

# *Glenelg Country School*

## *Summer in the Country*

### *COVID-19 Policies & Procedures 2023*

*Updated 1/12/2023*

#### **COVID-19 POLICY & PROCEDURES**

The COVID-19 pandemic requires additional safety measures on the part of the school and its families to keep our campus safe. As we return to camp for in-person instruction and activities on campus, there are precautions in place to protect our campers and staff.

During this phase of the pandemic, we continue to implement more stringent oversight and more vigorous implementation of Health Services policies, particularly concerning managing illness on campus.

A tremendous amount of research, time, and thought has gone into our guidelines—including guidance from the CDC, the Maryland Department of Health, the Maryland State Department of Education, the Howard County Health Department, and other health authorities. This pandemic is an evolving situation, and we will continue to update our guidelines and share them with the GCS community as quickly as possible as more information becomes available.

#### **DISCLAIMER**

COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread by person-to-person contact. The camp has implemented reasonable preventative protocols, policies, and procedures designed to reduce the spread of COVID-19 on the campus, and these will be updated in response to new information. Despite the protocols, policies, and procedures in place to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 on campus, there are inherent risks associated with being on campus. Those who come onto campus for any reason acknowledge and voluntarily assume these risks.

#### **KEEPING THE CAMPUS SAFE COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

The best way to keep our campus and community safe is to engage in safe behaviors on and off-campus. GCS will provide education on safe practices in different ways throughout the camp season.

#### **MASKS**

Masking is no longer required on campus and will be optional for campers and staff. Those who feel more comfortable wearing a mask on campus, may certainly choose to do so. Masking will be based on personal preference and informed by personal level of risk.

For anyone positive for COVID and returning to campus after a 5-day isolation period, masking will be required from Day 6 through Day 10. However, a recovering person may remove their mask sooner than 10 days if they have two (2) sequential negative tests 48 hours apart.

For anyone who is a close contact of a positive person, masking will be required for 10

days after the last close contact with the person with COVID-19 (Day 1 is considered the first full day after the date of last close contact).

Anyone presenting with symptoms to the Health Room will be asked to mask, if not already. Anyone who has lingering symptoms after being cleared to return to camp and is not practicing good respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette (i.e., cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, wash hands after having contact with respiratory or nasal secretions, etc.) will be asked to mask, if not already.

GCS reserves the right to require masking during large, indoor campus activities due to capacity and seating density. Notification of masking requirements will be provided prior to event.

### **SOCIAL DISTANCING COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS**

Although the CDC has removed the recommendation for social distancing and cohorting in the camp setting, GCS will observe and maintain social distancing and cohorting when and if possible. The sharing of objects or supplies will be limited and done only when practical.

### **FOOD AND BEVERAGES**

Lunches will be eaten either outdoors, weather permitting, in classrooms, or in the cafeteria/common areas indoors.

### **OUTDOOR SPACES**

Outdoor spaces will be maximized. Younger campers are encouraged to make use of a towel or blanket from home to delineate their space.

### **PERFORMING ARTS**

Performing arts have the choice to mask per their preference and comfort level. Social distancing will continue when/if possible.

### **CLEANING, HYGIENE, AND VENTILATION**

#### **CLEANING**

According to the CDC, "The principal mode by which people are infected with SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) is through exposure to respiratory droplets carrying infectious virus." Our cleaning protocols reflect the current guidelines for surface transmission.

#### **HYGIENE**

Hand sanitizers containing 70% alcohol are in the entrance way of each building. Hand sanitizer wall-mounts are installed in each classroom and at each utilized building entrance.

#### **VENTILATION**

In consultation with Constellation Energy, the Operations department has completed several upgrades to the camp's HVAC systems.

In the Primary, Middle, and Upper School buildings, outside air damper settings have been increased to 35% or the maximum possible the system can handle while still conditioning the space. This setting allows additional outside air into the buildings and increases air changeover in rooms throughout the day. Additionally, air handlers and classroom units have upgraded MERV 13 air filters.

In the Lower School's Manor House, where classrooms have independent air units, an

adjustment to the amount of outside air units bring in has been completed. The upper sash of windows has been lowered to improve air change out. Some of these rooms are equipped with exhaust fans as well. Other areas are conditioned with an air handler system with upgraded MERV 13 filters. Windows can also be adjusted to increase outside airflow. All rooms in the Manor House that do not have independent air units will have an air purifier equipped with HEPA filters and internal UV lights.

## **MANAGING ILLNESS ON CAMPUS**

### **VACCINATION**

We strongly encourage all persons eligible for the COVID-19 vaccination to get vaccinated and stay up to date with their vaccines. Per the CDC, up to date means a person has received all recommended doses in their primary series COVID-19 vaccine, and the most recent booster dose when eligible.

### **CONTAINING ILLNESS**

Campers and staff not feeling well should not come to campus.

### **FEVER THRESHOLD**

The camp's fever threshold is 100.4° F. If any person (camper or staff) has a temperature of 100.4° F or higher, they must stay home. The febrile person will be sent home if already on campus.

Please note, there are times every camp season where parents give their child fever-reducing medicine in the morning before going to camp knowing their child is sick with a fever with the hopes of that medicine holding the child throughout the day. In many of these cases, the medication wears off, and the temperature spikes mid-day. The child goes to the Health Room, and a parent must pick-up and take the child home. This student can potentially infect fellow campers and staff—the importance of remaining home when ill cannot be emphasized enough, especially as COVID-19 is still being seen in the community.

### **PICKING UP AN ILL CAMPER**

Within 30 minutes of notification of illness, the camper must be picked up by a parent, guardian, or designated emergency contact. This policy will be strictly enforced. Families should identify an emergency contact before the camp season begins if a 30-minute pick-up time is not possible by a parent or guardian.

### **ALBUTEROL NEBULIZER TREATMENTS**

Albuterol nebulizer treatments are considered aerosol-generating procedures and pose a very high exposure risk due to potentially infectious aerosols sprayed into the air and throughout the room during the treatment. Albuterol nebulizer treatments will be given during emergencies only.

If a camper has an asthma flare-up that may require a nebulizer treatment, the student should stay home and not be at camp. Albuterol inhalers, with or without a spacer chamber, are still acceptable at camp when needed. Inhalers are not aerosol-generating and do not pose a high exposure risk.

### **COVID-19 SYMPTOMS REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS**

If any person (camper or staff) presents to the Health Room with any possible symptom of COVID-19, they will be sent home.

COVID-19 symptoms include the following:

- Cough
- Diarrhea
- Difficulty breathing/shortness of breath
- Fever of 100.4° F or higher/chills
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Congestion or runny nose
- New loss of taste or smell
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Nausea or vomiting

If any person is experiencing any of the above symptoms:

- Stay home and email the camp nurses at [nurses-mail@glenelg.org](mailto:nurses-mail@glenelg.org) noting what symptoms are being exhibited are and when they started.
- Provide one of the following as clearance to return to school:
  - 1) A negative PCR test result
  - 2) A negative rapid/home COVID test result (picture of test with camper's name, date, and time of test written somewhere on or around the test)
  - 3) A doctor's note with an alternative diagnosis (other than COVID-19). A doctor's note is only needed if not testing.

### **RESPONDING TO COVID-19 DIAGNOSIS**

Families must notify GCS as soon as possible if a camper receives a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis. staff are required to do the same.

### **PERSONS WHO HAVE CONFIRMED POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST (ISOLATION)**

All persons who test positive for COVID-19, *regardless of vaccination status*, should complete isolation as follows:

- Stay home for at least five full days from the date of symptom onset if symptomatic or the date of the positive test if no symptoms.
- Day 1 is considered the first full day **after** symptoms started in symptomatic persons or the first full day **after** the person tested positive if asymptomatic.
- **After day 5**, if symptoms are resolving and person is fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication, person may return to camp wearing a well-fitting mask while on the GCS campus, including extracurricular activities, except for lunch and while outside, for an additional five days. A recovering camper may remove their mask sooner than 10 days if they have two (2) sequential negative tests done 48 hours apart.
- After day 5 and if still symptomatic and not feeling well, please remain home for a full 10 days.

Please note, universal contact tracing is no longer needed in schools, camps, or childcare programs. If your child tests positive, please be prepared to notify your child's close contacts. Staff will be expected to do the same if they test positive for COVID-19.

## **CLOSE CONTACT**

Per the CDC:

### **CLOSE CONTACT THROUGH PROXIMITY AND DURATION OF EXPOSURE**

Someone who was less than six feet away from infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual five-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes). An infected person can spread SARS-CoV-2 starting from two days before they have any symptoms (or, for asymptomatic people, two days before the positive specimen collection date), until they meet the criteria for ending isolation.

### **PERSONS WHO ARE EXPOSED TO SOMEONE WITH COVID-19**

Anyone who has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 and is considered a close contact, regardless of vaccination status, can continue to attend camp as long as they are asymptomatic. Individual will need to adhere to the following guidance:

- Wear a mask for 10 days after the last day of close contact with the person with COVID-19 (Day 1 is considered the first full day after the date of last close contact).
- Get tested on day 5 after last close contact.
  - PCR tests and home/rapid tests are both accepted.
- If at any time a positive test result is obtained, individual should submit test results to the camp nurse at [nurses-mail@glenelg.org](mailto:nurses-mail@glenelg.org), remain home, and follow the guidelines for isolation above. Camp nurse will provide you with your isolation time frame.

### **INDIVIDUALS WITH COVID-19 HISTORY WITHIN THE LAST 90 DAYS WHO HAVE BEEN EXPOSED**

- Anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 30 days (first positive test result in the last 30 days) and is considered a close contact *does not* need to test on day 5 but will still need to wear a mask for 10 days after the last day of close contact with the person with COVID-19.
- Anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 31-90 days (first positive test result in the last 31-90 days) and is considered a close contact will need to test on day 5 as well as wear a mask for 10 days after the last day of close contact with the person with COVID-19.

### **COVID-19 MEASUREMENTS AND BENCHMARKS**

Benchmarks of COVID-19 activity in the surrounding local areas, including case rates, case rates per population, positivity rates, hospitalizations, and guidance from local health authorities, will be monitored. As additional information about transmission and effective COVID-19 treatments are determined, we expect these metrics may be updated. GCS will comply with all directives from local health authorities.

### **TRAVEL GUIDELINES**

Please check CDC travel guidance for updated domestic and international travel recommendations at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>.

## **FAQs**

**I am fully vaccinated and had symptoms yesterday, but they went away today. Can I come to camp?**

No. Regardless of vaccination status you have three choices:

1. Obtain a negative test, submit to the camp nurse at [nurses-mail@glenelg.org](mailto:nurses-mail@glenelg.org) for clearance to return.
2. Obtain a provider's note on office letterhead, stating that you are cleared to return with an alternate diagnosis. This note must be submitted to the camp nurse at [nurses-mail@glenelg.org](mailto:nurses-mail@glenelg.org).
3. Isolate for five full days after onset of symptoms and may return on day 6 if symptoms are resolving and fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medicine. You must remain masked for an additional 5 days after isolation while on the GCS campus, including extracurricular activities, except for lunch.

**I started having symptoms on Saturday and tested positive on Monday, when can I return?**

Your isolation time period would be:

Saturday	Symptoms started
Sunday	Day 1 of isolation
Thursday	Day 5 of isolation (last full day)
Friday	Day 6 or after, if symptoms are resolving and fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication, may return wearing a well-fitting mask while on GCS campus, including extracurricular activities, except for lunch, for an additional 5 days.

**I am fully vaccinated and asymptomatic but was a close contact. Do I have to quarantine for five days?**

No, you may return to camp masked for 10 days. A well-fitting mask will be worn while on the GCS campus, including extracurricular activities, except lunch and while outside, for a full 10 days. Obtain a test on day five and submit the results to [nurses-mail@glenelg.org](mailto:nurses-mail@glenelg.org). You may remain in school while waiting for results.

**I am not up to date on my COVID vaccines and was identified as a close contact on Wednesday (last day of contact with positive person). Do I need to quarantine?**

No, you do not need to quarantine. You may return to camp masked for 10 days. A well-fitting mask will be worn while on the GCS campus, including extracurricular activities, except during lunch and while outside, for a full 10 days. Obtain a test on day five and submit the results to [nurses-mail@glenelg.org](mailto:nurses-mail@glenelg.org). You may remain in school while waiting for results.

**CONTACT INFORMATION  
HEALTH SERVICES TEAM**

Our Glenelg Country School Summer in the Country health services team will monitor and track cases within the GCS community, monitor symptoms as presented, and report cases to the Howard County Health Department, as needed.

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