

Covid-19 Planning Tool

Current Guidance: ADH guidance will continue to be followed. [Arkansas Department of Health](#) - [Face Covering GuidanceFINAL3.31.21.pdf \(arkansas.gov\)](#)
https://s3.amazonaws.com/scschoolfles/825/malvern_public_schools_covid-19_guidelines_for_2020-2021_aug_7.pdf

Press ctrl and enter to follow all links

Considerations:

- **Current Guidance**

The Arkansas Department of Health and Arkansas Department of Education strongly advise districts to continue to follow all measures that have allowed successful in-person learning to occur.

- The success can be attributed to the multiple layers of mitigation strategies that have been implemented by schools, such as social distancing, reduced class sizes, mask wearing, disinfecting and cleaning, handwashing, and physical distancing to the extent practical.

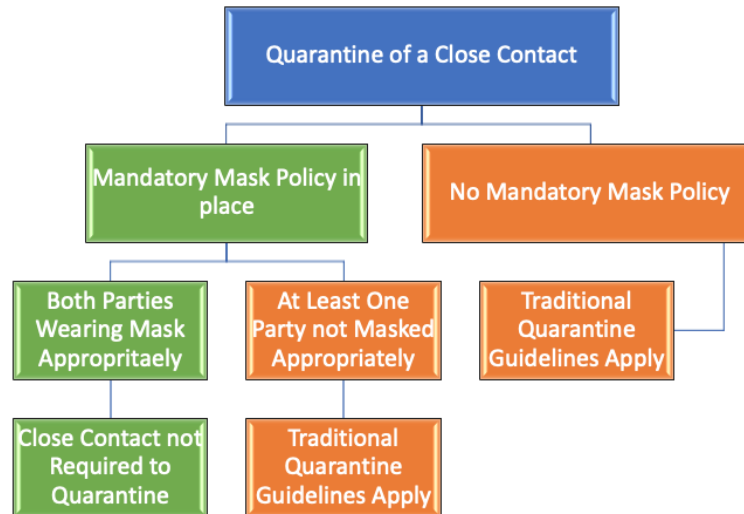
Masks: The Malvern School Board at this time will continue the same CDC recommended safety procedures and indoor mask mandates for the time being.

Considerations:

- **Masks-Continuation of mask policies and proper wearing have benefits**

- Proper mask wearing may be a consideration when identifying individuals as close contacts in K-12 schools that continue to implement mask requirements. This means that if both individuals – the person diagnosed with COVID-19 and the person exposed to the positive case – were wearing masks correctly at the time of exposure, the individual exposed does not need to quarantine.

- **Close Contact Identification**



Physical Distancing: The Malvern School Board at this time will continue the same CDC recommended safety procedures involving social distancing and indoor mask wearing for the time being.

Considerations:

- **Physical Distancing**

CDC has updated guidance to reflect the latest science on physical distance between students in classrooms.

- CDC now recommends that, with universal masking, students can maintain a distance of at least 3 feet in classroom settings.
- The CDC still recommends social distancing of 6 feet between adults, as well as adults and students, in common areas, when masks can't be worn and in community settings outside the classroom.

Responding to Confirmed Positive Cases: The Malvern School Board at this time will continue the same CDC recommended safety procedures involving responding to confirmed positive cases and Point of Contact (POC) notification.

Considerations:

- **Responding**

- Schools with **mask mandates** that promote **proper mask wearing** may now exempt individuals from being identified as close contacts in K-12 schools if **both** the confirmed and exposed individuals are properly masked.

- **A fully vaccinated individual** does not need to stay at home following close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual if certain conditions are met
- Individuals who **previously have had COVID-19 and recovered and are within 3 months of their original diagnosis** may not have to quarantine

Continuation of Services: The Malvern School District at this time will continue to provide the same services we have all year for the remainder of the school year based on the DESE approved Ready for Learning Plan.

Public Comments and concerns can be directed to covid@malvernleopards.org

Summer and Back-to-School Planning: The Malvern School District at this time will continue to monitor guidelines, and all stakeholders concerns as preparing for the 2021-22 school year. We will continue to maintain a healthy learning environment for all our students with the hope that all restrictions will be lifted by the start of school.

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