



RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN 2021-2022

*Updated on 2/22/2022



Message from the Head of School

August 4, 2021

Dear Randolph Community,

From our earliest experiences with the COVID-19 pandemic, Randolph has prioritized health and safety, learning continuity and the importance of relationships in our school community. With a student-centered approach to learning, we continue to adapt our school operations to offer our students the best opportunity for in-person learning in a safe and healthy environment.

Our greatest opportunity in meeting these goals will be the result of a strong partnership between the school and our families. This plan shares our current expectations and health and safety measures for the 2021-2022 school year. Our learning model this year will be fully in-person, with no plans for a virtual school option. We will work to accommodate the learning needs of any students who are required to quarantine, and this will be coordinated with faculty and divisional leadership.

With guidance from our medical advisory team, we are closely monitoring CDC and state guidelines, and will review our policies as conditions in our community evolve. Our hope is that the rapid increase in COVID-19 cases that we are experiencing at the start of the school year will not be sustained. We also anticipate the authorization of the vaccine for students under the age of 12. As a reminder, individuals who are vaccinated are not required to quarantine per current guidance if they remain symptom free. The information shared here reflects the current operational plans and expectations and will be updated as appropriate.

There is much to look forward to in 2021-2022. We have shifted as many community activities as possible to outdoor venues. Additionally, we are bringing back many of the special experiences we had to limit last year. After-school clubs, performances, dining services, transportation services, and many other activities will return. Building community is our focus for the school year and we remain fully committed to engaging with all of you. I'm grateful for our partnership.

Sincerely,

Adam Dubé
Head of School

COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

All members of the Randolph School community have a shared responsibility to adhere to the safety policies and procedures listed in this and future communications to help keep students and employees safe. *Please note that current guidelines are subject to change and will be updated as needed.*

»**Stay Home if Sick.** Parents or guardians are required to screen students each morning prior to arriving on campus. If your child is sick, has a fever, or exhibits [symptoms of COVID-19](#), you are expected to keep them home from school and notify the division office or [a school nurse](#).







»**Stay Home Until Test Results are Received.** Anyone who has tested for COVID-19, regardless of reason, should self-quarantine at home pending test results and follow the advice of your health care provider. Unvaccinated members of the household of the individual being tested should also remain home until test results are received. All affected individuals in these circumstances should consult with a school nurse before returning to campus.

»**COVID-19 Testing and Notification.** If your child or someone in your household tests positive for COVID-19, you must notify [a school nurse](#) as soon as possible.

»**Sickness During the School Day.** The School will contact parents or guardians to arrange for immediate pick-up or departure if their child has a fever or exhibits any COVID-19 symptoms or indications.





HEALTH & SAFETY MEASURES

The health and safety of our community is our highest priority. The following is a list of current safety measures for the 2021-22 school year.

 <p>Face Coverings</p>	<p>Effective 2/14/22, Randolph will move to a “mask-preferred” policy for indoor spaces on campus. Face masks will still be worn by all in specific situations (during assemblies when indoors, on transportation, etc.). For this reason, all students and employees will be required to have a mask available daily. Approved masks should have a minimum of two-layers and fully cover the nose and mouth.</p>
 <p>Physical Distancing</p>	<p>Students will be seated in classrooms and assemblies with 3’ spacing or in small cohorts, as practicable, in order to reduce the risk of transmission and minimize required quarantines.</p>
 <p>Health Screenings</p>	<p>Families will be responsible for checking for COVID-19 symptoms each morning, and students and employees should not proceed to campus if they exhibit symptoms. School employees will observe students throughout the day, and students with symptoms will be monitored while parents or guardians are contacted to arrange immediate pick-up or departure.</p>
 <p>Visitors on Campus</p>	<p>For the safety of students and employees, all visitors to campus, including parents, tutors, technicians, and service providers, must make an appointment to come onto campus. Visitors and parent volunteers will be allowed on campus for approved community events. Effective 2/14/21, face masks are preferred for all campus visitors while indoors. Face masks may be required in specific situations such as large indoor gatherings.</p>
 <p>Campus Enhancements</p>	<p>All HVAC units have been adjusted to bring in the maximum amount of outside air and filters have been upgraded to the highest possible level for each unit. Clinics on each campus have a separate room for symptomatic students. Additional picnic tables have been added to provide additional outdoor seating and dining options.</p>
 <p>Enhanced Cleaning and Hygiene</p>	<p>Students and faculty will follow a regular schedule of hand washing or use of hand sanitizer throughout the day. Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available throughout the facilities to ensure convenient access. Daily cleaning and sanitization practices will be compliant with CDC recommendations, including the types of cleaning products used and the frequency of cleaning.</p>

HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

Continued

 <p>Dining Services</p>	<p>Food service will be offered daily on both campuses. Students purchasing meals will go through the serving line and take lunches to designated dining areas. As always, students will be able to bring lunches from home as well.</p>
 <p>Transportation</p>	<p>All individuals riding in school-provided transportation will be required to wear face masks. Windows will be fully or partially opened to increase ventilation, if doing so does not pose a safety risk. Bus capacity will not be reduced, but riders will be asked to space as fully as possible, and a seating roster will be maintained where possible.</p>
 <p>Before- and After-School Care</p>	<p>Students who are registered participants for Randolph's After-School Care program and Late-Start Wednesday Before-School Care program will follow guidelines for masking, hygiene, and other indoor school operations. Physical distancing will be maximized as best possible given assigned spaces, and seating charts will be maintained.</p>
 <p>Self-Care and Well-Being</p>	<p>Pedagogy and classroom practices will provide greater attention to student self-care and well-being to build resilience and cope with the stress or anxiety students may experience in this pandemic context. If your student has any social, emotional, or health concerns, please reach out to school counselors Vanessa Robinson (Lower School), Savannah Short (Middle School), Leslie Shelor (Upper School), or nurses Deb Smith (Garth Campus) or Kim Dunar (Drake Campus).</p>

ISOLATION FOR COVID-POSITIVE CASES

Randolph will follow the guidance of the CDC and ADPH for isolation in the event of COVID-19 related illness.

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, who tests positive or is diagnosed with COVID-19 must:

- Isolate at home for a minimum of 5 days.
- After 5 days, if the individual has no symptoms or if symptoms are resolving and the individual is fever-free for 24-hours without fever-reducing medications, they may return to school and must continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days, regardless of the school's current masking policy.
- If symptoms are not resolved after 5 days, the individual should remain isolated for a full 10 days.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

All information provided here is subject to change as guidance is updated from the CDC, ADPH, and other agencies. Updates will be provided when guidance changes.

»If my child has been vaccinated but is subsequently diagnosed with COVID-19, is he or she required to isolate? Yes. Any individual who is diagnosed with COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, is required to follow the isolation protocols outlined by the CDC.

»Are face coverings and distancing required for outdoor classes or school events? Masks are optional for all individuals when outdoors on Randolph's campus, and the CDC does not generally recommend masking for most outdoor activities. For school day activities, we continue to work to encourage distancing to the extent practical when outdoors for recess, PE or lunch.

»Will there be a virtual school option for the 2021-2022 school year? No. Randolph will return to a fully in-person learning model for the current school year. We will work to accommodate the learning needs of students who are required to quarantine, and this will be coordinated with faculty and divisional leadership.

»Will tickets be limited to athletic competitions? Not at this time. Attendance at athletic competitions will follow the School's "masks-optional" policy. Fans are asked to practice distancing in the stands or while observing events. Randolph will follow AHSAA guidance, and update policies should guidelines change.

»If my child is vaccinated for COVID-19, am I required to provide their vaccination records to the school? Vaccination records for COVID-19 are not required for students to participate in school activities. Interim trips for grades 8-12 do require proof of vaccination, and this information has been shared by trip coordinators. Requirements for future trips will be coordinated with trip vendors and venues and shared with parents prior to travel.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

» **How do I know whether my child should be tested for COVID-19?** The decision to test for COVID-19 should be made in consultation with an individual's primary physician or healthcare provider.

» **How are decisions made around school operations in the COVID-19 environment?** The School's Pandemic Response Committee* meets regularly to monitor regional and state health indicators, as well as the health of our school community. The team's review includes COVID-19 data from the county and state, current guidance from the CDC, ADPH and other guiding agencies, input from our Medical Advisory Team, the status of student and employee illness and quarantine, attendance, and a number of other data points that factor into our community's health status and our school's operational ability. This group monitors and analyzes these indicators for predictive trends and in determining actions based on the unique circumstances at the time. The committee works with our school nurses in navigating suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the Randolph community. Any changes to our health and safety protocols will be shared with our school community.

**The Pandemic Response Committee includes the Head of School, our school nurses, Assistant Head for Academic Affairs, Director of Athletics, Assistant to Head for Strategic Initiatives, Director of Institutional Advancement, and Interim Chief Financial Officer.*

» **What is the role of the Medical Advisory Team?** A volunteer Medical Advisory Team, composed of community physicians and hospital and public health leaders, meets regularly with the Head of School, Lead School Nurse, Assistant to Head for Strategic Initiatives, and the Chair of the Board of Trustees. The team's role is advisory, and the team does not establish policy or make decisions related to school operations. This team provides valuable information, insights and guidance that help inform the work of the Pandemic Response Committee. In light of this, any questions regarding school operational decisions should be directed to school administration.