



## 2022-23 COVID Protocols - Effective February 16, 2023

### Overview

- Woodstock Day School (“WDS”) follows COVID guidance for schools from the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) and the [NYS Department of Health \(DOH\)](#).
- Our top priority remains keeping our students safe. We are also committed to providing full-time, in-person learning throughout the school year, minimizing potential disruptions to classroom time and student learning. We also remain mindful and respectful of the ongoing challenges COVID presents to individuals in our community who remain at high risk and our responsibility to make them feel welcome and safe in our community.
- **WDS reserves the right to change its COVID protocols to remain in line with CDC and DOH guidance as the pandemic evolves and according to current levels of community transmission.** Our community will be updated in a timely manner if protocols change.

### Administration of COVID Protocols

- As of the start of the 2022-23 school year, the WDS COVID Team is no longer in operation. All COVID policy and protocol matters are being handled by the WDS Health and Safety Team. Questions about our COVID protocols and policies should be sent to this team at the following email address:
  - [healthandsafety@woodstockdayschool.org](mailto:healthandsafety@woodstockdayschool.org)
- The current members of the Health and Safety Team are:
  - Adrian Hood, Dean of Students/Director of Admissions
  - Andrea Keltos, School Counselor/Mental Health Coordinator
  - Bob Osterhoudt, Director of Facilities
  - Jennifer Cinti, Executive Director
  - Sheila Lewis, School Nurse
- **Families should report symptoms, exposures, or positive cases to the School Nurse**, not to the Health and Safety Team (See Reporting Symptoms, Exposures, and Positive Cases below).

## Local Community Transmission Levels

- WDS monitors the local community transmissions levels as indicated by the CDC (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>) and may adjust its protocols, as warranted, to follow recommendations outlined in the CDC and DOH guidelines for schools at each transmission level (low, medium, and high).

## Vaccines & Boosters

- **We strongly recommend and encourage all students, staff, and faculty be vaccinated for COVID and stay up to date on their booster shots**, though we do not require it. If New York State mandates COVID vaccines for schools, WDS will follow suit.

## Daily Health Screening

- WDS has eliminated its requirement for families to complete a daily health screening via Magnus prior to the start of the school day. Families should self-monitor for symptoms and children should stay home from school if they experience any of the following symptoms: fever of 100.4 or higher (before administration of fever reducing medication), chills, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.

## Physical Distancing

- Physical distancing is no longer required.

## Masking

- In most cases, the wearing of masks while on campus is optional. For those who choose to mask we recommend KN95 masks as they provide the best protection for the person wearing the mask. WDS strongly encourages and recommends students, faculty/staff, parents, and visitors to follow CDC and DOH recommendations to mask indoors in specific high risk situations, such as large group gatherings and when the level of community transmission is at a high level.
- Masking is required when visiting the School Nurse's office.
- Individuals may choose to wear a mask at any time for any reason. There are many reasons an individual may choose to wear a mask, including medical reasons, protecting family members, and/or a desire for increased protection. WDS remains committed to promoting a "mask positive" school environment where individuals can mask or not mask without judgment and with empathy for all. It is not acceptable to stigmatize, bully, or make anyone feel uncomfortable for their decision. WDS will continue to make masks available for anyone who needs one and families should continue sending students to school with a mask in the event it is needed.

## Air Purifiers

- WDS will continue to use air purifiers in all classrooms, common spaces, and offices in campus buildings.

## Testing

- WDS will no longer conduct weekly surveillance testing of its entire school community. However, testing may be required before certain large group or high risk activities as recommended by the CDC and DOH.

## Situations that May Result in a Pivot to Virtual Learning

- WDS aims to avoid any class or school closures. Our first preference is always to deliver instruction in person and pivot to virtual learning as a last resort. Our goal is to provide coverage for any teachers who are out sick or required to quarantine. In the unlikely event of a staff shortage, WDS may need to pivot temporarily to virtual learning.

## Start of School/Holiday/Break Testing Protocols

- WDS will no longer require students to test prior to returning to campus at the start of the school year, after school breaks, or after extended holidays. However, WDS strongly recommends that families consider testing their child(ren) before returning to school as a layer of precaution and especially if there is any reason to believe a potential COVID exposure may have occurred.

## Reporting Symptoms, Exposures, and Positive Test Results

- All COVID symptoms, exposures, and positive test results should be reported to the School Nurse (Sheila Lewis, [slewis@woodstockdayschool.org](mailto:slewis@woodstockdayschool.org)) who will respond and follow-up with families in a timely manner.

## In the Event of a Positive Test

- After a positive COVID test, a 5 day period of isolation and quarantine is required. Students, faculty, and staff may return to school after this 5 day period assuming they have been fever free (temperature less than 100.4 degrees) for 24 hours with no fever reducing medication and symptoms are improving.
- WDS does not require a negative COVID test for students to return to school after a positive test result. Upon return to school, enhanced masking protocols are required through day 10 (day 1 is the first full day following the day a positive test result is received regardless of the date of symptom onset). WDS does not allow persons who have tested positive for COVID to test out of this 10 day masking requirement.
- Due to close contact in a household, if a family member tests positive for COVID we will require masking while on campus for everyone residing in the home. For example: If a sibling

in 4th grade tests positive for COVID and their sibling in 2nd grade remains negative, we will require the negative sibling to wear a mask for 10 days.

### Academic Support In the Event of a Mandated Quarantine

- Families who need academic support for their student(s) should reach out to their classroom teacher(s) or advisor(s).

### In the Event of a Direct Contact/Potential Exposure

- Quarantine is no longer recommended for people who are exposed to COVID-19. People who were exposed to COVID-19 should follow [recommendations](#) to wear a well-fitting mask and get tested.
- Due to close contact in a household, if a family member tests positive for COVID we will require masking while on campus for everyone residing in the home. For example: If a sibling in 4th grade tests positive for COVID and their sibling in 2nd grade remains negative, we will require the negative sibling to wear a mask for 10 days.