



St. Mary's In-Person Re-entry Plan

Public Health Considerations

At St. Mary's Catholic School, the safety and well-being of our community is our top priority. In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, we are taking the following precautionary measures to ensure the safety of the students, faculty, and staff on our campus for the 2020-21 academic year. While some of the measures may seem extreme to some, we believe strongly that we have a duty to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19 in order to provide an opportunity for students to be on campus to receive face to face instruction and be around their peers in a safe way.

Our plans to meet these guidelines are based around five foundations: monitoring and responding to student and faculty health; limiting and eliminating unnecessary or risky activities; revising cleaning and disinfection protocols; providing a high level of education for our students; and finally, having additional blended learning and virtual learning options available for unplanned shutdowns and for those that choose to opt in to at-home, digital learning.

Health Education and Practices

- All students, teachers, and essential visitors will wear face masks at all times in the building. Face mask messaging, designs, or logos will need to be appropriate for all age groups in our building. The only valid medical reasons for not wearing a face covering, within the context of COVID-19, would also mean that attending school in person with such a condition is too dangerous to allow. As such, any individual who

is unwilling or unable to wear a face covering would need to move to remote learning.

- Handwashing/hand sanitizing on arrival; Before and after eating; restroom; blowing one's nose, coughing or sneezing; after touching common objects; before and after recess.
- Supervised handwashing breaks for at least twice daily.
- Hand sanitizing stations (touchless if possible) throughout building, immediately inside each classroom, on buses.
- Videos showing effective handwashing – Signage in and around restrooms promoting healthy hygiene.
- Educating school staff on signs and symptoms of illness among students.
- Teachers and staff will self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus.
 - COVID-19 Symptoms for Screening
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Muscle aches
 - Sore throat
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea
 - Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
 - Known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19
- Emphasize safe distancing whenever possible.
- Heightened monitoring in school clinic for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Temperature checks for students entering the building each morning. Any

individual with a fever over 100 degrees will be excluded from any in-person activities. If the individual has a diagnosis from their doctor regarding the illness that is not COVID-19, they may return to work / school if at least 3 days have passed since the resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications. If there is not a diagnosis or the diagnosis is ambiguous, in addition to the lack of fever the following conditions must be met:

- improvement in respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath)
- at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- Turn off drinking fountains except for refilling stations. Students to bring a full, refillable, preferably non-sweating, labeled water bottle each day. Two new filling stations will be installed this summer.
- Prop interior doors to decrease touching of handles.

Cleaning and Sanitizing Procedures

- Overall increased frequency in cleaning and disinfection with special attention to high-touch surfaces and fixtures, shared supplies, laptops, tablets, desks, restrooms, and buses.
- Playground Equipment – Evidence shows that disinfecting outside equipment is not necessary.
- Staff Areas: Keyboards, Telephones, Vending Machines, Teacher's Lounge or Workrooms, Mailrooms, Staplers, Copiers, Microwaves, Coffee Machines, etc.
- Store frequently used cleaning supplies where easily accessible only to school staff.

Classroom Procedures to Mitigate Spreading Illness

- Students will be grouped together so as to minimize the number of students who they encounter regularly. Small class sizes that permits students' desks to be arranged at least six feet apart.
- Reduce Number of Common Gathering Places Where Students Tend to Congregate.
- Open Windows if Possible, Weather Permitting, Moderate Outdoor Temps.
- Students will have their own individual supplies in containers. There will be no shared supplies for students. Essential teacher manipulatives will be disinfected

after each use.

- Classrooms will be disinfected between use by different classes.
- Physical education for all students will be outside, weather permitting. When weather does not permit, physical education will be in the gym and students will keep masks on. Students will still practice social distancing when outside but are able to remove their masks.
- Elective teachers will come to the homeroom classroom for instruction.
- Orchestra will be held in a space that will allow for social distancing and students will continue wearing masks in that class.

Before/After School Activities

- There will be no sports offered in the fall. DPL will revisit this and decide when to resume extracurricular activities while monitoring the situation with COVID-19.
- Before and after school care will be provided but will be in spaces that will allow for social distancing. All safety measures during the normal school days will be in place before and after school.

Lunch Procedures

- Students will eat in the cafeteria spread at least six feet apart when weather does not permit eating outside.
- Students will be encouraged and taught how to keep masks from being contaminated and dirty while they are eating.
- Talking while eating significantly increases risk of transmission. When inside students will have a quiet lunch without talking to decrease likelihood of transmissions since masks will be removed for eating.
- If eating indoors, space as far apart as possible, everyone facing the same direction.
- If eating outdoors (preferred when weather permits) space at least 6-feet apart.
- Masks must be worn during recess unless outdoors.

Music Education

String Orchestra

1. 6' x 6' grid spacing of students in room
2. Each student has their own instrument & music binder (no shared materials)
3. Wipe down common items before each class (chairs, music stands)
4. Adopt tuning procedure that minimizes cross-handling of instruments between teacher and student
5. Windows in multi-purpose room can open for additional ventilation if needed
6. Maintain all school-wide procedures (masks, ingress/egress, etc.)

Recorder Ensemble

1. Virtual-only instruction for at least the fall semester using interactive course on [Soundslice.com](https://www.soundslice.com) (due to aerosolization risk from wind instruments)
2. Could consider meeting outdoors with appropriate spacing after the weather cools off

Guitar

1. Cap class enrollment at a number that permits appropriate distancing in classroom

Handbells

TBD

Entry/Exit Procedures

Morning Arrival

- Staff will check temperatures of students at their vehicle and will ask pre-screening COVID questions.
- Students attending before school care will be screened, including temperature check, by the before school care teacher.
- Two entrances into the building. PK4-3rd grade will enter the front of the building. PK3 and 4-8 will enter through the gym circle drive. Grades 4-8 will continue through the gym to the portables.
- Late arrivals must come to front door with parent and a staff member will screen them before entering the building.
- Bus students will be screened by the bus driver before the parent leaves the bus

meeting area. Students exiting the bus at the school will be walked by the bus driver to the building so they are not screened twice.

Afternoon Dismissal

- Bus students will be released five minutes early to get on the bus.
- The rest of the school will be dismissed by grade level starting with the oldest students in case they need to wait at building exit to walk younger students home. Older students waiting on siblings should wait outside the building.
- After care students will be dismissed after all other students have exited the building.

Outside Visitors Screening Procedures

- Only essential visitors allowed on campus.
- Visitors must wear masks or face coverings.
- Post signage at entrances listing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Upon entering building: temp check and screening questions.
 - Designated staff
 - Forehead scanner thermometer
 - Temp < 100.0 and “No” to overall symptoms to remain on campus.
 - Provide visitor with colored sticker (change color daily) or other means of ID to indicate clearance.
 - Maintain daily log for essential visitors - shred or use sharpie to black-out info at the end of each day.

Positive Cases and Teachers, Staff, or Students Showing COVID-19 Symptoms (This section is subject to change based on guidance from the diocese)

Closing procedures – in the case of an individual testing positive for COVID-19 and can be determined to have exposed the school to the same, the school will move people the individual has been in contact with for more than a five to ten minute period to virtual learning or working for a ten-day period. Any testing for COVID-19 should be delayed until five days after the initial exposure, and following the ten-day period, all individuals would be allowed back on campus provided that they do not display any symptoms.

Individuals will not need to provide a negative test to be allowed back on campus.

If it is not possible to definitively know who the individual has been in contact with, the school will presume that maximum exposure has taken place and move anyone who could have come into contact with the individual to virtual learning or working, up to and including the entire school.

In the case that the leadership team / front office is exposed and must be moved to virtual work, school can continue provided it is safe and prudent to do so. In cases where having the leadership team off campus would create a security or safety risk, the entire school should move to virtual learning for a ten-day period.

In all cases, the goal will be to limit disruption to the greatest extent possible while erring on the side of being overly cautious.