

St. Anthony de Padua Catholic School

FAQ with COVID

Last Updated 10.22.20

Q: My child had a [fever \(or other symptoms\)](#), but is acting fine now. Can they come to school after 24 hours?

A: No. Some children have the virus and never show any symptoms. If your child has a fever that goes away, he or she will still need to quarantine 10 days, has an alternative diagnosis, or until a negative test is obtained. Please also see the CDC guidelines for [COVID symptoms in children](#).

Q: Someone in my house tested positive, should my child come to school.

A: No. Should someone in your household test positive, you should keep your child(ren) at home and refer to the [Covid-19 School Attendance Quick Reference](#).

Q: My child said a classmate was coughing a lot in class. Why wasn't the child sent home?

A: If the child was observed by an adult to be coughing, we will address it. Children aren't always aware of the communications and conversations that take place among the teachers and parents of other students.

Q: Are we really going to send a kid home if they just have a runny nose?

A: Yes.

Q: Doesn't that seem like a ridiculous nightmare?

A: Absolutely it does. However, we are following guidelines to the best of our ability for the safety of everyone in our community.

Q: Isn't a lot of this dependent on families sharing information and being truthful?

A: Yes. We are trusting one another to make decisions not only that are best for their families, but also for the greater community. We trust parents are reporting symptoms accurately when reporting symptoms even if they

Q: Why won't you tell us whenever there is a confirmed case?

A: This is public information and can be found here: <https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm>
You will need to click on "school" and search for our specific school.

While the total number of confirmed cases is public information, we are being mindful of privacy and guidance from the local health department and the CDC. We are being very diligent in monitoring and collecting information as children stay home, as we want everyone to stay healthy.

Q: When will we be notified if there is a case in my child's class?

A: You will be notified if we believe your child was in close contact with someone who tested positive. We are monitoring closely and practicing an abundance of caution.

Q: I saw pictures of kids without masks. Why aren't kids wearing masks?

A: Children do take masks off when they eat and when they are active outside and can socially distance. If we see students not being active and not distancing, we will ask them to put masks on or spread out.

Q: Why don't we extend holiday breaks to build in time between travel and returning to school?

A: This has been considered and discussed by the school advisory board. We are choosing to adhere to our current schedule for the time being. There are many variables that come into play. If we start to see an increase in cases, we will respond accordingly.

Q: Why aren't families that travel required to quarantine?

A: At this time, there are no guidelines from the state or the local health department (LHD) to justify a quarantine after travel. We trust families will take appropriate precautions on their travels (social distancing, masks, and hand washing) and if they have any doubt, quarantine after traveling.

Q: Did I read something about travel and COVID from the school before?

A: Yes! You did. Here it is for quick reference:

In alignment with state and LHD guidelines, we ask that families who do not feel they have taken these precautions to quarantine for 14 days after travel and/or contact with those outside the household. For the health and safety of everyone within the St. Anthony community, please continue to limit exposure outside your immediate household/student cohorts and take precautions - including a quarantine upon return from travel when precautions may not have been followed. Such an absence would be "excused" as long as the student checks in for remote learning. Per state guidelines, other absences not resulting from parent or doctor verified illness or family funeral are documented as "unexcused". Just for your knowledge, 10 or more unexcused absences are reported to the state for truancy.

Q: What is going to happen as we continue into the cold and flu season?

A: We don't know. We will be taking it day by day and case by case. We all want to keep kids safe and in school.

Q: How do I get my child tested for COVID?

A: You Can:

- Call your doctor for an order
- Optum Testing through ISDH: 1.888.634.1116
- St. Joseph Health System Hotline 1.574.335.8560
- CVS pharmacy
- Walgreens pharmacy

- Physicians Urgent Care
- Or other urgent care sites
- *Please look up the location you are considering for hours and appointment availability*
- *Under most conditions you do not need a doctor's order*

Q: What can we do?

A: Continue to wear masks, socially distance, and wash hands frequently. We encourage flu shots, getting plenty of water and sleep, and stay home if you aren't feeling well. We also encourage limiting your contact with those individuals not living in your household.