



COVID Protocols

We have been in contact with each county health department in which our Catholic schools operate. We will continue to collaborate with local health departments as we move forward. They have been and will continue to be an important resource for our schools. The following COVID protocols have been developed based on CDC guidance, the Return to School Roadmap, and consultation with local health departments. The protocols are subject to modification based on guidance from appropriate health agencies.

- **Will students and staff be subject to daily health screening?**
 - Daily health screenings (at home or at school) are strongly recommended. This process will vary by school. Please contact your building administrator for specifics. (These plans may still be in development at the local level.)

- **What if a student displays symptoms of COVID-19?**
 - Please keep your child home from school and consult your personal physician. Depending on the circumstances, your child may be referred for testing and excluded from school for 10 days or until symptom free, AND without fever reducing medication.
 - If this occurs during the school day, the student will be placed in supervised isolation, with a mask (if appropriate based on student's ability to medically tolerate a mask). Parents or guardians will be contacted to pick the child up from school.

- **What if a student tests positive for COVID-19?**
 - Typically, the local county health department will contact the parent/guardian and the school to complete the case investigation and ensure that close contacts are excluded. 'Close contacts' are typically anyone that has spent a significant amount of time (10-15 minutes or longer) at a distance six feet or less to a confirmed positive case. Other circumstances may be considered to establish if a person is a close contact, but each situation should be considered on its own merits.
 - If a parent of a student has not been contacted by the local county health department, it is appropriate to contact school's administration / COVID response coordinator to ensure that other students and staff in the class(es) and related activities can be notified. This contact is also essential to allow the school to take appropriate cleaning precautions.
 - A student who is confirmed positive for COVID 19 should isolate for 10 days and cannot return to school until 10-days after symptom onset and resolution of fever for at least 24 hours without fever reducing medicines. For persons who never develop symptoms, the quarantine period ends 10 days after the date of their first positive test.

- **When can a student return to school following a positive COVID-19 test?**
 - The [CDC's criteria](#) to discontinue home isolation following a COVID-19 test (or possible close contact) is at least 24 hours without a high fever AND the 10-day quarantine period from the period of the first symptoms.



Diocese of Saginaw
Office of Catholic Schools

- **What does my child do if another household member tests positive for COVID-19?**
 - If another household member tests positive, the exposed student will enter a 14-day quarantine period away from school, even if the student shows no symptoms. The quarantine period will be established by the local county health department in accordance with CDC and MDHHS guidelines.

- **What if a staff member displays symptoms and/or tests positive for COVID-19?**
 - Staff members are subject to the same protocols as a student.

- **What happens if another student or staff member in my child's class/activity tests positive for COVID-19?**
 - School will contact appropriate students and staff to inform them of a positive case.
 - In all COVID-19 positive cases, schools will consult with the county health department for the next steps related to contact tracing, need for others to be tested and/or quarantined, as well as the impact on the operation of the school.
 - A classroom, portion of a building, entire building and/or activity could be shut down due to a positive test(s). Response may vary based on social distancing and level of cohorting that is in place.

- **If I travel to areas experiencing a significant outbreak of COVID-19, will that impact my child returning to in-person instruction on the first day of school?**
 - Possibly. Daily health screenings associated with the return to school / daily attendance may ask you (as well as our staff and faculty) to self-report travel over the previous two-week period. It is possible that travel to areas experiencing a significant outbreak of COVID-19 and/or the failure to socially distance can result in the delay of your child being able to attend school and school sponsored activities. This action would only be taken after consultation with local health departments and/or guidance from appropriate governmental agencies. The [CDC has guidance related to domestic and international travel](#) that may be helpful
 - Significant outbreak areas include: (a) any state with a positive test rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents (i.e., 10% test positivity rate) over a seven day rolling average, as specified by Johns Hopkins University; (b) any country subject to an applicable CDC Level 3 Travel Health Notice, with widespread ongoing transmission; and/or (c) other areas of restricted travel identified by MDHHS or the local county health department.

- **How long do you expect that these restrictions and guidelines will be in place?**
 - Given the seriousness of the present situation, these guidelines will be in place for the remainder of the year, and are subject to change depending on the how prevalent the virus is in the community and other factors that may affect the health and safety of the students, faculty and staff.

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