2021-22 COVID-19 Protocols
Ransom Everglades School

Please find below our COVID-19 protocols for 2021-22. These will be updated as circumstances warrant. At Ransom Everglades, we believe keeping our community safe requires the commitment of all members of our community.

Masks
All students, faculty, staff and visitors to campus, vaccinated or unvaccinated, must wear face masks indoors (including on buses or other school transportation) and outdoors when around other people (except when eating, drinking or participating in certain supervised outdoor activities).

Face masks must fit properly and cover the nose and mouth. Gaiters and bandanas are not acceptable face coverings.

Vaccinations for COVID-19
Ransom Everglades strongly encourages the COVID-19 vaccination and booster for all eligible students, faculty and staff. Please keep Ransom Everglades apprised of updates to your child’s vaccination status. “Fully vaccinated” means two weeks after the second or final COVID-19 vaccination shot. Email the appropriate campus nurse at the middle school or upper school and you will be given guidance on how to submit your child’s vaccination information if you have not already done so. We are not collecting booster information at this time.

Illness
If your child shows symptoms of illness – such as fever, cough or runny nose – you must keep your child home from school and report the absence via SchoolPass. A school nurse may contact you.

Children who show any symptoms of illness on campus will be sent home.

If your child’s symptoms are consistent with COVID-19, contact your primary care physician and have your child tested for COVID-19. Students who test negative for COVID-19 may return to campus when they are symptom/fever free for 24 hours.
POSITIVE TEST FOR COVID-19

Whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, an individual who tests positive for COVID-19 must report the result to the appropriate campus via email.

Middle School
Upper School

The individual also must isolate (stay home from school and isolate from other people) for five days, and notify individuals who are close contacts. (The day of the positive test is day zero of the five-day isolation period, per the CDC.) To return to school, students who test positive must be symptom-free and fever-free for 24 hours, and they must visit their campus nurse the morning of their return (no earlier than 7:45 a.m.) for clearance. They must also wear a mask, indoors and outdoors, for an additional five days.

Ransom Everglades will notify the Florida Department of Health if any student, faculty or staff member who has been on campus tests positive for COVID-19.

CLOSE CONTACTS AND QUARANTINES

A student, teacher or staff member identified as a close contact* of a COVID-19 individual should follow these guidelines:

If the close contact is fully vaccinated, the close contact
- should continue coming to school unless experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- should test for COVID-19 on day five after exposure to the positive individual
- must wear a mask for 10 days after the close contact, indoors and outdoors when with others

If not fully vaccinated, the close contact
- must quarantine (stay home from school) for five days
- must be tested for COVID-19 on day four after the close contact
- may return to campus after five days if the COVID-19 test is negative, and the individual is not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms
- must wear a mask indoors and outdoors on campus until 10 days after exposure
VISITORS
We are continuing to restrict visitors to campus, though we are allowing visitors for special events, sporting events and by invitation. All visitors will be required to comply with all COVID-19 protocols in place for those events. Appointments with teachers, advisors and administrators should be conducted virtually.

SPORTS PRACTICES AND GAMES
As our fall sports teams begin their competitive seasons, we are operating under protocols that are evaluated on a day-by-day basis. If you are the parent of a student with upcoming competitions, you will receive information with protocol updates and other game-specific details as the season progresses.

Current Protocols

- Parents of RE student-athletes are welcome to attend competitions in which their child’s team is participating.
- RE students are welcome to attend any sports competitions on their campus.
- Spectators must wear masks at indoor events and are encouraged to wear masks in crowded spaces outdoors.
- Unvaccinated visitors to campus are required to wear masks at all times.
- Parents of RE student-athletes may not attend practices or walk through campus to pick their children up from practices. They must wait in their cars.
- We will provide livestream access to games when possible to allow other members of our school community to watch competitions. When available, the game link will be posted on the team’s myCOMPASS page.

OVERNIGHT TRIPS
To attend school-sponsored overnight trips, all students must follow the mask requirements for the trip, and students who are not fully vaccinated must submit a negative COVID-19 PCR test administered within 72 hours of departure to the designated school official.

RETURNING TO CAMPUS AFTER HOLIDAY BREAKS
Ransom Everglades will inform families of any return-to-campus protocols after holiday breaks closer to those breaks.

*Please find the CDC guidance on close contacts here.