A MESSAGE FROM
KATHLEEN J. BYRNES, J.D.
VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT LIFE

January 27, 2023

Dear Faculty, Students and Staff:

Villanova is evolving our COVID-19 isolation practices as campus continues its return to living with the virus. Our approach will be much like a family or household strategy that is supporting a family member who is ill. This approach is consistent with the way that Villanova has traditionally accommodated students with seasonal influenza, stomach flu or other viruses. The Student Health Center remains available for COVID-19 testing and will work with students who test positive to support their specific health needs.

Students who reside in a residence hall who test positive for COVID-19 will generally return to their assigned room for their isolation period and recover with the help of campus resources; students may also choose to go home or elsewhere off-campus to complete the isolation period, adhering to CDC travel guidelines.

Important additional information about isolation and quarantine:

Isolation
Per current guidance from the CDC, an individual diagnosed with COVID-19 must isolate away from others for at least five full days from the onset of symptoms. All students diagnosed with COVID-19 are required to self-isolate in their rooms whether they are living on or off campus. The Student Health Center will continue to have limited isolation space available for students for whom return to their assigned on-campus housing is not advisable for health reasons. Students who are isolating in their assigned on-campus rooms must follow these guidelines:

- Isolate in their assigned room for five full days. If feeling better, a student may leave isolation on day 6, continuing to wear a mask for five more days when around other people.
- Do not attend class, work, or social gatherings. Do not host students in your room.
- Leave the residence hall to retrieve grab-n-go meals from the dining hall (while being diligently masked).

- Remain masked and maintain social distancing as much as possible when in the company of others in the residence hall. Wear a mask outside your room. Masking is not required during sleep or while in the shower.
- Do not share items (e.g., drinking glasses, eating utensils, towels) or engage in physical contact with others.
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water, especially after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. Use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if you can't wash your hands.
- Clean surfaces with sanitizing wipes. The Student Health Center can provide students with sanitizing wipes.

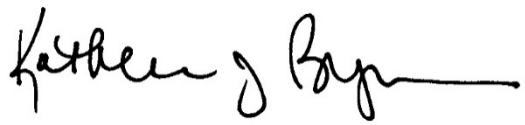
If you are immunocompromised, please contact the Student Health Center at 610-519-4070 to discuss additional options for isolation or quarantine. The Student Health Center is open 24/7.

Quarantine
Per current CDC guidance, individuals who have been exposed to a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, are not required to quarantine and are permitted to attend class while masked. These practices are unchanged from the Fall 2022 semester.

- Those with an exposure to COVID-19 should wear a mask as soon as they find out they were exposed.
- Continue to monitor for COVID-19 symptoms, such as cough, shortness of breath and other COVID-19 symptoms, and wear a high-quality well-fitting mask any time you are around others inside your home or indoors in public for 10 days post-exposure.
- If symptoms are present, test immediately.
- If symptoms are not present, test on Day 6 (i.e., test at least five full days after your last exposure).
- If you test negative, continue taking precautions through Day 10.
- If you test positive, isolate immediately.

Please direct any questions to covidsurvey@villanova.edu or call the Student Health Center at 610-519-4070.

Sincerely,



Kathleen J. Byrnes, J.D.
Vice President for Student Life