COVID-19 BACK-TO-SCHOOL POLICY 2021-2022

Updated December 31, 2021

Our goal is to provide a full, on-campus school experience as quickly and as safely as possible. This policy outlines the steps we are taking to achieve our goal. We may adjust these policies as needed over the course of the semester.

MASKS

Students: [Update] As of January 3, 2022, and through January 14, 2022, masks are required in all indoor settings. Masks are optional when outdoors.

Faculty and Staff: [Update] As of January 3, 2022, and through January 14, 2022, masks are required when indoors, unless alone in an office or classroom. Masks are optional when outdoors.

Visitors: [Update] As of January 3, 2022, and through January 14, 2022, masks are required in all indoor settings when meeting on campus with faculty, staff or other parents. Visitors are always required to wear masks when indoors with students present. Masks are optional when outdoors.

VACCINATIONS

Vaccines are the best tool we have to ensure a sustainable in-person experience; therefore, Brophy encourages everyone in the community who is eligible to get vaccinated. Students, faculty and staff can choose between two COVID-19 mitigation alternatives:

1. Get vaccinated and upload your proof of vaccination through this form.
2. Get tested twice weekly.

Maricopa County Department of Health Services provides this list of vaccination sites.
COVID TESTING
Beginning September 13, unvaccinated students, faculty and staff could choose to undergo twice-weekly COVID testing as an alternative to vaccinations. Brophy is providing no-cost, on-site pooled testing for students and staff; however, students will still have the option of testing at a physician’s office, pharmacy or most third-party providers. At this time, we are not accepting at-home tests. You can find the details of our testing program, including how to submit third-party test results, here.

Frequency-of-testing requirements will continue to be evaluated and may be adjusted based on evolving information.

GUIDANCE FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE RECOVERED FROM COVID-19
Effective November 29, 2021, our 90-day testing exemption for someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be extended to a 180-day testing exemption. This is in line with evolving national data and guidance from our medical advisory team. During this 180-day period of immunity, students are able to participate in overnight school travel. Additionally, during this 180-day window, students will follow the quarantine guidance for vaccinated students explained below. Although the student does not need to wait 180 days to be vaccinated, when the 180-day time period expires, that student will either need to submit proof of vaccination or resume regular testing. In order to have this period of immunity recognized, a positive COVID test (PCR or Antigen) must be on file with the school. Antibody tests are not accepted at this time. Positive test results can be submitted here.

STUDENT TRAVEL
Unvaccinated students are able to travel on certain short-term trips related to athletics and other student activities with certain provisions. Details:

● If a student, while out of town on a school trip, tests positive for COVID-19, a parent or guardian must arrive on-site and assume responsibility for that student within 24 hours. In sending their son on a school-related trip, parents are agreeing to this provision.

● Short-term, overnight travel related to athletics or co-curricular activities is available to students regardless of their vaccination status. However, unvaccinated students must abide by these provisions:
  ○ Test negative on the day of departure via an on-site rapid test provided by the school and administered on campus by the trip moderator.
  ○ Stay overnight with his parent(s) or in a room with other unvaccinated student(s) per agreement with parents and trip moderator. The student’s family is responsible for all costs associated with separate lodging.
● All immersion experiences and other overnight trips organized by the Office and Faith and Justice are still reserved for vaccinated students only.
● Retreats at Manresa — either organized by the OFJ, teams or organizations — are reserved for fully vaccinated students at this time. All student travel is subject to additional restrictions depending on the nature of the trip and these restrictions will be determined by the trip leader in consultation with school administration.

REPORTING ILLNESS
[Update] Brophy’s sick policy can be found here. Please immediately notify the Dean’s Office when illness occurs. Dean’s Office personnel will reply before the end of the school day to provide guidance depending on the circumstance. If a student tests positive for COVID-19 or is sick with a fever (100.4 or above) or any other symptoms of a contagious infection, the student must remain at home until no fever or other symptoms have been present for a minimum of 24 hours with no fever-reducing medication. Please note that a negative COVID-19 test is no longer required to return to school.

ISOLATION PROTOCOL (If a student tests positive for COVID-19)
[Update] If a student tests positive, a parent or guardian should notify the Dean’s Office and the student should stay home. We are adopting the new CDC isolation guidelines, which reduce the isolation period from ten days to five. Students will be able to return to school after day five if they test negative. You can read the details of the CDC update here, which is based on studies demonstrating that the majority of people with COVID-19 are infectious for five days.

QUARANTINE PROTOCOL (if a student is exposed to COVID-19)
Brophy’s quarantine protocol is informed by the guidance provided by Maricopa County Department of Public Health and developed in consultation with Brophy’s medical advisory team with the purpose of meeting and sustaining the goals of the school’s mitigation plan. With the strides we have made in vaccination and frequent testing we have now been able to dispense with contact tracing and quarantine requirements. If an unvaccinated student is exposed, our twice-weekly testing requirement enables us to effectively monitor infection status.

As communicated frequently, the backbone of our mitigation strategy is vaccination and regular testing for those unvaccinated. With this strategy, we have experienced minimal spread of the virus — a welcome development that has given us the confidence to discontinue contract tracing as described above. This means there are no notification requirements on the school’s part and no quarantine requirement on the students’ part. It continues to be essential that
everyone, regardless of vaccination status, remain vigilant about staying home and getting tested if exhibiting symptoms.

IN CONCLUSION
Based on our desire to have as many students safely engaged on-campus as possible, we are not providing a hybrid learning option this year. Students who miss school due to illness or quarantine can work with their teachers to stay current on course material and assignments. Contact the Dean’s Office if you have any questions related to our COVID-19 protocols.

Please refer to the resources below for more information.

Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Arizona Department of Health Services
Maricopa County Department of Public Health