

Villa Academy

Summary of COVID-19 Safety Measures

Fall 2021

Villa's COVID-19 protocols are based on requirements and guidance from the [Department of Health Requirements for Schools](#), Washington state [DOH Travel Recommendations and Requirements](#) and the decisions of Villa's administration team based on the unique needs of Villa's campus, grounds and student population.

Continued 2021-2022 safety practices at Villa:

- All students and adults are required to wear [two-layer masks](#) at school, regardless of vaccination status.
- All faculty and staff are required to be vaccinated.
- Volunteers will be utilized only for limited school activities such as lunch service and school photos and in addition to our regular volunteer training and background checks, ***all in-building volunteers are required to provide proof of vaccination.***
- All eligible students are encouraged to be vaccinated.
 - Families should work closely with your child's medical provider to determine your family's appropriate plan for vaccination. The state has asked schools to begin verifying student vaccinations. This verification process will allow schools to have accurate information on hand for Public Health in the event of exposure or illness in the community. Middle school families will receive more information regarding submitting student vaccination information from Interim Middle School Director, Ms. Chrissy May.
- Villa families, faculty and staff will continue to follow [Washington state guidelines and quarantine restrictions for travel during the pandemic](#).
 - Please note that Villa is distinguishing the travel guidelines by **mode of transportation** and **vaccination status**.
 - Domestic (U.S.) travel outside of Washington, via **personal or private transportation**, does not require quarantine or testing of **fully vaccinated** or **unvaccinated** individuals before returning to school.
 - **Unvaccinated** people traveling domestically via **public transportation such as commercial airlines, trains or cruise ships** will require a negative Covid test taken between day 3-5 of return and a full seven day quarantine before returning to school. These requirements do not apply to **fully vaccinated** individuals.
 - International travel for both **fully vaccinated** and **unvaccinated** individuals requires a negative Covid test 3-5 days prior to departure from the international country and a negative Covid test 3-5 days after return to Washington before returning to school. **Unvaccinated** individuals are required to complete a full seven day quarantine before returning to school after international travel.
- Consistent ventilation will occur through multiple open windows (top and bottom) in each classroom and all common areas. Villa does not have a modern heating, cooling and ventilation system. Rather, our tall, double-hung, sash windows provide excellent air flow in and out of each room.

- Student desks will remain three to six feet apart during instruction and six feet apart during lunch.
- Consistent and thorough cleaning of classrooms and common areas will continue several times each day and students and adults will wash their hands and/or utilize hand sanitizer stations multiple times throughout the day.

Covid safety protocol changes for 2021-2022:

- Schools are no longer required to conduct health screens for students or adults prior to building entry. All parents are expected to monitor their child's health each day and students who are experiencing COVID or other illness symptoms must stay home.
 - Villa requires students to be free of fever, without the use of fever reducing medications, for 24 hours prior to the return to school.
- Schools are not required to cohort students during the upcoming year. However, as an added layer of safety, Villa will continue to limit indoor, cross-graded student interactions.
- Villa will begin the year with cross-graded recess for our lower and middle school students. As an added layer of safety during this high transmission of the Delta variant, K-8 students will wear masks outdoors during multi-graded recesses.
- A remote/on-line learning option will **not be available** for students who miss school for common illnesses, appointments, vacations, travel or similar absences, during regularly scheduled instructional times/days.
 - Remote learning will be available for students in 2nd - 8th grade with Covid related absences (illness or exposure quarantine). Preschool through 1st grade students who experience Covid related absences will get caught up with their class when they return to school.
 - Remote learning will be used in the event of unhealthy air quality due to wildfire smoke. Villa relies on open windows in all classrooms to provide Covid required ventilation. If air quality is unsafe for children and windows cannot remain open, families will be notified and remote learning will be utilized until air quality returns to safe levels.

Additional updates later this month:

- Parents will receive specific information about student drop off and pick up procedures and schedules no later than August 23.
- Community activities for parents and/or families will be structured for the highest degree of safety for both children and adults. Specific details for the format of scheduled events such as the VPA Coffee, Preschool Parent Meeting and Curriculum Nights will be communicated by August 23.