



# Xavier College Preparatory High School

## COVID Protocol



# Introduction and Guiding Principles

This document is intended to be a guide as we begin the 2021-2022 School year.

**We expect these guidelines to continue to evolve and therefore we will adjust accordingly. This document will be updated regularly. Please refer back to this information and the information on the Xavier website frequently. ([www.xavierprep.org](http://www.xavierprep.org)).**

**Xavier College Preparatory High School's COVID Protocol plan commits to:**

- Delivering a high-impact learning experience grounded in the Jesuit Tradition;
- Prioritizing health and safety; and
- Supporting our faculty in their efforts to use current pedagogy and technology to engage students in their learning.

## Student Responsibilities

The strength of our Xavier community lives within our deeply held values and commitment to addressing challenges together. We are all in this together and the health of our most vulnerable community members depends on all of our actions. Practice your prevention efforts as though your faculty member, friend, or the student near you may be at high risk for complications of COVID-19. Students play a critical role in the health and safety of our community.

In order to maintain the health and wellbeing of the entire Xavier community and in accordance with the Xavier Student Handbook, all students are responsible for any "Conduct that intentionally or recklessly threatens or endangers the health and safety of any person, including, but not limited to, violating any health and safety requirements identified by the School or by local and state officials." A student's failure to comply may result in a referral to the Office of the Dean of Students. Thank you for your cooperation and personal responsibility.

## About COVID-19

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shares that the COVID-19 virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person, primarily between people who are in close contact with one another. The virus can spread through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. COVID-19 may also be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.



# Prevention

The best way to prevent illness is to take as many preventative measures as possible to avoid being exposed to this virus. It is imperative that all members of our community take the following steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community. We all play an important role in prevention and community well-being.

## **Wash your hands often.**

- Generously use soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, ensuring you have cleaned the tops of hands, palms and fingers.
- Use a paper towel to turn off the water and to open the door when leaving the bathroom.
- If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

## **Maintain at least 3 feet physical distance from others whenever possible.**

- Stay out of crowded places and avoid large gatherings.
- Remember to keep at least 3 feet of distance away from faculty and staff members as well.

## **Wear a properly fitting face mask while indoors.**

**Cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough and proceed by washing or sanitizing your hands immediately.**

## **Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.**

- Frequently touched surfaces include tables, doorknobs, electronics (cell phones, tablets and laptops), steering wheels, etc.
- When disinfecting surfaces such as tables and desks, clean the surface with a disinfecting spray.

**While in elevators,** do not load more people than 3 persons. Use the stairs whenever possible.

**Prevent the spread of germs** by not sharing cell phones, laptops, beverages, food or other personal items, especially those that touch your mouth or face.

**Care for your well-being.** You are best prepared to fight a possible infection when you are caring for your body and mind. Get adequate sleep, exercise, eat nutritious food, and drink water.



## Screening

People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

On a daily basis, prior to coming to campus, you will be required to screen yourself using:

- FEVER (ABOVE 99.7°F OR HIGHER)
- CHILLS
- COUGH
- SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR DIFFICULTY BREATHING
- FATIGUE
- MUSCLE OR BODY ACHES
- HEADACHE
- NEW LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL
- SORE THROAT
- CONGESTION OR RUNNY NOSE
- NAUSEA OR VOMITING
- DIARRHEA

## Face Coverings

We must follow the CADPH's K-12 school mandate, all individuals, while in the presence of students and regardless of vaccination status, must wear a mask when indoors. Xavier will continue to encourage all members of the school community to participate in our multi-layered approach to prevention. Screening testing, hand-washing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested when needed, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are important layers of prevention to keep us all safe.

## COVID-19 Testing

If you are exhibiting symptoms, Xavier requires you to please stay home and see your health care provider if you choose to get tested.

Additional testing, supported by your healthcare provider, should also occur (recommend 3-4 weeks after returning to campus). We are making this recommendation to support the well-being of our whole community. Those who test positive should not come to campus, and collectively, we will work to ensure appropriate support is provided.



# Contact Tracing & Self-Quarantine

## CONTACT TRACING

Contact tracing is a key public health strategy for preventing further spread of COVID-19. Contact tracing begins when a person who has tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 or has been diagnosed with COVID-19 is asked to provide information about other people they have been in close contact with during the time when they may have been infectious and able to transmit the virus.

Close contact is defined as being closer than 3 feet for longer than 15 minutes, regardless of whether a multilayered face covering was worn. The results of the positive test and the list of close contacts a student has had will be shared with the relevant board of health as appropriate. A school staff member, or a staff member from the relevant board of public health will reach out to students and others on campus who have been identified as having had close contact with the person who had COVID-19 and will provide them with information and resources to self-quarantine.

All students are required to cooperate with the contact tracing process, participate in isolation or self-quarantine as directed, and share information requested by public health authorities, contact tracing staff, and Health Services in order to facilitate this important aspect of limiting the spread of COVID-19. In order to make contact tracing easier, students are encouraged to keep an electronic calendar for small group meetings, including classes, meetings, co-curricular activities, and travel off campus for retreats and athletics, so that information can rapidly be provided to contact tracers when needed.

Contact Tracing for COVID-19 typically involves:

- Interviewing people with COVID-19 to identify everyone they had close contact with during the time they may have been infectious, including friends, classmates, faculty, etc.
- Notifying contacts of their potential exposure while maintaining the confidentiality of the identity of the person diagnosed with COVID-19
- Referring contacts for testing
- Monitoring contacts for [signs and symptoms of COVID-19](#)
- Connecting contacts with services they might need during the self-quarantine period

## QUARANTINE

Those identified by a Xavier Administrator as having been exposed through close contact while properly wearing a mask and/or has tested positive for COVID-19, will be required to participate in the quarantine protocol described below. Quarantine is a



way for students and staff who may have been exposed to COVID-19 through close contact with an infected individual to limit their contact with others as they themselves may asymptotically or symptomatically be carrying the virus. Exposure is defined as being within a 3 foot proximity for 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period. For the safety of our community, this protocol will not differentiate between those who have been vaccinated and those who have not.

### **Exposure Case:**

Any individual suspected of being exposed to the COVID-19 virus while on or off campus will be placed into the Xavier COVID-19 Quarantine Protocol. The individual will be required to quarantine from all Xavier activities for 10 days from the exposure event. The individual will have the option to test out of quarantine on or after Day 5 of last exposure with a negative PCR test administered from a COVID-19 Testing Facility. As per our protocols, there is no distinction between vaccinated or unvaccinated individuals.

### **Positive Case:**

Any individual that tests positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine from all Xavier activities for 10 days from receipt of the positive test result. This would include on-campus learning, athletics, other co-curricular activities, dances, etc. Once 10 days have expired, the individual may return to campus and all activities, no test required.

## **Xavier Experience**

### **CAMPUS EXPERIENCE**

Developing and maintaining relationships with your peers, as well as faculty members and staff is critical to the Xavier experience.

- Meet with friends in open spaces on campus with proper social distancing
- Join student organizations
- Being outside and enjoying the fresh air in parks, mountains and desert areas are all encouraged.
- We are exploring which House and campus recreation activities may be possible - stay tuned for more information.

### **CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE**

- Our maintenance team has visited every classroom on campus and measured the seating capacity while maintaining physical distancing guidelines.
- Faculty members will still have office hours and be available for individual questions, advising, and mentoring sessions.



# School Responsibilities

Xavier has taken steps to improve prevention efforts across campus. These efforts include:

## **Improved physical distancing measures.**

- Some entrances to classroom buildings will be controlled to allow physical distance.
- The number of students will be monitored in each classroom.
- Classroom seating has been modified to provide 3 feet of distance between students when practicable.
- Similar measures have been taken in the common areas as well as other high-traffic areas across campus.

## **Acquisition and distribution of sanitation supplies.**

- Xavier has purchased more than 80 portable hand-sanitizing stations and distributed them in high-traffic areas. Sanitize your hands when you enter a building.
- It is also our intention to continue to provide disinfecting solution and towels for students to clean and disinfect their desks or work surfaces. Xavier has provided spray-bottles and towels for faculty members and students to utilize in the classrooms.

## **Cleaning of facilities**

- Custodial staff and faculty are committed to clean classrooms as frequently as is reasonably possible, especially when there are gaps in the day when classrooms may be empty.
- Deep cleaning of classrooms will occur each night.
- Restrooms and high touch surfaces (i.e. doorknobs) will be cleaned daily.
- Monthly Application of MicroBan on all school surfaces.

## **Elevators**

- The occupancy of elevators has been reduced to promote physical distancing.

## **Outdoor spaces (and outdoor classes)**

- Maintain physical distancing.

## **Additional Measures**

- Signs encourage students, visitors and staff to follow COVID-19 guidelines for safety.

