



Addendum to the Health and Safety Plan for the 2021-2022 School Year (updated 1/09/2022)

The Diocese of Allentown amended its Health and Safety Plan guidance for all diocesan schools based on the most recent information from the CDC and the direction they received from the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The protocols that have changed involve the isolation period for individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 and the quarantine period for those who have been identified as a close contact.

The highlights of the changes are as follows:

- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 may return after 5 days of isolation given that they are fever-free for 24 hours and their other symptoms are improving. Individuals must wear a mask for Days 6-10 upon their return.
- For individuals who were exposed to COVID-19 and are in a category that would need to quarantine, the quarantine period is now five (5) days and may return on Day 6 if there are no symptoms. Individuals must wear a mask for Days 6-10 upon their return.

- For a household exposure, it is five days of quarantine **after** the household exposure ends. For example, if a parent is positive and a child needs to quarantine due to the household exposure, the child will quarantine for five days after the parent's five days of isolation are completed. Thus, we are moving from what was 10 days isolation plus 10 days quarantine to 5 days isolation + 5 days quarantine in the household exposure scenario. The exposed student may return to school on Day 11 if they are asymptomatic. This could be longer if there are multiple positive cases in the household. The quarantine clock restarts with each new positive case in the household. Upon return, the child will mask at school for an additional 5 days.

[Allentown Diocese Catholic Schools Isolation and Quarantine Policy Flowchart](#)