

**Marion School District  
Plan for Continuity of Services  
(2022-23 Covid-19 Safety Guidelines)**

Updated August 10, 2021  
Updated October 18, 2021  
Updated October 22, 2021  
Updated January 18, 2022  
Updated February 10, 2022  
Updated April 8, 2022  
Updated August 8, 2022  
Updated April 13, 2023

Reviewed October 14, 2022  
Reviewed October 10, 2023

The Marion School District is committed to providing the safest learning environment in the face of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic. The guidelines below outline our strategy for the 2022-23 school year. These guidelines are based on current conditions and the information available. All guidelines are subject to change at any time as the public health environment evolves.

### **In-Person Classes**

Students benefit from in-person learning. We know our students learn best when they are physically present in a classroom, with a dedicated, talented teacher leading the effort. The Marion School District will not offer a virtual option for the 2022-2023 school year.

### **Vaccination**

Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the Covid-19 pandemic. We strongly encourage all eligible individuals to be vaccinated. New guidance released by the state in January of 2022 states that to be fully vaccinated, you must now have received all recommended doses of the vaccine, including a booster (for those who are eligible\*). At present, boosters include everyone ages 12 and up; but are required for individuals over the age of 18.

\*You are eligible for a booster 5 months after completing the Pfizer-Biotech vaccination and the Moderna vaccination. Boosters are available 2 months after the Johnson & Johnson vaccination.

### **Facemasks**

The Marion School Board gives the superintendent or his designee the authority to adjust the masking policy, after consulting with board members, as needed while taking into consideration the new CDC indoor masking guidelines.

### **School Visitors**

MSD will welcome visitors and volunteers on its school campuses for certain activities. All visitors to any campus should check in at the school office upon arrival.

Example:

Allowed visitor: Parent checking out their student for medical appointment, meeting with an administrator, meeting with a child's teacher by appointment

Not allowed: A parent who wishes to eat lunch in the cafeteria with their child

### **Extracurricular activities**

For events held during normal school hours, students, staff, and visitors will be required to follow the latest facemask policy.

### **Quarantine/Isolation**

Quarantine will be allowed for students who are reported as close contacts to a positive case of Covid-19 by their parent/guardian. Isolation will be required for all individuals who test positive for Covid-19. Those who test positive should isolate and stay home for at least 5 days. If no symptoms have occurred after 5 days, or if symptoms are resolving after 5 days, the individual can return to school. No fever should be present within 24 hours of return to school without the use of fever-reducing medications. These individuals should continue to wear a mask around others through the 10th day.

Close contact is defined as an individual who has likely been within 3 feet for 15 cumulative minutes or longer within a 24-hour period during the infectious period of a person who has tested positive for Covid-19.

### **Handwashing/Respiratory Etiquette**

Covering coughs and sneezes helps stop the spread of germs. Staff will monitor and reinforce these behaviors. Students will be provided adequate handwashing opportunities and supplies. Hand sanitizer will be available at all campus locations.

### **Cleaning & Disinfecting**

All student spaces will be cleaned at least once a day. In general, cleaning once a day is enough to sufficiently remove potential viruses that may be on surfaces. If a classroom or space has had a sick person or someone who tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 24 hours, the space will be cleaned and disinfected, using disinfectants on the U.S. EPA Covid-19 list to remove any remaining germs on surfaces.

### **Food Service & School Meals**

MSD will strive to maximize physical distance as much as possible for students while they are moving through the food service line and while eating (especially indoors). Given the very low risk of transmission from surfaces and shared objects, there is no need to use single-use items and packaged meals. Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned regularly and hand-washing will be encouraged.

### **Staying home when sick and getting tested**

Students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms should stay home and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care. Individuals who are fully vaccinated and do not have Covid-19 symptoms do not need to quarantine or get tested after exposure to someone with Covid-19.

**State Guidance**

Guidance provided by the Arkansas Department of Education can be found [here](#).

Questions?

For more information about these guidelines, or any other health-related concern, contact Marion School Health Coordinator Kelly Fogleman at 870-739-5140 (office), 901-401-0265 (cell), or [kfogleman@msd3.org](mailto:kfogleman@msd3.org).