



ENHANCED HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR COVID-19

Revised 3/1/2022

Revised February 28, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masking policy updated • New Screening Test requirements added for Optional Masking
Revised February 25, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masking policy updated • Travel testing and quarantine requirements removed • Screening test requirements removed • Quarantine protocols for 2-year-olds updated • Type of accepted testing updated • Protocols after testing positive added • Vaccinated staff member positive quarantine updated • Classroom closure updated • Remote learning updated • Travel policy removed

Covid-19 Masking Protocols

In response to updated Masking guidance issued by the CDC Feb 25, 2022, First Church Preschool has amended its Covid Policies to allow “Optional Masking” beginning March 7, 2022 for all children and staff subject to the following criteria:

- During periods of Low or Medium Covid-19 Community Levels in Fairfield County (as calculated and reported by the CDC) masks are optional for all staff and children.
- During periods of High Covid-19 Community Levels, masks are mandatory for all staff and children inside the buildings; masks remain optional outdoors.
- FCP may require short periods of mandatory masking if deemed in the community’s best interest (e.g., positivity rates within our own school community spike).
- All children and staff (regardless of masking choice) will be required to wear a mask upon returning to school following a close contact quarantine (on days 6 – 10).

Please review the CDC Community Level Calculator for details.

Parents will be required to sign and return the Mask Optional Release Form (located on our website) to the office if you choose to have your child attend school without wearing a mask. Children for whom we have not received a signed form will be required to wear a mask, and FCP staff will do their best to encourage the child to wear a properly fitting mask (per our current practice).

FCP encourages all individuals to wear masks if they prefer, especially if your child or any household member is at high risk of infection. We ask that all parents remind your children that masking is an individual family decision, and while your family may feel comfortable removing masks, others may not. Please encourage your



children to show kindness and respect to each other. Teachers will reinforce this message frequently with their children.

Medical experts strongly recommend a 3-ply mask or greater (surgical, KN95 or KF94) when wearing masks. We currently have a supply of surgical grade 3-ply pediatric masks on hand should a child's mask become soiled or misplaced, however they may not fit all children. We also have available N-95 masks for staff.

Covid-19 Screening Test Protocols

If your child will no longer wear a mask while attending FCP per the Covid-19 Masking Protocols, she/he will be required to submit a negative Covid screening test prior to returning to school after Spring Break as follows:

- Submit either a (i) PCR test taken no earlier than April 22 or (ii) two antigen tests, the first taken on April 24 and the second taken 24 hours later, on the morning of April 25, prior to returning to school.
- All tests need to be sent to the office with the date and times identified prior to arrival to school (for the antigen tests, please send a photograph with the individual's name, date and time of test written in the photo next to the test)

Covid-19 Quarantine Protocols

The following protocols stipulate the quarantine and testing requirements that First Church Preschool has established to ensure the safest learning environment for all.

An unvaccinated child or staff member who....

- has tested **positive** for Covid-19 can return to school after:
 - providing the positive test results, either PCR or antigen testing, to the office identifying the date the test was taken **and**
 - the individual isolates for 10 days (return on day 11) from the date symptoms first appeared or the date of the test if no symptoms and
 - the individual is at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and
 - the individual is symptom free and
 - the individual is well and energetic enough to fully participate in all areas of the program day, including outdoor times
- has been in **Close Contact*** with someone who has Covid-19 (suspected or confirmed including household members such as parents, children, siblings) can return to school after:
 - the individual quarantines for 10 days after the last exposure to that person (return on day 11; last date of exposure being day 0) **or**
 - the individual can return on or after day 6 after submitting a negative COVID test **and** the individual must always wear a well-fitting mask from days 6 – 10 upon returning (mandatory, even for those who have chosen to forgo masks in school). Testing options include:
 - PCR test taken no earlier than day 5
 - 2 antigen tests – the first taken the morning of day 5 and the 2nd taken 24 hours later, the morning of day 6, prior to returning to school
 - All tests need to be sent to the office with the date and times identified prior to arrival to school (for the antigen tests, please send a photograph with the individual's name, date and time of test written in the photo next to the test)
 - Please read the note below carefully for additional requirements
 - the individual is at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**



- the individual is symptom free **and**
- the individual is well and energetic enough to fully participate in all areas of the program day, including outdoor times

Please Note: Quarantine requires NO CONTACT with the individual who tested positive throughout the entire quarantine period (even a household member). If the exposed individual is not able to completely quarantine from the person who has Covid-19, the unvaccinated individual must quarantine at home for the entire 10-day period and may return on day 11 without taking a PCR or Antigen test,

- has **symptoms of Covid-19** can return to school after:
 - the individual receives a negative PCR test, or 2 negative antigen tests taken 24 hours apart and submits a copy of the test results to the Preschool Director prior to the child's return **and**
 - the individual is at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
 - the individual is symptom free **and**
 - the individual is well and energetic enough to fully participate in all areas of the program day, including outdoor times
 - All tests need to be sent to the office with the date and times identified prior to arrival to school (for the antigen tests, please send a photograph with the individual's name, date and time of test written in the photo next to the test)

* **Close Contact** is defined as being within six feet of a Covid-19 positive person for at least 15 minutes over a 24-hour period, within two days prior to that person developing symptoms.

An individual who has tested positive in the past 90 days for Covid-19 who...

- has been in **Close Contact*** with someone who has Covid-19 (suspected or confirmed including household members such as parents, children, siblings) can return to school immediately:
 - No quarantine or testing needed
- has **symptoms of Covid-19** can return to school after:
 - receiving a doctor's note (identifying the child's name, date, and time of appointment along with diagnosis) that the symptoms are not Covid related **and**
 - the individual is at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
 - the individual is symptom free **and**
 - the individual is well and energetic enough to fully participate in all areas of the program day, including outdoor times

A vaccinated child who...

- has **tested positive for Covid-19** can return to school after:
 - the individual isolates for 10 days (return on day 11) from the date symptoms first appeared or the date of the test if no symptoms **and**
 - the individual is at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
 - the individual is symptom free
- has been in **Close Contact* with someone who has Covid-19** (suspected or confirmed including household members such as parents, children, siblings) shall:
 - no quarantine required
 - take a COVID test to ensure they are not positive. Testing options:



- PCR test taken no earlier than day 5
- 2 antigen tests – the first taken the morning of day 5 and the 2nd taken 24 hours later, the morning of day 6
- all tests need to be sent to the office with the date and times identified (for the antigen tests, please send a photograph with the individual's name, date and time of test written in the photo next to the test)
- **has symptoms of Covid-19**
 - take a Covid test. Testing options:
 - PCR test: if negative, no need to quarantine; if positive, follow Covid positive protocols
 - 2 antigen tests 24 hours apart: if both are negative, no need to quarantine; if positive, follow Covid positive protocols.
 - all tests need to be sent to the office with the date and times identified (for the antigen tests, please send a photograph with the individual's name, date and time of test written in the photo next to the test)
 - the individual is at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
 - the individual is symptom free

A vaccinated staff member who...

- has **tested positive for Covid-19** can return to school after:
 - the individual isolates for 5 days (return on day 6) from the date symptoms first appeared or the date of the test if no symptoms **and**
 - the individual must always wear a well-fitting mask upon returning **and**
 - the individual is at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
 - the individual is symptom free
- has been in **Close Contact* with someone who has Covid-19** (suspected or confirmed including household members such as parents, children, siblings) shall:
 - no quarantine required
 - take a COVID test to ensure they are not positive. Testing options:
 - PCR test taken no earlier than day 5
 - 2 antigen tests – the first taken the morning of day 5 and the 2nd taken 24 hours later, the morning of day 6
 - all tests need to be sent to the office with the date and times identified (for the antigen tests, please send a photograph with the individual's name, date and time of test written in the photo next to the test)
- **has symptoms of Covid-19**
 - take a Covid test. Testing options:
 - PCR test: if negative, no need to quarantine; if positive, follow Covid positive protocols
 - 2 antigen tests 24 hours apart: if both are negative, no need to quarantine; if positive, follow Covid positive protocols.
 - all tests need to be sent to the office with the date and times identified (for the antigen tests, please send a photograph with the individual's name, date and time of test written in the photo next to the test)



Covid-19 Reporting Protocols

It is important that all members of our community are aware and conscientious about our individual and collective responsibility to do all that we can to protect ourselves and others. Communication is an important piece of a prevention plan, and especially so during the COVID-19 pandemic. Open communication between families and our administration for reporting COVID-19 is vitally important for helping us maintain a safe and healthy environment for us all.

Please report the following to the office as soon as possible upon learning:

- A member of your household has tested positive for COVID-19
- A member of your household has developed symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and/or is presumed positive
- A member of your household has been advised to self-quarantine

If we receive a report that a suspected sick child or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19, we will:

- Immediately notify the Greenwich Department of Public Health. The officials within this department will help us to determine the best course of action for our preschool.
- Notify families of the confirmed case and continue to maintain open communications regarding follow-up procedures at an appropriate time based on the situation and discretion of the office and under the guidance of the Greenwich Department of Public Health.
 - All Close Contacts (defined as someone who was within six feet of the person for at least 15 minutes over a 24-hour period, within two days prior to the individual developing symptoms) will need to quarantine per the protocols listed above
- Continue to work with the local health officials to determine appropriate next steps, including whether an extended dismissal is needed; communicate next steps to all families.

If local health officials have determined there is substantial transmission of COVID-19 within the community, they will provide guidance to administrators on the best course of action for our Preschool.

Covid-19 Closure Policy

In the event of a classroom quarantine or school closure, teachers and children will continue to interact remotely, including large group, small group and individual interactions between children and teachers. An on-line schedule will be distributed to families at that time.

Classroom Quarantine: In the event of a child or teacher testing positive for Covid-19 and exposing the class, that class must quarantine at home per the protocols listed above. Should a classroom close that has both vaccinated and unvaccinated students and students within their 90-day window, both in-person and remote interactions will be offered for students staying home for the initial 5 days from the classroom exposure.

All unvaccinated students will quarantine per the protocols above, with remote classroom interactions offered. Vaccinated students and students within the 90-day positive period will be permitted to return to school immediately for in person learning.

School-wide Closure: In the event of a school-wide public health decision to shut down due to Covid-19, we will revert to remote learning.

Covid-19 Policy / Protocols are Subject to Change



First Church Preschool reserves the right to revise, supplement, rescind or deviate from any policies or portion herein from time to time as it deems appropriate, in its sole and absolute discretion, and with or without advanced written notice. Notifications of any changes will be provided to families and employees of our program, and the most recently revised document will be in effect.