

St. Joseph Catholic School Return to School Plan

St. Joseph Catholic School will implement the following safety protocols while returning to face to face instruction.

Personal Protective Equipment

- All staff and students may wear facial coverings when in the building by choice. If it becomes a requirement to wear facial coverings per the local health department or State of Michigan, all staff and students will comply, unless face coverings cannot be medically tolerated as documented through written and signed verification by a physician, and for students a written and signed consent from parent/guardian.
- All rooms in the building are equipped with medical grade true HEPA air purification filtration systems. The system removes 99.9% of all particles in the air, recycles the air in the entire room every 15 minutes and has a CADR rating of 330.
- All rooms in the building are equipped with touchless hand sanitizer with at least 80% alcohol FDA-approved.

Hygiene

- St. Joseph Catholic School will provide supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 80% alcohol, paper towels and tissues for safe use by staff and students).
- Staff will teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or the safe use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 80% alcohol.
- Staff will educate students on how to cough and sneeze into their elbows, or to cover with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately using proper hand hygiene techniques.
- Maintenance and Custodial staff will frequently check and refill soap and hand sanitizer.

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- Opportunities will be provided throughout the day for handwashing with soap and water by students and teachers.

Spacing and Movement

- Classrooms will space students as far apart as feasible, whether desks or tables are utilized.
- Entrance into the school building will be restricted to students and staff only, with the following allowances: Family members or other non-staff adults are not allowed in the school building except under extenuating circumstances determined by school officials.

Screening Students and Staff

- St. Joseph Catholic School will cooperate with the local public health department regarding implementing protocols for screening students and staff.
- The office sick station is the designated quarantine area and office personnel will care for students and staff who develop signs or symptoms of COVID-19 at school. Students and staff who become ill with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 will be placed in the quarantine area until they can be picked up.
- Symptomatic students and staff sent home from school will stay home until they have completely recovered according to health department guidelines.
- Families will be notified of the presence of any laboratory positive or clinically diagnosed cases of COVID-19 in the school to encourage closer observation for any symptoms at home.

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Responding to Positive Tests Among Staff and Students

- St. Joseph Catholic School will cooperate with the local public health department if a confirmed case of COVID-19 is identified, and in particular, collect the contact information for any close contacts of the affected individual from two days before he or she showed symptoms to the time when he or she was last present at the school. The local health department and school will initiate contact tracing, following regular public health practice.
- St. Joseph Catholic School will notify local health officials, staff, and parents immediately of any possible case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws.

Food Service

- The cafeteria will be used for lunch period, with classes cohorted within specified areas.
- Classrooms and outdoor areas can be used for students to eat meals if needed.

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Athletics

- St. Joseph Catholic School will comply with all guidance published by Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).
- Students, teachers, and staff must use proper hand hygiene techniques before and after every practice, event, or other gathering.
- Each participant must use a clearly marked water bottle for individual use. There should be no sharing of this equipment.

Cleaning

- St. Joseph Catholic School will ensure safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfection products, including storing products securely away from children, and with adequate ventilation when staff use products.
- Student desks will be wiped down with either a medical grade EPA-approved disinfectant or diluted bleach solution after every day of school.

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Busing and Student Transportation

- St. Joseph Catholic School will defer all safety guidelines to St. Johns Public Schools Busing Department.

Mental & Social-Emotional Health

- St. Joseph Catholic School identify office personnel as the navigator to facilitate mental health referrals, communications to families and public-facing wellness materials.
- St. Joseph Catholic School will provide all staff with timely, responsive, and ongoing training and/or professional development.