

COVID-19 Mitigation Plan

We enter into this covenant with our Catholic school families in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, to keep students and staff healthy and safe and to promote in person learning. Throughout this plan you will see our *Blue Guy* as a reminder that through this all we are remembering to consider the entire child in mind, body, and soul as a child of God.

THE BASICS

- * A cohort is considered one classroom.
- * Use hand sanitizer when entering a classroom/office.
- * Keep social distance of at least 3 feet – single file (hallways, lunchroom, etc.) Blue Guys mark spots in the hallway.
- * Parents are to remain outside the building during drop off and pick up.
- * Please try to limit your entrance into the building throughout the day.
- * We will continue to use water bottles and not drinking fountains. Students need to bring a water bottle to school that can be refilled at our hydration station and then brought home to be cleaned.
- * Parents are asked to screen their child before sending them to school for any symptoms of COVID and to keep their child home whenever they are ill. Students will not be screened at school. We are asking parents to be honest and vigilant about their children's health and are depending on them to help make common sense decisions regarding their children's health. Students and employees are expected to remain at home when they are sick. Schools will promptly send children and employees home when they display symptoms of COVID-19 illness. Parents are expected to monitor health concerns at home.
- * We ask families to follow the Minnesota Department of Health's Decision Tree when determining if a student needs to be kept home due to exposure to COVID-19 or its variants.
- * **Arrival**
 - o Students may start arriving at 7:45 through the front door and immediately go to their classroom.
- * **Lunch – prayer in classroom**
 - o The tables are set up with 4 spots at each table divided with plexi-glass.
 - o Lunch will be divided into 2 sections.
- * **Computer Room**
 - o 17 stations are set up.
 - o After using the computers, the keyboard and mouse need to be wiped down by an adult before being used again.
- * **Blue Bus**
 - o Everyone wears a mask and uses hand sanitizer before they enter the bus.
- * **Church**
 - o We will sit together in the 2 sections of pews, every other pew.
 - o We have assigned seating by grade with all students sitting with their classmates. The only exception to this is when students have special ministries and may need to sit in front or by the piano.
- * **Dismissal**
 - o Students will wait in their classroom until their bell has been rung.
 - o Patrollers will need to be sent down at 2:37 p.m. to get ready.

- 1st Bell will ring at 2:40 p.m. Walkers and car riders will be released from the classroom out the front door.
- 2nd Bell will ring after the walkers and riders are on their way.

✧ **Masks**

- At this time, the Diocese of New Ulm does not require Catholic school students or employees to wear face coverings.
- Parents and guardians are well-positioned to determine if their child should wear a face covering while outside of the home and out in the community.
- No student will be prevented from wearing a face covering. Parents may notify the school if they are requiring their child to wear a mask so that we can support that wish.
- Our schools will work to reduce any stigmatization associated with the decision to wear or not wear a face covering. We will continue to foster communities of respect and kindness, whether masked or unmasked.
- We reserve the right to require students to mask whenever they are working together in close contact and are unable to maintain 3 feet of social distance. Therefore, your child will need to have a mask available to fully participate. We encourage you to always have an extra mask available.
- Unvaccinated adults are asked to wear a mask when in the school building.
- Due to health issues, any students that needs to visit with the principal must be masked. If they do not bring a mask with them, one will be provided.

✧ **Cleaning/Sanitizing Protocols**

- All high touch surfaces will be cleaned a minimum of once per day.
- The kindergarten room will be fogged daily.
- The other classrooms will be fogged weekly.
- Student desks and chairs will be cleaned daily.
- Students and staff will sanitize their hands before entering any classroom.
- Students and staff will wash their hands before lunch.

This policy may change as the measures needed to continue with in-person learning change. Every attempt will be made to provide as much notice as possible to any changes, but this may not always be possible.