

COVID PREVENTION PLAN

To replace the PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS PLAN



Prevention Plan

March 1, 2022

As we eagerly look to the future and the end of the pandemic, St. Francis Catholic School will continue to execute a health and safety plan to help prevent the spread of all infectious diseases. We also ask for your help as parents and guardians to be attentive to your child's health and promote behaviors that will reduce the spread of disease as well, such as:

- **Staying Home When Sick:**

St. Francis will continue to require all individuals to stay home when they are sick. We are asking all parents continue to do health checks **before** sending your child to school. If student is home for an illness, they can return to school once they are feeling better *and* their symptoms have substantially improved (including being fever free for 24 hours with no fever-reducing medication). *Please report all absences, as well as the reason for the absence, to the school nurse or school office.*

Updated Quarantine Guidance

The CDC and the MDH have adopted a change to the guidance for quarantines. Individuals are now eligible for a 5 day quarantine after testing positive for COVID-19 if they:

1. Are asymptomatic
2. Have minimal or mild symptoms
3. Are fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication prior to return
4. Continue to wear a face covering for 5 days upon return.

Face Coverings

The decision for a child to wear a face covering in the hands of each parent. 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. We ask all parents and guardians to consider what is best for their child in making this decision while also being vigilant about others that may be more vulnerable in their classroom and school. Parents and guardians are asked to be attentive and consistent in the monitoring of symptoms and the health of their child.

Individuals will be required to wear a face covering for 5 days upon returning to school from a confirmed positive case of COVID, according to the CDC and MDH Guidelines. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>)

Vaccination

Honoring the health care decisions of all individuals in our community and the importance of individual privacy for health related decisions, St. Francis Catholic school will not be mandating students or staff to receive the COVID-19 vaccine nor provide documentation of vaccination. The Diocese of Duluth does encourage vaccination.

COVID-19 Testing

St. Francis school will not test students for COVID-19 or provide any other non-emergency health services to students without parental consent. We will inform families of availability of COVID-19 testing locations and provide support for families who desire to get tested.

Students Absence Due to COVID-19

Students who are absent from school due to COVID-19 quarantine will not be penalized. Classroom teachers, along with the parents, will decide on an appropriate delivery and retrieval method for students to complete class assignments, materials, and textbooks as needed. Teachers will have materials available for students within 24-hours of notification. Tests will be taken upon return to school as determined by the teacher.