

## 2021-22 Bancroft School Health & Safety Protocols (Updated 1/1/22)

While it is impossible for us to eliminate all risks associated with COVID-19, we will continue to be guided by scientific data, aligning our protocols with guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#), and the [Office of the Governor of Massachusetts](#). Adjustments to our approach will be necessary as we evaluate new information and respond to changes at the State and local level. With all this in mind, our current plan includes the following protective measures to combat the spread of COVID-19:

**Masks:** Students, faculty, and staff will be required to wear face masks upon arrival at school and when inside school buildings including classrooms, hallways and bathrooms. As a reminder, masks should:

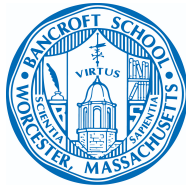
- Fit snugly to the face, covering both nose and mouth at all times
- Be made of washable cotton or surgical fabric of at least double thickness; masks with clear windows are acceptable if they fit properly
- Allow for breathing without restriction
- Be a basic color/pattern that will not pose a distraction to the community
- Worn properly at all times to protect yourself and others
- **NOT** be neck gaiters and scarves as these face coverings do not meet the Bancroft standard and may compromise health and safety
- Masks will **NOT** be required while outdoors

**Distancing:** In addition to universal indoor masking, CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms to reduce transmission risk. We will follow this recommendation and maintain 3 feet of distance as a general guideline within classrooms and shared spaces.

**Health Screening App:** We will be utilizing a mobile application called [MyMedBot](#) to help families, faculty, and staff self screen for COVID-19 every morning and have the results go directly to our health team. All students, faculty and staff must report this information before coming to school each day or they will not be allowed to stay on campus.

MyMedBot will pose a series of questions related to the daily health of each student, faculty, and staff member. After submitting answers to these questions, the screen will produce a GREEN or RED screen. A green screen indicates it is safe to come to school. A red screen indicates that more information is required and families should contact the [school nurse](#) and **not** come to school until cleared. You will be asked to show your green screen upon arrival at school BEFORE entering buildings.

MyMedBot enables our school nurse to easily screen for COVID-19 symptoms, communicate the latest protocol and have the data to make informed decisions. This will be a required health



and safety measure for each of us each school day that will add another layer of mitigating the risks of COVID-19 and we appreciate your cooperation.

You will receive a registration email from us, which will include an invitation code and links to the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Click on the link that works with your device to download the app for free. If you do not have access to a smart device, please let us know and we will provide you with appropriate accommodations to be able to self report another way.

MyMedBot questions posed through the application are subject to change as we adapt and adjust to new covid-19 health and safety measures.

If you have any questions regarding MyMedBot, please contact school nurse [Liza Marzilli](#).

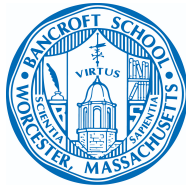
**Ventilation:** Last summer, we upgraded our HVAC system school-wide to provide an increased supply of outside air in accordance with [ASHRAE \(American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers\) Standard 62.1-2019](#). This upgrade included the addition of MERV-13 rated filters. In addition, we added 60 HEPA filtration units--one for each classroom. All of these units have been serviced and are in perfect working condition for this school year.

**Sanitation/Cleaning/Disinfecting:** We will continue with the thorough cleaning/disinfecting measures that were put in place last year:

- Classrooms and other facilities cleaned and disinfected daily
- Bathrooms cleaned and disinfected daily
- High touchpoints (door handles, railings) disinfected multiple times each day
- Continued operation of 75 new hands-free faucets in classrooms and restrooms
- Hands-free water bottle filling stations in all three divisions and athletics facilities
- Hand sanitizing units at every entry point and classroom

**Cohort Model:** Each division will operate independently in our cohort model to minimize contact between them. By limiting student cross-divisional interaction, we put ourselves in a better position to mitigate the chances of any significant transmission. We will, however, be able to have divisions share spaces, meaning that all divisions can now use a space like the Fletcher Athletic Center, just at different times of the day to avoid indoor contact. Faculty will also be allowed to cross divisions to teach.

**Vaccination:** Vaccination has proven to be a hugely helpful tool in limiting the impact and minimizing the spread of COVID-19. We are pleased that our faculty are fully vaccinated. It is critically important that all members of our community become fully vaccinated as soon as they are eligible so we can safely peel back additional layers of our COVID-19 protocols. We also recognize that not everyone is currently eligible for vaccination, but we expect to support vaccination efforts for children under 12 years old as soon as it is possible.



**Travel:** CDC recommends delaying travel until you are [fully vaccinated](#) because travel increases your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19. If you are not fully vaccinated and must travel, follow CDC's [travel recommendations](#).

**Visitor Policy:** Visitors will be allowed on campus by appointment only and must adhere to our campus health and safety protocols including mandatory mask-wearing at all times while indoors.

**Lunch:** Students will eat in classrooms in small groups while socially distanced. Students may bring lunch or opt into our boxed lunch program with [Creedon & Co.](#)

If your student will be opting into our boxed lunch program, Creedon & Co. sign-up, registration, and menu ordering are now done through [EZ School Apps](#). Meals are \$5.50 per day and menus are available to order in advance. [Click here](#) for instructions on how to register. Questions regarding Creedon & Co. boxed lunch program can be directed to [bancroftdining@creedonandco.com](mailto:bancroftdining@creedonandco.com).

**School COVID-19 Testing Consent:** To ensure we are ready to begin testing as soon as it is necessary, we are asking all students, faculty, and staff to [complete this consent form](#) in advance. This will be helpful in the event we need to implement testing quickly.

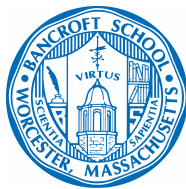
### **COVID-19 Response Plan**

If any student, faculty, or staff member receives a positive COVID-19 test, is having symptoms, or is determined to be a close contact, [the School Nurse must be notified](#). Below is the full list of symptoms for which caregivers should monitor their children, and staff should monitor themselves.

#### **COVID-19 Symptoms List:**

- Fever (100.0° Fahrenheit or higher), chills or shaking chills
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Cough
- Sore throat, when in combination with other symptoms
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Headache when in combination with other symptoms
- Fatigue, when in combination with other symptoms
- Nasal congestion or runny nose when in combination with other symptoms

**Definition Of Close Contact:** Close contacts are defined as individuals who have been within 6 feet of a COVID-19 positive individual while indoors, for at least 15 minutes during a 24-hour period. Please note that the at-risk exposure time begins 48 hours prior to symptom onset (or



time of positive test if asymptomatic) and continues until the time the COVID-19 positive individual is isolated. In general, close contacts should follow the testing and quarantine response protocols. **However, certain close contacts are exempted from testing and quarantine response protocols as noted below.**

The following close contacts are **exempt** from testing and quarantine response protocols:

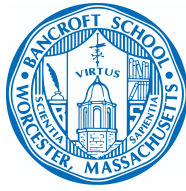
- Asymptomatic, fully vaccinated close contacts: Individuals who are asymptomatic and fully vaccinated or received a booster within the past 6 months with Moderna/Pfizer, are exempt from testing and quarantine response protocols. However they should diligently wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure, as well as monitor closely for symptoms.
- Asymptomatic Classroom close contacts: An individual who is exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual in the classroom while both individuals were masked, so long as the individuals were spaced at least 3 feet apart, is exempt from testing and quarantine response protocols.
- Close contacts who have had COVID-19 within the past 90 days: An individual who has been previously diagnosed with COVID-19 and then becomes a close contact of someone with COVID-19 is exempt from testing and quarantine response protocols if:
  1. The exposure occurred within 90 days of the onset of their own illness **AND**
  2. The exposed individual is recovered and remains without COVID-19 symptoms.

**If A Student Displays Symptoms at School:** If a student shows signs of illness while at school, the school nurse will place the student in the medical isolation room and notify the parent/guardian. The parent/guardian will be expected to pick the student up as soon as possible to limit further exposure. If more than one student is in the same waiting room at a time, they will be seated at least 6 feet apart. Students will wear a surgical mask provided by the nurse while in the medical isolation room. Students dismissed with symptoms must contact their physician and **follow the physician's recommendations for PCR or antigen testing, quarantine/isolation, and follow-up care.**

**Return to School:** In order for a student, faculty, or staff member to return to school after testing positive for COVID-19, experiencing COVID symptoms, or being in close contact with a COVID-19 positive case, they must follow one of these protocols:

**For individuals who test positive for COVID-19:**

- **Duration:** Self-isolation for COVID-19 positive cases is a **minimum** of 5 days after symptom onset (day 0) or after positive PCR or antigen test (day 0), if asymptomatic.



- **Return to school:** After a minimum of 5 days, on day 6, only once they have:  
Been without fever for 24 hours (and without taking fever-reducing medications);  
and experienced improvement in other symptoms.
- Following the 5-day isolation period, individuals must [wear a well-fitting mask](#) **at all times** when around others for 5 additional days.

**For asymptomatic “close contacts” who are not exempt (example: not fully vaccinated) from testing and quarantine response protocols:**

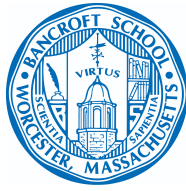
- **Duration:** Quarantine is at least 5 days from the date of exposure (day 0 is the last contact with COVID-19 positive individual).
- **Return to School:** After 5 days, returning on day 6, provided that they:
  - o Remain asymptomatic, and
  - o Conduct active monitoring for symptoms through day 10, self-isolate if symptoms develop, and adhere to strict mask use for an additional 5 days.
- Full quarantine information can be found [here](#).
- **Test and Stay** will be available for **in-school exposed**, asymptomatic, not vaccinated, close contacts for 5 full days following exposure so that they may remain in school and quarantine outside of the school setting per the above. More details below regarding the test and stay option.
- **For all those exposed, best practice would also include an antigen or PCR test for COVID-19 at day 5 after exposure. If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.**

**After a negative COVID test for symptoms:** If a student, faculty, or staff member has COVID-19-like symptoms, **regardless of vaccination status**, they may return to school after they have tested negative for COVID-19, have an improvement in symptoms, and have been without a fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. If a provider makes an alternative diagnosis for the COVID-19-like symptoms, the individual may return to school based on the recommendations for that alternative diagnosis (e.g. influenza, strep throat, etc).

**Asymptomatic in school exposure “Close Contacts” options:**

**1. “Test and Stay” to Remain in School**

- Duration: 5 days
- Test: rapid test (administered by the school nurse) each morning on school days. Remain in school provided student tests negative and remains asymptomatic
- Quarantine at home when outside of school setting
- Conduct active monitoring for symptoms through day 10, self-isolate if symptoms develop, and adhere to strict mask use for an additional 5 days.



- Signup: If you have not signed up for our school COVID testing program, sign up [here](#)

## 2. Quarantine at Home and Test to Return to School

- Duration: Quarantine at home for at least 5 days
- Test: On day 5 or later (PCR or rapid antigen test)
- Return to School: Day 6, provided student stays asymptomatic and test was negative
- Conduct active monitoring for symptoms through day 10, self-isolate if symptoms develop, and adhere to strict mask use for an additional 5 days.

\*Test and Stay is only for asymptomatic close contacts due to in-school exposure to a covid positive individual. Close contacts from within a household or other exposure situations will be required to follow step 2 to return to school and will not be eligible for option 1.

**Health Center:** The Health Center is located in the McDonough building and managed by our school nurse, Liza Marzilli, who will serve as the primary point of contact for all students and parents who have health-related concerns or questions. Mrs. Marzilli can be reached via email at [lmarzilli@bancroftschool.org](mailto:lmarzilli@bancroftschool.org) or via phone at 508-854-9240.

If at any point, based on the emerging science, data, and the guidance of health and government authorities, we feel it is advisable to adjust our protocols, we will make informed decisions and will communicate any changes as soon as we are able.

**Additional Contact Information:** While health-related questions should be directed to our [school nurse](#), other key points of contact are:

[Trey Cassidy](#), Head of School

[Beth Beckmann](#), Head of the Lower School

[Matt Ganas](#), Head of Middle School, Director of the Hope Graham Program / Academic Support

[Mark Taylor](#), Interim Head of the Upper School

[Robin Silverman](#), Upper School Dean of Students

[Susie Horan](#), Director of Enrollment Management