



NSCS COVID-19 Plan 2021-22

**To be in force September 7, and to be reassessed on or before October 1, 2021
Revised September 9, 2021 (travel update)*

Students in Grades 1 - 8 and all staff will wear face coverings when entering the building each morning, traveling throughout the building, and when in common spaces during the school day. Once students and teachers in these grades are in their respective classrooms face coverings may be removed.

Students in Preschool - Kindergarten will not be required to wear masks.

- As students in grades 1-8, as well as all staff, travel to other classrooms, Specials, lunch, recess, etc. face coverings will be required to be worn, but may be removed once they arrive at their destination (with the possible exception of Music, whereby students will be required to wear a face covering if singing will be happening).
- Face coverings will be required in all ***Common Spaces***.
 - ***Common Space*** is defined as any area or space (with the exception of the classroom, Specials, lunch, or recess) that may include students and/or staff, other than those students' classroom and/or pod. ***Please note;*** After School Care, and Enrichment opportunities that involve cross over between grade bands will require students to wear face coverings, when in doors, regardless of area or space.
 - ***Pod*** is defined as grade bands that may have student crossover due to the nature of the schedule. For example; Middle School classes may have 5th - 8th grade students participating in Specials, lunch, recess, etc. together.
- Families will receive notification via email regarding ***Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures*** that are specific to their child's respective campus. We will follow these procedures until October 1st, at which time we will re-evaluate. *As a reminder school begins at 7:45am and pick-up is at 2:30pm.
- NSCS believes that the choice to vaccinate is a personal one, and will not mandate vaccinations for those students who are eligible, nor will NSCS mandate vaccinations for faculty and staff at this time.
- NSCS believes the choice to wear a mask is a personal choice for both teachers and students (under parent/guardian's discretion). Those individuals who choose to wear a mask while at school will be encouraged throughout the day to self-monitor for mask-breaks.

- NSCS families, faculty and staff are *required* to complete a [Risk Waiver](#) before entering the school buildings.

Additional Information

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| Rationale for no Face Coverings in Classrooms | Students engage in snack time in their respective classrooms each morning for approximately 15-20 minutes. During snack times face coverings are removed. Additionally, students remove face coverings for lunch times, which are approximately 30 minutes in length. Potential exposure will have already happened by virtue of removing face coverings for snack and lunch. |
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| General Health & Safety | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon return to school, students will engage in lessons focused on hygiene including; proper hand-washing & hand sanitizer usage, and self-monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms throughout the school day (grade dependent). Students will also be reminded to let their teacher know should they feel ill at any point throughout the school day. • Medical-grade, CDC-approved, and plant-based disinfectants will be used for deep cleaning of the campuses on a regular and ongoing basis, and throughout the school day as needed. • Students and Faculty & Staff will be encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently throughout the day. • Hand sanitizer will be made available throughout the buildings. • Visitors to all campuses will be limited to essential persons only. Visitors will only be allowed inside school buildings with an appointment and will be required to wear a face covering at all times and in all areas of the buildings, including classrooms. Depending on the reason for the visit, visitors will have to adhere to NSCS COVID-19 Agreement. NSCS reserves the right to dismiss any visitor from any campus who fails to comply with the prescribed health screening criteria and COVID-19 Plan. • <i>After October 1, 2021</i> the COVID-19 Sub-Committee will assess and/or approve parents to enter the building for Drop-off and Pick-up times (campuses dependent) and will allow parents to volunteer at the school. Parents will be required to wear a face covering in all common spaces, but may remove their face covering when inside their child’s classroom (same as student and teacher expectations). • Following lunch times, cafeteria tables and the general space will be cleaned and made ready for the next Pod. • No student or staff member may come to school if they are exhibiting ANY signs of illness, including but not limited to runny nose, congestion, headache, rash, nausea, etc. and general feeling of being “under the weather.” |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSCS will follow the State Guidelines as it pertains to travel. Use this link for details https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel |
| Health Pre-Screening for Staff & Students | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/Guardians of students and all staff will be required to self-screen daily before arriving at school, and will attest to their support by signing our 2021-22 NSCS COVID-19 Agreement, which is an honor-based system. • Students, and Faculty & Staff, may have their temperature checked for verification at any point throughout the school day, especially if they are feeling ill or suspected of having a fever during the school day. • Any Faculty or Staff member who develops COVID-19 like symptoms will be sent home immediately and encouraged to consult with their health care provider for guidance. • Parent/guardians and Faculty & Staff will be required to inform to an NSCS Office Manager if; a) the student or staff member has come into close contact with an individual who has been lab-confirmed with COVID-19. Or; b) if the student or staff member has COVID-19 like symptoms. Or; c.) if anyone in their immediate household has tested positive for COVID-19. • Students who develop any symptoms of illness while at school will be monitored by a staff member in an isolated area. Parents/guardians will be contacted for immediate pick-up of the student. Students should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than 1 hour from the time the campus contacted the student’s parent/guardian. According to the assessment of the child’s health care provider a treatment plan will be determined and the student’s return to school plan will be discussed. |
| COVID Symptoms While at School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated areas will be made available on each of our campuses for students and faculty & staff, who are experiencing COVID-19 like symptoms during the school day. Students will remain in this designated area while they wait for a parent/guardian to pick them up. *Please note; the parent/guardian will be instructed as to protocol and/or procedures for the student to return to school. • NSCS will follow up with the family to discuss the protocol to return to school. • A student who shows COVID-19 like symptoms during the school day will be required to put on a face covering and will be separated from their peers and moved to the specific isolated space until they can be picked up by a parent/guardian. • This space will be cleaned and disinfected regularly. • Students who are moved to this space should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than 1 hour from the time the campus contacted the student’s parent/guardian. |
| Care Steps | <p>NSCS seeks to be a community that is found caring for those within its community, and recognizes that there may be varying degrees of opinion and comfort-levels with the School’s protocol. With this reality in mind, we will take steps to work with</p> |

individuals who may require additional accommodations to make them feel comfortable while at school.

Below are some ways we seek to care for the individuals within our community.

- Where feasible, and at the request of parent/guardian, we will seek to create a 3-foot social distance learning space for any child in the classroom and/or provide a protective see through barrier.
- NSCS will support the decisions of all students and staff who desire to wear face coverings.
- Any staff may request additional PPE, including mobile see through barriers, disposable gowns, gloves, and masks.
- If any staff or student has a medical condition that requires additional layers of protection, NSCS will work with the staff member or family to find workable solutions.
- Our sub-committee is here to help! Our COVID-19 Sub-Committee’s email address is covidcommittee@nschristian.org. *(Please refer to the cover letter for more details).

COVID-19 Positive Cases

- NSCS will evaluate each COVID-19 positive case in light of the most recent guidelines from the *Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*. Following the guidance set forth therein for testing, quarantine, and isolation. We will further follow the guidance from the CDC as it pertains to close contact protocol.
- NSCS reserves the right to implement a *Test and Stay* -type policy.
- Should there be COVID-19 positive cases that arise on any of our campuses, our COVID-19 Sub-Committee will evaluate the situation, and a letter from the Head of School, on behalf of the COVID-19 Sub-Committee, will be sent to those persons who need to be informed (classroom, pod, entire school) with a clear course of action.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-isolation-and-quarantine-information>

*The COVID-19 Sub-Committee reserves the right to change and/or alter the COVID-19 2021-22 Plan as required or presents to be in the best interest of the learning community.

