



VENANGO REGION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

January 4, 2022

Dear VRCS Parents and Guardians:

On December 30, 2021, the Pennsylvania Department of Health announced several COVID protocols. The most significant was PA DOH Alert (PA-HAN) on Isolation and Quarantine Periods for COVID-19 for the General Population. https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/HAN/2021-PAHAN615-12-30-UPD-Iso%20and%20Quar_GenPop1.pdf

- This guidance replaces PA-HAN 607 and clarifies isolation and quarantine recommendations for persons exposed to SAR-CoV-2.
- Persons who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate for 5 days. If after 5 days, the patient is asymptomatic or has resolving symptoms, their isolation period is over; however, they should still wear a mask around others until day 10.
- Persons who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 and have received a booster vaccine or are within 6 months of receiving their primary vaccine series should wear a mask around others for 10 days, but do not need to quarantine.
- Persons who are unvaccinated or who are eligible (i.e., more than 6 months after primary vaccine series) but have not yet received a booster vaccine must quarantine at home for 5 days and then wear a mask around others until Day 10.
- All exposed persons, regardless of vaccination, should test on Day 5 if possible.

***For your reference, please see the attached *Guidance on Quarantine and Isolation* from Erie County Department of Health.**

Currently, there are no changes to our COVID mask protocols. VRCS will continue to mask regardless of vaccination status to decrease the risk of close contact scenarios that would result in the need for students or teachers to quarantine.

We appreciate your continued cooperation and support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office by phone at 814-677-3098 or email at laura.blake@venangocatholic.org.

Thank you,

Mrs. Laura Blake

President, VRCS



Guidance on Quarantine and Isolation

Updated as of Dec. 27, 2021

For additional guidance or questions, call 814-451-6700

For **quarantine** and **isolation**: Stay home. Do not go to school, work or attend social activities. Do not allow visitors in your home.

Additional for **isolation**: Stay in a specific "sick room" or area and use a separate bathroom if available.

See below for guidance on number of days you are required to quarantine and isolate.

Quarantine is for when you might have been exposed to the virus and may or may not have been infected.

Isolation is for when you have been infected with the virus, even if you don't have symptoms.

If You Were Exposed to Someone with COVID-19

You have NO symptoms and	You must	If you develop symptoms at any time	If test results are positive, regardless of vaccination status
Have been boosted OR Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months OR J&J vaccine within the last 2 months	Wear a mask around others for 10 days. Monitor for symptoms & social distance Test on day 5, if possible.	Get a test and isolate . Stay home and follow guidance in next column.	You must isolate for 10 days. Day 0 is onset of symptoms or day of test. Inform your close contacts that you have COVID-19 and that they must quarantine if they are not vaccinated. You can leave your house after 5 days IF you have no symptoms OR your symptoms are resolving, which means, for 24 hours, without the use of medication, you have:
Have completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are not boosted OR J&J over 2 months ago and are not boosted OR Are unvaccinated	Must Quarantine . Stay home for 5 days. Wear a mask around others for 5 additional days. Monitor for symptoms & social distance. Test on day 5, if possible. <i>If you live with someone who is positive, stay home while they are in isolation and an additional 5 days after their isolation ends.</i>	Get a test and isolate . Stay home and follow guidance in next column.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no fever • no vomiting or diarrhea • no sore or painful throat (if present, should be mild enough that pain medication is not needed) Continue to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wear a mask around others for 5 additional days. • monitor for symptoms & social distance.