

North Dallas Adventist Academy

COVID-19 Policy

2021-2022

Note: Please keep in mind that it is a "living document" and will continue to be modified to adapt to the changing health climate as deemed necessary by NDAA administration.

As the first defense to help ensure the health and safety of our campus, we require that students be kept home from school if any of the following conditions or situations exist:

- a. Temperature of 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or higher (99.6 degrees Fahrenheit for a contactless thermometer)
- b. Sore throat;
- c. Loss of taste or smell;
- d. New uncontrolled cough or difficulty breathing (or, for students with a chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline);
- e. Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain; or
- f. They are considered to be a COVID-19 close contact, defined as:
 - i. Being within 3-6 feet of a COVID-19 lab-confirmed individual, within 48 hours of the positive test result (for asymptomatic individuals) or symptom onset (for symptomatic individuals), for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes or more during a 24 hour period, or
 - ii. Having been directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on while not wearing a mask/face covering

The only exception to the list above would be when symptoms exist from documented, pre-existing conditions such as allergies. *Students will be isolated for observation should any of the above conditions be displayed, parents/guardians immediately contacted/notified, and should be picked up within 30-60 minutes of initial notification, but in all cases within 90 minutes of notification.* If symptoms worsen to a point of concern for student health and safety, 911 will be called. If contact has still not been received from parent/guardian, student will be transported via ambulance to a hospital if recommended by the responding EMT staff. For this reason, **we recommend that all families have an emergency pickup plan in place to accommodate this requirement.**

Preventative Sanitation and Procedural Practices to be Implemented:

- Sanitary wipes to be routinely used on high touch surfaces
- Shared surfaces (such as desks and chairs) to be routinely wiped down throughout the school day utilizing sanitary wipes and Peroxide spray bottles
- Hand Sanitizer Stations (40+): Alcohol-based solution
- Water bottle filling stations throughout campus will be the primary method for distributing drinking water (Personal, reusable water bottles will be required for all students for this reason)
- Frequent hand washing using soap and water, with use of hand sanitizer between washings will be implemented
- Isolation area for symptomatic students

While North Dallas Adventist Academy is not requiring masks to be worn this school year, **we are recommending students wear masks**, especially in the following situations:

1. Student has a compromised immune system
2. The student is of an age where vaccination is not an option

NDAA will make every effort to ensure students wear masks/face coverings when parents have indicated their preference in writing, otherwise, no communication is necessary. The exception would be PE and recess times, where students will be asked to remove masks and face coverings. However, if you prefer for your student to continue to wear their face covering during recess, PE, and other outdoor activities, please include that information in your written communication. For grades PK-8th Grade, please communicate directly with the teacher/homeroom teacher expressing your desire. For High School students, please indicate this preference to the Mrs. Angie McWilliam (mcwilliams@ndaacademy.org)

Face coverings may have designs/patterns, but must be appropriate in a Christian setting, and should not include designs with pictures or writings related to alcoholic beverages, tobacco, drugs, politics, or other suggestive, violent, or inappropriate images, words or logos. NDAA staff will make the final determination on what is appropriate in the classroom setting. Should a student come to campus with a face covering that is determined to be inappropriate, a mask will be provided. Further consequences will be encountered if a student has a subsequent occurrence with an inappropriate face covering.

COVID-19 Lab-Confirmed Positive Case Notification Protocols:

In the event of a lab-confirmed COVID-19 positive case, the NDAA administrative team will take the following communication and response actions:

1. Notify the Dallas County health department
2. Notify the class/group potentially impacted
3. Determine, where possible, the “close contacts” and send an additional notification
4. Areas impacted by the lab-confirmed COVID-19 positive individual(s) will be closed (if notification comes within 3 days of exposure) until enhanced cleaning can be performed.

* The identity of the individual with the resulting lab-confirmed COVID-19 positive test result will be kept confidential, and will only be made known to NDAA staff members as contact tracing takes place and required reporting to the Dallas County Health Department.

“Close Contact” Quarantining Protocols:

If your student was in the same class/group as a COVID-19 lab-confirmed individual, you may opt to have them quarantine for up to 10 days. Otherwise, if a quarantine period is not required, they will be expected to attend live, in-person, as no “virtual school” option is available for attendance.

If your student is determined to be a close contact, they may return to school with no quarantine period if they:

1. have been fully vaccinated and show no symptoms of COVID-19, or
2. have had a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the previous 3 months, have recovered, and remain without symptoms

For individuals who have been fully vaccinated and opt to return to school following an identified close contact, it is recommended that they get tested 3-5 days after their potential exposure and wear a mask indoors for 14 days following the potential exposure.

Otherwise, your student will be required to quarantine, and expected to return to school after:

1. 10 days from their last potential exposure date, or
2. 7 days after receiving a negative test result (test must occur on day 5 or later from their potential last exposure date)

Please note that contact tracing, to determine confirmed “close contacts”, is primarily only feasible in confined/static settings, such as with classroom seating arrangements.

COVID-19 Positive Case Quarantine Protocols:

Individuals who are symptomatic and think or know they have COVID-19 will be required to quarantine, and remain off campus until after:

- 10 days since symptoms first appeared, and
- 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, and
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving

Individuals who are asymptomatic and test positive for COVID-19 must quarantine and remain off campus for 10 days from the date of the positive test.

On-Campus Visitors:

Limited visitors will be allowed on campus, and prior authorization is required to schedule a visit during the school day. This will not include walking students to class (which is not allowed). If visiting a classroom/teacher is necessary during the school day (classroom party, etc.), making arrangements with the teacher. Approval is required by administration prior to the visit.

Lunch-time Procedures:

Students will be eating in cafeteria during their designated lunch time. Seating will be assigned for contact tracing purposes.