



VIRGINIA BEACH FRIENDS SCHOOL

Knowledge. Character. Community.

COVID-19 Policies and Updates

1/28/2022

This document provides all of the guidelines for the COVID-19 policies and the current update as of 1/28/2022. Please use this document as the “go-to” for all policies and procedures related to COVID-19. Highlighted items are current updates.

Face Coverings

- Employees, visitors, and other VBFS community members, ages two and up, regardless of vaccination status, will be required to wear a mask while indoors and on buses.
- Students, whose parents submitted a mask acknowledgment form to the school are not required to wear masks while indoors. All students who do not have a form on file are required to wear masks while indoors.
- Students who do not have a mask acknowledgment form on file, do not need to wear a mask indoors while eating, drinking, sleeping, exercising, or playing a musical instrument.
- Students who have a mask acknowledgment form on file must still wear a mask while on a bus, according to federal law.
- When outdoors, all students and all employees do not need to wear masks.

Social Distancing

- Social distancing for cottage through early kindergarten students will not be required. The social distancing mitigation strategy for this age group is to keep the students in the same cohort each day, spend more time outdoors, hand and respiratory hygiene, and staggering playground and recess times. Although, the school will work diligently at keeping the students socially distanced as much as possible.
- Students in cottage and pre-kindergarten will have their nap mats head to toe for rest time to help promote social distancing.
- Social distancing will be used whenever possible among kindergarten through eighth-grade students while indoors. When masks cannot be worn, such as when eating, singing, or playing sports, ensuring at least three feet of physical distance will be a priority among students who are not fully vaccinated.

Screening

- Temperature checks will be required daily for all students before entering any school building each morning.
- If your child has a recorded fever of over 100.4 degrees, proof of a negative antigen or PCR test is required before returning to school.
- If your child is absent due to not feeling well, you must submit the absence in SchoolCues, along with the COVID-19 Screening Tool under Quick Access.

Minimizing Exposure

- Visitors, contractors, vendors, and parents are not permitted in the school buildings at any point during the day. For late drop-off and early pick-up, you must fill out the attendance form in SchoolCues. When you arrive on campus, call the front office, and a staff member will escort

your child to their classroom for late drop-off or will meet you in the circle in front of the school for early pick-up.

- Students will remain in their “pods” for the majority of the day, continuing the cohorting method, as used last year.
- If a student or employee has a fever over 100.4, a negative covid test is required before returning to school.
- If a student or employee tests positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19, and the infected student or employee was within 3 to 6 feet of other students or employees, without consistent mask-wearing, for longer than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period while indoors, are considered a close contact. Students will be required to quarantine for 5 days after the date of exposure, and can return to school on day 6, but will be required to wear a mask while indoors from day 6 to day 10. Students who are unvaccinated will be required to quarantine. (Please refer to the COVID-19 diagram for details on the quarantine period).
- Employees who are unvaccinated, or more than six months out from their second mRNA dose, or more than two months after the J&J vaccine, and not yet boosted, will be required to quarantine.
- Students and employees with documentation of a previous positive COVID-19 diagnostic test on file at the school will not have to self-quarantine in the event that they have close contact with a person who is infected with COVID-19, as long as the student or employee does not have symptoms. This exemption from quarantine currently lasts for three months from the date that the diagnostic test was administered.

COVID-19 Vaccine

- Employees who have chosen to receive the vaccine have been fully vaccinated at this point. At this time, the school is not requiring vaccination for employees. An employee’s individual vaccination status is confidential medical information that is protected and may not be disclosed.
- The school can’t disclose any student or employee’s particular vaccination status. The school’s safety measures should provide reassurance that we are taking the necessary steps to ensure a safe school.
- The school is requesting students who have received the vaccine to voluntarily submit documentation of COVID-19 vaccination status. The protocol to collect, secure, use, and further disclose this information will comply with relevant statutory and regulatory requirements, including Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) statutory and regulatory requirements.

Sports, Field Trips, and Extracurricular Activities:

- Field trips and extracurricular activities will resume for the 2021-2022 academic year.
- The sports program has resumed with basketball, and likely a spring sport. When sports programs and extracurricular activities are offered, guidance will be released in regards to the COVID-19 policy for that program.