



COVID-19 Preparedness Plan
St. Scholastica HSC Academy
(Updated 8/17/20)

These plans are made using recommendations from CDC, MDH, MDE, Isanti County Public Health, and Minnesota Bishops (specifically their COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS GUIDANCE: A PATH FOR STUDENTS' RETURN TO SCHOOL FALL 2020)

This document is a working document and is subject to change as conditions arise. Any information released in the future by the above organizations is to be monitored and used to adjust the preparedness plan as necessary.

Threshold for closing school or an individual classroom:

Our plan is built on current data, outbreak trends in the community, and the ability to practice safety measures across the school population. Scenarios that would warrant a partial or full school closure could include, but are not limited to, an outbreak of COVID within or outside the community, faculty shortage due to illness, 50 positive COVID cases per 10,000 over a 14-day period within Isanti county, or a state-mandated shelter-in-place order. St. Scholastica Academy will work with local health officials when making the determination for a partial or full school closure.

If a classmate, sibling, teacher has been exposed to, shows symptoms or tests positive for COVID:

Any member of our school community who displays symptoms of COVID will be isolated and sent home until they are cleared for return to school, following guidelines established by the CDC and Department of Health. St. Scholastica Academy will continue to monitor CDC guidelines and consult with the Minnesota Department of Health when a member of our school community tests positive or has been in contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19. We will follow the same guidelines for contacting families. A return to work or school will follow the MDH guidelines. (Per Isanti County Public Health: It will only be required that children that have a positive test follow the isolation/quarantine guidance. Children who are symptomatic but are not tested will not be held to that requirement. However, they should still follow school policy around staying home when sick or if they have a fever. Additional guidance will come out around this as we learn more about how COVID-19 will affect students and staff. Also a student or staff member should self-isolate until they receive their test results whether symptomatic or asymptomatic.)

Classroom setup:

Students will be seated in all classrooms with as much physical distancing between each student possible, ideally creating six feet of space. In most classrooms a six feet distance will be able to be maintained, but in those that cannot accommodate six feet, efforts will be made to create maximum physical distance. Routines will be important for general classroom activities including but not limited to sharpening pencils, washing hands, using tissues, lining up, etc. Efforts will be made to keep the classroom and grade level students together as a cohort (a group of people banded together to prevent mitigation which leads to the spread of COVID-19) and not inter-mingle among other classes. Desks will

face one direction and placed to accommodate current social distancing guidelines. We will attempt to have minimal movement from students during the day and instead, move teachers when possible.

Masks:

The governor has mandated masks to be worn.

Students and teachers will not be wearing masks during instructional time when wearing a mask is contraindicated to learning.

Masks will not be worn during lunch.

Masks will be worn when/if attending Mass.

Mass:

St. Scholastica Academy will not be attending Mass as a group but may have individual classrooms attend as appropriate. Students will not be taking a role in Mass (no servers, lectors, singing).

Cleaning:

Hygiene education (to include proper handwashing method, hand sanitizing, and respiratory etiquette) will be ongoing with increase handwashing protocol and increased access to sanitizing stations. Sanitizing the classrooms will happen according to CDC guidelines.

Health of students/staff:

Students and staff will be conducting self-screening daily. Parents will follow the decision tree when determining whether a child should come to school or not.

Lunch:

Lunch will be eaten in the classrooms as a classroom cohort.

Facility Ventilation:

St. Scholastica HSC Academy will promote as much air flow as possible to mitigate the spread of the virus. One method will be to have windows open as weather is appropriate.

Water fountain:

Students will bring water bottles to limit the use of the water fountain.

Visitors/Volunteers:

Visitors and parents are limited so that they are in school only with prior authorization.

The use of parent volunteers will be put on hold.

Distance learning:

Should the school need to close due to worsening COVID-19 metrics within the community or in the facility the school will resume the Distance Learning Plan guidelines. Information regarding the temporary closure will be communicated and plans will be distributed at that time.

Disseminating information:

Parents: Communication via email, newsletters, and the website will happen weekly, typically Fridays, beginning just prior to the release of the plan. Any modifications or changes in operational practices will initiate further communication. Prior to school starting, parents and students will meet with staff to discuss concerns and answer questions they may have regarding the reopening of school.

Students: Students will be informed of new protocols and procedures during individual meetings prior to school, as well as from materials sent to parents prior to the start of school included but not limited to, handwashing, facial coverings, physical distancing, etc. The first weeks of our school year will be focused on the learning and application of new routines that are vital to the safety of all.

Assessment of Plan Effectiveness:

COVID-19 policies and procedures will be modified by staff to address the current conditions and guidance/laws to be in compliance with local, state and federal guidelines. The plan's effectiveness will be reviewed monthly. The COVID-19 points of contact along with the Reopening Committee will be monitoring the implementation and progress of the preparedness plan.

Adapting to change:

St. Scholastica will continue to monitor and adapt as CDC, MDH, and Isanti County Public Health guidelines are updated.