



Appendix: COVID-19 Response Policies

GENERAL COVID-19 RESPONSE POLICIES

This appendix to The Meadows School Student & Parent Handbook outlines both the school-wide and the specific divisional policies and procedures relating to the coronavirus pandemic. It is important to note that all steps taken are to safeguard the health and safety of our community, but that we enact these policies with the understanding that no return to campus can be risk-free. We believe that it is important for children to have in-person learning experiences for their wellbeing, but we recognize that contracting COVID-19 despite our best efforts is still possible. Parents are reminded that signed enrollment agreements for 2021-22 indicate an understanding of the requirement to adhere to the policies and procedures outlined below. In addition, all parents will be asked to sign an Acknowledgement of Risk Form in order for their child to attend school.

The following policies are in addition to the policies outlined in the main section of this Student & Parent Handbook. If you are looking for policy information not included below, please go back to the main Table of Contents on pages I-V. Our COVID policies may change throughout the year as new information and governmental orders are released.

Our Social Compact

Please keep in mind that any risk you take for your family could impact our larger community's health and safety, as well as our intention to remain on campus. The Meadows School Social Compact outlines specific behaviors expected of our community members on campus, including adhering to all guidelines and policies included in this Appendices.

In addition to our campus-wide efforts, please consider the Social Compact we all share beyond the TMS campus, including:

- Following guidelines regarding facial coverings, frequent hand washing, and consideration of potential for viral spread amongst the larger community when attending social gatherings off campus.
- Complying with state and local public health and travel guidelines.
- Receiving the COVID-19 vaccine and boosters as recommended by the FDA.

Surveillance Testing

In order to keep our campus open and operational, The Meadows School will be proactively conducting surveillance testing of students using the non-invasive Tiger Tech COVID Plus Monitor armband. Each week, a percentage of students in grades K-12 will be tested using the Plus Monitor to safeguard against a possible COVID-19 outbreak. Should a possible positive COVID case be detected, the steps outlined in the Response to Illness section below will be followed.

FACIAL COVERINGS (MASKS)

- Facial coverings are optional for all students, faculty, and staff in PreK-12 while on campus regardless of vaccination status.
- Facial coverings are also optional for parents and visitors to campus.
- Should federal or state regulations change, or a campus-wide outbreak occur, a mandatory facial covering policy may be reintroduced.
- For those that choose to wear facial coverings, they should be school-appropriate, non-distracting, and cloth or medical-grade material that completely covers the nose and mouth.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

All faculty, staff, and students must practice physical (social) distancing when feasible and practical while on campus. Cohorting will not be used at this time unless a COVID-19 outbreak should occur within a grade or division. See the **Response to Outbreak** section below for more information.

RESPONSE TO ILLNESS

COVID-19 has a wide range of symptoms, from mild irritation to severe illness, and in some cases, no symptoms at all. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms of COVID-19 may include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

In all cases where a positive test is made, The Meadows School will report the findings to the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD). The policies below are drawn from CDC guidelines and data gathered during the 2020-21 school year and will be followed to the degree that is both reasonable and actionable in accordance with local public health officials. The following protocols will apply when a student or staff member shows symptoms of illness, is found to be positive through routine surveillance testing, or is exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual.

On-campus testing with the COVID Plus monitoring device

- The School utilizes FDA emergency use approved COVID monitoring devices to surveillance test 10% of our community daily, along with regularly testing the majority of our student-athletes while their sport is in season.

Symptomatic or asymptomatic individual who tests positive

- **Ages 5+:** Remain off campus for 5 days from symptom onset AND only allowed to return 24 hours after fever resolution (if present) AND improved symptoms. Follow by 5 days of strict mask wearing on campus.
- **Ages 3-4:** Remain off campus for 10 days from symptom onset AND only allowed to return 24 hours after fever resolution (if present) AND improved symptoms. May return after 7 days with a negative COVID test result on day 5 AND fever resolution (if present) AND improved symptoms.

Symptomatic individual who has not been tested

- Remain off campus for 10 days from symptom onset AND only allow to return 24 hours after fever resolution (if present) AND improved symptoms.
- May return to school if a doctor establishes an alternative diagnosis and presents a doctor's note to confirm the presence of alternate diagnosis that explains symptoms.

Symptomatic individual who tests negative

- Remain off campus until fever-free for 24 hours (if fever present) AND improved symptoms.

COVID Contact Tracing and Quarantining Procedures

Upon identification of a positive COVID test, the following actions will be taken as quickly as reasonably practicable.

1. Pandemic Coordinator informs the Divisional Director of the identity of the positive individual, then reaches out to SNHD to report the positive case.
2. Director (or, if the positive case is a Division Director, the Head of School) will reach out to the individual, send them home to be quarantined if applicable, and fill out the Contact Tracing Questionnaire below.
3. Director contacts the Director of Facilities to inform of the spaces that need to be sanitized.
4. Director contacts the close, on-campus contacts of the positive individual and, in dialogue with the Head of School, issues appropriate and situation-specific surveillance testing and/or quarantine orders.
5. The school will notify but not quarantine the cohorts of family members of a positively tested individual.

COVID Contact Tracing Questionnaire

The following questions will be answered by any community member who tests positive in order that we might be able to contact trace effectively.

- Which spaces beyond your personal workspace have you occupied in the last 2 days before your positive test?
- Which Meadows Community members have you been in close contact (inside 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with since your last negative test?
- Did you deviate from your schedule since your last negative test? Training, committee meetings, etc. If so please list.
- Did you have any contact with someone while you were not wearing a mask? While they were not?

Asymptomatic individual exposed (close contact) to symptomatic or COVID-positive individual, on or off campus
Close contact is defined as greater than 15 minutes of interaction less than 6 feet away.

Note: According to the CDC, students who are consistently masked do not count as close contacts to one another, though the school will utilize the COVID Plus Monitor device to track possible outbreaks.

If close contact with a COVID-Positive individual is made, an **unvaccinated** student or faculty member must be quarantined from their last known exposure. The quarantine is based on the CDC recommendation of 14-days. Alternatives to the 14-day quarantine may be considered for **asymptomatic** close contacts:

- **Ages 5+:** 5-Day Alternative Quarantine: The asymptomatic close contact should be tested on the 5th day after the exposure occurred. If negative or no new symptoms develop, they may return after the 5th day and follow 5 days of strict mask wearing on campus.
- **Ages 3-4:** 7 or 10-Day Alternative Quarantine: The asymptomatic close contact should be tested on the 5th day after the exposure occurred. If negative, they may return after the 7th day. If the close contact is not tested, they may return after the 10th day if no new symptoms have developed.

If an individual becomes symptomatic, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria listed above of a symptomatic individual who tests positive or is not tested.

Who does not need to quarantine?

- People who have tested positive for COVID-19 on a viral test within the past 90 days and have subsequently recovered and remain without COVID-19 symptoms.
- People who are **fully vaccinated** do not need to quarantine if they come into close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19. They should get tested 5-7 days after their last known exposure—even if they don't have symptoms.

Note: these protocols are applicable regardless of whether an individual has received the COVID vaccine, previously tested positive for COVID-19, or believes that they had the virus at any point previously. This policy may evolve as additional information becomes available regarding the coronavirus. Unless a larger outbreak necessitates city or statewide closures, the Southern Nevada Health Department is TMS's health partner for determining closures and for completing contact tracing. TMS is obligated to report to SNHD the names of any students or staff with confirmed cases. Based on health department guidelines, TMS will appropriately report to affected families and staff the occurrence of a confirmed case of COVID-19 on campus and specify the division in which it has occurred. Students or staff deemed to have had exposure to the individual will be contacted directly by the respective division and directed to follow the School's COVID-19 policy. **TMS will not disclose the names of any individual student or staff with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 to the school community.**

RESPONSE TO OUTBREAK

A COVID-19 outbreak is defined as two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among workers at a facility with onset of illness within a 14-day period, who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household, and are not listed as a close contact of each other outside of the workplace during standard case investigation or contact tracing. In the event on an outbreak, we will:

- Notify families of those students who are deemed to have been in close contact with the positive individuals.
- Mitigate the spread by closing classes, grades, or divisions. If spreading continues, we will consider cohorting to limit exposure.
- Continue to monitor individuals via the COVID Plus monitoring device.
- Consider the outbreak over when, after 5 days of daily testing of exposed individuals, there are no more positive cases found. We will email affected families.

AIR CIRCULATION

The School has upgraded filters in all HVAC units to better clear the air circulating. Each classroom has its own HVAC unit as well as a portable air purifier, allowing fresh air to be circulated throughout the day. Our air purifiers are recognized by the FDA as a Class II Medical Device. In addition, doors and available windows will be kept open, weather permitting.

CAMPUS ARRIVAL

The school will post health screening signs in Beginning, Lower, Middle, and Upper School as a reminder of our social compact. Students in all divisions are encouraged to wash or sanitize their hands upon arrival to school and/or their classroom. Otherwise, arrival procedures will follow the standard policies outlined in the main portion of this Handbook.

CAMPUS DISMISSAL

Lower School students will be dismissed from their classrooms using a web-based program and picked up at a designated location. Students from all divisions will not be allowed to re-enter buildings in the afternoon after they have left for the day (unless there is a school sanctioned event) in order to facilitate daily cleaning campus-wide. Non-essential items left behind may be picked up the next day.

Students who develop a fever (100.4+) during the day will be dismissed from school early and need to return home. Front office staff or classroom teachers will notify a parent/guardian.

PREPAREDNESS

Should TMS need to close campus and engage in distance learning, the School advises you to consider securing, well in advance, any additional technology or supply needs that would ease this transition.

In addition, families should ensure that they have a working thermometer at home; if students are found to have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher at school, they will be sent home immediately and not permitted to return until they have satisfied the return to school guidelines in the response to illness section, which will require temperature monitoring at home.

SANITATION & CLEANING PROTOCOLS

- Students will be reminded to wash their hands with soap and water routinely throughout the day, and to cover their mouth when they sneeze or cough. Additionally, hand sanitizer stations have been installed at each entry door, classroom, and common area in each building.
- Disinfectant and related supplies are available in each classroom.
- The School is employing enhanced cleaning protocols so that communal spaces like bathrooms and high-touch surfaces like doorknobs and desks are regularly cleaned with appropriate cleaning products proven to kill coronavirus. **In the event of a positive test:** Affected spaces will be appropriately deep cleaned by TMS staff before use is resumed.
- Students and employees are encouraged to sanitize their backpacks and personal belongings (water bottles, lunch boxes, instruments, etc.) once each day.

WATER

- Shared water fountains are not accessible by students.
- Students should bring water every day in a refillable water bottle clearly labeled with their name. Children should be able to operate the bottle independently and bottles should be no larger than 18 ounces.
- Faculty and staff members will facilitate bottle refills for younger students.

VISITORS TO CAMPUS

All non-essential visitors, including parents, are allowed back on campus.



THE MEADOWS SCHOOL

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