

St. Joseph Catholic School
2020-2021 General Policy Regarding COVID-19
Policy is subject to change

St. Joseph Catholic School is diligent in efforts to continue with the ministry of educating our students with as much normalcy as possible and in the safest way for the 2020/2021 school year. This ministry is a collaboration between school administration and staff, parents and students, and local medical experts and government. We respectively make the decisions based on the school's mission statement and what we have determined to be a best-practice in education, and in turn, we respect the decision of each of our families based on what they feel is best for their family. We aim for clear planning and vision that supports our school to be agile in response to each potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As we prepare to begin school in the fall with student attendance in-person in the classroom everyday, we do not yet know what new challenges we will face. In order to prepare for the 2020/2021 school year as best we can, we have used collected data to create policy that will be upheld:

Daily Protocol:

Arrival:

- All faculty will be required to self-screen upon arrival.
- No students will be allowed to be dropped off by the gym or gym parking lot. All dropoffs must be done on Orth St. (Pre-K may park on Schrimsher St. and walk to the school)
- All students dropped off on Orth street will be screened with temperature checks by SJS faculty at the time of drop-off. Any student with an elevated temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent home at that time, as recommended by the CDC.
- All pre-k students escorted to the door will be screened with a temperature check by SJS faculty at the door. Any student with an elevated temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent home at that time.
- All students with a temperature of 99.5-100.3 will be admitted but will be subject to frequent temperature checks throughout the school day to ensure that the temperature is not rising.
- Parents will be allowed up to the school office window with a mask. Further access to students, faculty or information will be made available, as appropriate.
- Bad Weather: In case of rain or severely cold weather, drop-off will be located through the doors facing the playground on the backside of the school building, under the awning. Temperature screenings will still take place upon arrival, as quickly as possible, and students who pass the temperature screening will be socially distanced with adult supervision throughout the school until the school day begins.

Classrooms/School Day:

- Faculty and students will practice social-distancing throughout the school day when possible, including classroom seating.
- Masks for faculty and students who have passed arrival screenings will be encouraged, but not required at this time.
- Frequent hand washing, as well as hand washing prior to every transition point throughout the day, ie. before and after P.E., lunch, break, etc. and as necessary throughout the day.
- Water fountains will not be available for students to drink from; they will be available to refill reusable water bottles; All students will need to bring their own reusable water bottles and are responsible for the sanitation of each personal reusable water bottle.

Lunch/Cafeteria:

- Teachers and students will practice social-distancing walking to and from lunch.
- Tables and chairs will be set up on both sides of the family center cafeteria.
- Lunch times will be divided more evenly between student-ratio per lunch time.
- Tables and chairs will be sanitized between lunch periods and will continue to be sanitized daily after student lunch periods are finished.

Mass:

- Teachers and students will practice social-distancing walking to and from the church building
- All teachers and students will practice social-distancing with reserved seating throughout the church building
- All teachers, students, and others in attendance will be reminded to practice social-distancing when moving in the church, including when receiving Holy Communion.

Special Events:

- Protocol for special events will be communicated, per event, ahead of time to parents and those invited to attend. This is to ensure that current recommendations are being followed, per event.

P.E./Athletics:

- At this time, SJS is proceeding with Physical Education and Athletics, practicing social-distancing when possible and by continuing to thoroughly sanitize equipment frequently.
- Curriculum allowing social-distancing will be adopted when possible.
- In accordance with government ordinance and the DOV Office of Catholic Schools, students will not be required to wear masks when participating in physical activity.

Dismissal:

- Dismissal protocol will be the same procedure, with the exception of new class/student lines that support social-distancing practices.

Sporting Events:

- At this time, SJS is proceeding with sports, using social distancing when possible and continuing to thoroughly sanitize equipment frequently.
- Coaches and athletes will be required to follow DVAL policies and procedures.
- Sporting event spectators will be required to adhere to campus guidelines specific to sporting event locations.

School Sanitizing Plan:

- Regularly sanitizing high-use common areas and surfaces throughout the day
- Continue general cleaning/sanitizing protocols daily and follow the recommended CDC sanitary guidelines. (See website below)
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/clean-disinfect/index.html>

Covid-19 Positive

- Students who test positive for COVID-19 should stay home and quarantine for the recommended 14 days.
- Students who live in the same household as someone who tests positive for COVID-19 should stay home and quarantine for the recommended 14 days.
- Parents and/or students who have been in contact with a person who finds out they are positive for COVID-19 should be diligent in home health-screens, including taking note of common COVID-19 symptoms that may develop, as well as taking temperatures regularly

General Health

- Parents are encouraged to be proactive in at-home health screenings. Students must be fever free, without the use of fever-reducing medicines for at least 24 hours before they can come back to school. These daily, at-home, health screenings will also help detect and or prevent the spread of other contagious viruses or infections.