



KENNEDY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

COVID-19 GUIDELINES | 2021-2022

Kennedy Catholic is subject to the Department of Health (DOH) guidance, and will follow all directives from federal, state, and local public health agencies, in full alignment with the Archdiocese of Seattle and the Office of Catholic Schools. DOH is expected to release further guidance later in August for co-curricular activities. Until then, existing guidance will be used to guide our efforts at Kennedy Catholic.

MASKS/FACIAL COVERINGS

Due to the risks posed by the Delta variant of COVID-19 to the community at-large, the State of Washington has mandated masks indoors for all individuals during the school day, regardless of vaccination status. While two-layer cloth masks (fully covering the nose and mouth) satisfy state criteria, we encourage families to explore the options that may provide higher levels of protection when properly used (such as KN-95, KF-94, FFP2 and their equivalents). **Gaiters do not meet the minimal requirements.**

INDOORS

- Masks are required indoors, regardless of vaccination status, for all individuals when students are present.
- Faculty and staff who are verifiably fully vaccinated (as documented in accordance with state policies) do not need to wear masks inside a building when students are not present but may choose to do so.
- Non-vaccinated faculty and staff must always comply with the indoor facial covering requirements.

OUTDOORS

- Masks are not required outdoors, regardless of vaccination status.
- Masks are strongly recommended for unvaccinated individuals when outdoors in crowded spaces (unable to maintain six feet of distance from others) or when in close contact with people from outside their household for a sustained period.

VACCINATION

Kennedy Catholic maintains that vaccination is the single best mitigation strategy our community members can employ, individually and collectively, to protect themselves and others, especially those members who are unable to receive the vaccine. At this point in time, Kennedy Catholic is not requiring students or faculty/staff to be fully vaccinated in order to return to campus. We are confident that a significant majority of our students, faculty, and staff have been fully vaccinated given our efforts to provide access to the vaccine last spring.

We are requiring proof, however, of vaccination status prior to the start of the school year. This collection of information is recommended by the DOH guidance and necessary for our ongoing efforts to protect the Kennedy Catholic community from this ever-evolving pandemic. While all mitigation strategies, including masking, will apply equally to everyone during the school day, vaccination status will affect how we respond to potential exposures and illnesses. Individually identifiable data are protected and will not be disseminated. Once collected, Kennedy Catholic will share the collective, school-level data to allow students, families, faculty, and staff to determine if they wish to implement any additional, personal mitigation measures.

Acceptable documentation for verifying the vaccination status of students, volunteers, and visitors includes at least one of the following:

- A photo of the CDC vaccination card provided at your vaccination; or
- Documentation of vaccination from a health care provider; or
- State immunization information system record

Whichever form of documentation you choose, it must include all the following:

- Name of person vaccinated
- Type of vaccine provided
- Date(s) administered

CONTACT TRACING/QUARANTINE

If an individual on campus tests positive for COVID-19, they will be asked to quarantine for at least 10 days following the onset of symptoms or their positive test collection if asymptomatic. The individual will be able to return after 10 days if symptoms have improved and any fever has been resolved for at least 24 hours. Students and staff who have been verified as fully vaccinated and are not showing symptoms will not be required to quarantine if exposed to an individual who tests positive for COVID-19. The same applies for close contacts who had confirmed COVID-19 in the past three months, have recovered, and do not have symptoms.

STAYING HOME WHEN SICK

Regardless of whether a student or staff member is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19, we highly encourage anyone who is sick to stay home. Even if you are experiencing symptoms unrelated to COVID-19, we ask that you stay home until you are feeling better.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Since Kennedy Catholic is returning to full-time, in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year, academic accommodations for COVID-19 quarantines, infections, and other illnesses will be handled on an individual basis. This follows our standard approach in previous years to responding to the needs of individual students and families to the extent practical. The hybrid model of instruction offered last year is not planned given the limitations it presents to the full Kennedy Catholic experience. We are unable to accommodate requests for hybrid or virtual learning based on individual preferences.

OTHER MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Kennedy Catholic will continue to implement the other standard mitigation strategies used for the past 18 months, including:

- Enhanced cleaning of the facility
- Improved ventilation
- Increased handwashing and use of hand sanitizer
- Physical distancing

With the priority placed on returning all students to school in-person and full-time, our ability to meet the three-foot physical distancing standard may not be universally satisfied at all times. However, we have made every effort to maximize the distance between students in all locations within the building, many of which meet or exceed the three-foot minimum.

COVID-19 COORDINATOR

Ms. Katie Burns, Vice Principal for Student Services, will continue as the main point of contact for Kennedy Catholic for all issues related to COVID-19, including implementation of state requirements. Should you have any specific questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Burns at burnsk@kennedyhs.org or 206.957.9728.



www.kennedyhs.org

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