COVID PCR test 5 days after returning to Rhode Island.
 - Student/staff are **REQUIRED** to return an After Absence Form to the school nurse that indicates the individual's dates of travel. They are **REQUIRED** to attest to a negative COVID test once it is completed on day 5.
 - Student/staff must monitor for COVID symptom(s) for 14 days following their return to Rhode Island. If the student/staff develops any symptom(s) of COVID in the 14 days following travel, the individual should remain home from school, consult their physician, obtain a PCR COVID test and call out sick from SLS.
- **St. Luke's School strongly encourages you to follow current guidance from RIDOH and the CDC if you need to travel (links below)**
- Link to current RIDOH guidance: <https://covid.ri.gov/covid-19-prevention/travel-tofrom-ri>

- Link to current CDC guidance:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>
- These guidelines may be updated to be consistent with future guidance from the CDC/RIDOH for schools/our SLS community.

Persons Vaccinated for COVID/Proof of Vaccination:

- **Definition of fully vaccinated per CDC on March 8, 2021:** “People are considered fully protected two weeks after their second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, or two weeks after the single-dose Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.”
- Students who are fully vaccinated should provide a copy of their COVID vaccination card to the nurses. It will be added to the student’s health record. The nurses will check that full vaccination status is in effect during close contact tracing per the current guidance from RIDOH and/or the CDC. **Students who do not share their vaccination status will be treated as an unvaccinated individual when it comes to contact tracing if they are a close contact to a positive case of COVID.**
- Staff members who are fully vaccinated must fill out an attestation form indicating their final dose of the COVID vaccine and give it to the St. Luke’s School nurses. **Staff members who began employment after July 1, 2021,** must also provide a copy of their vaccination card. **Staff employed prior to July 1, 2021,** must provide a copy of their vaccination card after their 8 month booster shot (Pfizer and Moderna). The nurses will check that full vaccination status is in effect during close contact tracing per the current guidance from RIDOH and/or the CDC. **Staff who do not share their vaccination status will be treated as an unvaccinated individual when it comes to contact tracing if they are a close contact to a positive case of COVID.**

Let’s have a great school year:

- **For everyone's safety at St. Luke’s School, even if you are fully vaccinated please remember to continue to maintain a physical distance of at least 3-6 feet from others, mask indoors when not eating, home screen everyday for infectious illness (including COVID symptoms), maintain proper ventilation, clean, disinfect and maintain good hand hygiene.**