

HCA Covid-19 Protocols
("Return to In-Person Instruction Plan")

2021/2022

Updated: 8/23/21, 9/27/21

HCA will maintain the health and safety of students and staff by following the below protocols. Staff and students have been trained in the protocols and will receive periodic reminders and refreshers. Protocols follow the recommendations of the Maine CDC and the Maine DOE. The protocols include a universal mask mandate and pooled testing; social distancing requirements have been mostly removed due to the prevalence and effectiveness of a wide array of other precautionary measures. HCA will ensure continuity of services by avoiding the need for wide-spread remote learning and by minimizing the number of students who may need to quarantine by implementing its universal mask mandate, and encouraging voluntary pooled testing and vaccination.

Topic	Protocol
Riding Buses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● All students wear masks while riding buses.● There are no social distancing requirements on buses.
Inside buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● All students and staff wear masks while inside of school buildings.● During whole-class discussions or crew meetings, whoever is the speaker is allowed to remove their mask while speaking to the whole group.
Outside	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Masks are optional while students are outside.
Eating/Drinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Students may remove their masks to eat or drink only while they are seated and at least 6 feet from others.
Morning Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Parents/Guardians will NOT be required to submit screening results before school.● Parents/Guardians should check-in with students before school and should keep them home if they do not feel well.

Cleaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “High touch” surfaces are cleaned at least once a day.
Hand Sanitizing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone should hand sanitize upon entering a room or entering a building.
Remote Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remote Learning will be limited only to students with a doctor’s note.
Pooled Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and faculty can opt in to HCA’s pooled testing program. Pooled testing is a way for us to monitor for the presence of Covid-19 in our school community. Pooled testing is optional, but all students and staff are encouraged to participate. Participation rates must be at least 30% for it to effectively contribute to our school health and safety. • Unvaccinated students / staff who participate in pooled testing do not need to quarantine if is a close contact with a confirmed positive case of Covid-19.
Staff vaccination rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Per order of the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, HCA will maintain and report a record of the percentage of staff members who are fully vaccinated. Data will be collected monthly and anonymously.
Quarantining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccinated students/staff do not need to quarantine if they are a close contact with a confirmed positive Covid-19 case. • Unvaccinated students/staff who are participating in the pooled testing program do not need to quarantine if they are a close contact with a confirmed positive Covid-19 case.

Source of guidance: Maine DOE - <https://www.maine.gov/doe/covid-19/toolkit>