

COVID-19 POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Kent Academy is committed to delivering our mission through an experience deeply rooted in on-campus education. In order to stay abreast of the complex and evolving situation in the United States and to exercise best practices in safeguarding our community, Kent Academy is constantly monitoring the situation. In addition to utilizing CDC guidelines for schools and information from the National Association of Independent Schools. Kent Academy continues to consult with hospitals, churches, daycares, and other independent schools to remain up to date on the conversation of Covid-19.

It is impossible to list all the information so please refer to the these websites for detailed information.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>

<https://www.nais.org/articles/pages/additional-covid-19-guidance-for-schools/>

As we prepare to return to school, we highly recommend parents review the CDC checklist for parent/guardians, as it is quite helpful. Kent Academy found the general readiness assessment, and the health and safety plan for buildings to be very helpful in our preparations.

In order to minimize risk and maintain a healthy environment for our students and employees, we are limiting access to campus buildings to students, teachers and essential personnel.

In addition to limiting visitors in our buildings, Kent Academy is:

- implementing daily temperature checks
- requiring cloth face coverings entering/exiting the building and during the day unless seated with social distance in place
- practicing physical distancing
- emphasizing frequent hand-washing & sanitizing
- cleaning and disinfecting our campuses
- ensuring the ventilation system is operating efficiently with allergen, bacteria and virus filters
- using portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) fan/filtration systems in each classroom
- Providing staff with lip reading masks

GUIDELINES:

- Staff/Students who have symptoms of COVID-19 (such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath) or who had immediate contact with someone with COVID-19 are to notify Kent Academy and stay home.
- Staff/Students who appear to have symptoms when they arrive at school or who become sick during the day will immediately be separated from others and sent home with instructions and guidance on how to follow-up with their healthcare provider.
- Kent Academy will immediately isolate those who are sick with COVID-19 symptoms at school. Individuals who are sick will go home or to healthcare facility depending on how severe their symptoms are, and follow CDC guidelines for caring for oneself and others who are sick.
- Students/Staff are expected to adhere to the distance learning policy during home isolation.
- Sick Staff/Students must follow CDC recommended steps and not return to school until they meet the criteria to discontinue home isolation, in consultation with their healthcare provider:
 - be excluded from work/school until at least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of symptoms and,
 - be excluded from work/school until: at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
 - contact Kent Academy by phone when there is resolution of fever without medication and improvement of respiratory symptoms to determine when the return to school date will be to ensure it's beyond the 10 days of onset.
- Kent Academy will perform enhanced cleaning and disinfecting after anyone suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 has been in the workplace and will not use these areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.
- School administrator will notify families immediately of any case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Kent Academy will inform those who have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms, and follow [CDC guidance](#) if symptoms develop.