



COVID-19 Policy

Prentiss Christian School
2021-2022

INTRODUCTION

The continued presence of COVID-19 and its variants creates a need for continued extra precautions to make the school environment as safe as possible for our students, staff, and patrons. The implementation of this policy and the guidelines herein are intended to guide PC as we endeavor to create and maintain this safe environment.

NOTICE OF RISK

We have taken enhanced health and safety measures for those who come to our campus—students, employees, and visitors. While on campus you must follow all posted instructions. An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public space where people are present. COVID-19 is a contagious disease. If infected, you may exhibit no symptoms or mild symptoms, or become severely ill, or die. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, senior citizens and persons with underlying health conditions are especially vulnerable. By visiting our campus, you voluntarily assume all risks related to the possible exposure to COVID-19.

DEFINITION OF CLOSE CONTACT

From the CDC: “For COVID-19, a close contact is defined as anyone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before the person began feeling sick until the time the patient was isolated.”

PARENTAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By bringing your child to school each day, you are acknowledging that your child has not tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 10 days, has no symptoms or has been symptom free with no fever (without medication) for at least 48 hours, and that you have checked your child and he or she is not exhibiting any of the following symptoms:

- Forehead temperature of 100.4 or above
- Diarrhea
- Abnormal breathing (e.g., fast breathing)
- Body rash or flushed cheeks

- Cough w/fever
- Behavior changes (e.g., irritable, lethargic)
- Any ear or eye discharge (especially yellow or brown in color)
- Body itching (scabies, lice infestation)
- Disease conditions such as measles, chickenpox, mumps, common cold

STAY AT HOME POLICY

If your child is exhibiting any of the above symptoms, he or she will not be allowed to attend school at PC until he or she is symptom free and fever free (without medication) for at least 48 hours. If your child has had close contact exposure to someone with COVID-19, he or she must (1) have a negative COVID-19 test result, and/or (2) be symptom free and fever free (without medication) for at least 48 hours from exposure, before returning to school.

DAILY PROCEDURES

In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on campus, PC is implementing the following daily procedures and protocols:

- Students will maintain social distancing while at school where possible, including in the classrooms, on the sidewalks, and in the cafeteria and gym.
- Students will maintain proper sanitization, including using hand sanitizer, washing hands for at least 20 seconds throughout the day, and coughing or sneezing into a tissue.
- Students are encouraged, but not required, to wear a mask. All classrooms will have disposable masks available for times when proper distancing is not possible.
- All rooms will be cleaned and disinfected on a daily basis.
- Any and all shared equipment will be cleaned and disinfected between uses.
- Good ventilation and the use of outside air will be encouraged in the classrooms (i.e. open windows, open doors).
- As much as possible, groups of students will stay together throughout the day to keep limit the number of contacts for each student and teacher.
- Teachers will observe students for symptoms throughout the day, and send any who appear to be sick to the school office for a temperature check and observation.

SICK ROOM/SYMPOMATIC STUDENT ON CAMPUS

PC will provide a sick room for students who are found to be symptomatic while at school. The parents of the student will be notified and asked to come and pick up their child. The “stay at home policy” and “return to school guidelines” will be followed with students found to be symptomatic at school (i.e. negative test result and/or symptom free/fever free for at least 48 hours).

OCCURANCE OF A POSITIVE TEST

In the occurrence of a positive COVID-19 test result for a student at PC, parents of students in that class, or those who are deemed to have been in close contact with the student (i.e. athletics), will be notified by email and/or by telephone. A thorough cleaning of

classrooms/areas in which the student had been will take place before other students return to those classrooms/areas.

RETURN TO SCHOOL GUIDELINES

Students who test positive for COVID-19 will only be allowed to return to school after a period of 10 calendar days from the date of the positive test and after they are 48 hours symptom/fever free (without medication). Following the latest CDC guidance, students will be allowed to return after a period of 5 calendar days from the date of the positive test with documentation of a negative test result.

HIGH RISK STUDENTS/STAFF

High risk students and staff are encouraged to wear masks, follow strict social distancing guidelines, and use proper sanitization procedures while on campus.

ONLINE LEARNING OPTION

In the event that a student is unable to continue in the traditional learning environment due to sickness or high risk, PC will work with the student to create an online learning option in order to complete educational requirements for the 2021-2022 school year. This online learning option may require an extra fee for the student.

ABSENCE POLICIES

According to MAIS guidelines, students who miss more than 14 school days per semester course, or 20 per year course, will not be allowed to pass the class in which the absences occur or advance to the next grade in the case of full days missed. This requirement can be lifted in case of special circumstances. Any student missing more than the allowable days due to COVID-19 will be allowed to meet with administration and make the case for special circumstances, but only if the student has record of a positive COVID-19 test result.

CAMPUS EVENTS

All campus events will follow these guidelines as well as the MAIS Return to Play Guidelines, a copy of which will be kept on file in the school office.

IN THE EVENT OF A NATIONAL OR STATE MANDATED SCHOOL SHUTDOWN, PC will utilize a distance learning plan (“Blue & Gold”) that includes daily video lessons by our teachers, with teachers being available and accessible during the school day for one-on-one help. Students taking *MSAISNET.COM* classes will continue as normal; however, all other students will be moved to the Blue & Gold Plan in the event of a national or state mandated school shutdown.

**This policy will be revised as needed.