

# ST. MARY'S VISITATION

Catholic School  Elm Grove, WI

## School Health and Wellness Plan 2021-2022 School Year

*St. Mary's Visitation Catholic Parish School exists to direct children toward God and toward Christian service to society through Catholic religious formation, academic challenge and continuous improvement.*

**\*St. Mary's Visitation reserves the right to amend, revise, or replace any of the contents of the Back to School Health and Wellness Plan at any time during the 2021-2022 school year.**

Dear Families,

We hope you had a safe and relaxing summer. It is with great joy that we start the school year. Last year was a challenge, but together we were able to stay in school. Thank you for all your efforts. You truly were amazing!

We are ready for you to come back to school! As the new school year starts we recognize that COVID still remains a concern. We want to begin to transition back to some of our traditional activities while keeping the health and safety of our students and staff a top priority. We will continue to consult with our local health department, public school and Catholic schools, along with parish leadership and the Milwaukee Archdiocese. Many of the protocols that were in place last year have stayed in place, some are new.

We will continue our commitment to an education founded in Catholic teachings. We rely on our partnership with you, our school families, as we journey again through this unique school year. Our children will still be learning from our excellent educators who strive to engrain life-long skills and knowledge in our children.

It goes without saying that the past year has been unprecedented. In these dynamic times, we will continue to assess and adapt to our students' needs and the community at large. The only thing we can be certain of is that we are not alone. Christ is walking this journey with us. Through prayer and study, we invite students and their families to more deeply recognize and respond to the reign of God in our time. The St. Mary's Visitation Community is strong, alive, and moving forward!

Mrs. Mary Tretow, Principal

"There is no evil to be faced that Christ does not face with us. There is no enemy that Christ has not already conquered. There is no cross to bear that Christ has not already borne for us and does not bear with us."

~ Saint Pope John Paul II

## **INSTRUCTION**

St. Mary's Visitation will be prioritizing **IN-PERSON LEARNING**.

After our experience last year, we believe that in-person learning is the most effective method for students and provides the much needed social and emotional development.

**Virtual Learning** will no longer be an option. We will only offer Virtual Learning in the following circumstances.

- **Classroom:** Virtual Learning may be used for a short or long term need for a classroom that may be required to stay home due to a student(s) within the classroom contacting the virus. (Classroom closure will be determined by school administration based on recommendations of the local health department or if there are other variables including lack of staffing that would require such an action.)
- **School Wide:** Virtual Learning may be used for short or long term needs should school be required to close. School wide closure will be determined by one of the following:
  - Mandates by state/local health departments or government agencies.
  - School administration based on recommendations of the local health department or if there are other variables including lack of staffing that would require such action.
  - Transmission matrix in the MASK section of the plan.

**\*If a classroom or school wide plan goes into effect more information will go home outlining what this would look like.**

If an individual student is required to quarantine or isolate due to Covid-19, the student will be expected to engage in asynchronous (independent) daily learning tasks. These learning tasks will be provided at the end of the day via SeeSaw/Google Classroom (online) and/or work to be picked up from school. The students will then complete the work the following day, if possible, during normal school hours. If extended absence occurs the teacher will meet via zoom with the student as a check in.

### **Other protocols:**

- All students will resume specials (art, music, library, phyed) in their designated classrooms with appropriate cleaning protocols.
- Middle school students will continue to cohort to the extent possible.
- Distancing will occur in the classroom as space/furniture allow.

## HEALTH

### **SYMPTOM SCREENING**

The best prevention is self-screening, staying home with symptoms, and timely reporting. Please continue to:

- Monitor for Covid -19 symptoms by completing the designated Health Screening Checklist with each child before arriving at school.
- If the child is sick they should stay home. If exhibiting symptoms of Covid, as identified on the Health Screening Checklist, students **must get tested or have alternative diagnosis before returning to school. If not tested, students will be presumed positive and must be isolated at home for 10 days.**
- Non-covid related symptoms may return to school after being symptom free for 24 hours.
- If ANY individual residing in the household is sick with symptoms on the daily Health Screening Checklist that would require him/her to stay home, all children in the family that attend SMV that are not fully vaccinated will be required to stay home, as well, until the individual tests negative or has an alternate diagnosis.
- If your child suffers from ongoing seasonal allergies that could present as symptoms, please acquire a note from your doctor informing us of the allergy and its symptoms.

### **MASKS**

- Masks are optional for students/staff and will be left to the discretion of individual teachers and families while we are in the BLUE ZONE on the Transmission Matrix below.
- Masks will be required of all students and staff if we enter the Yellow ZONE on the Transmission Matrix shown below.
- Federal regulations mandate the use of a face mask while on a school bus.
- Visitors and volunteers must either wear a face mask or complete a symptom screen (including a temperature check ) by school staff.

TRANSMISSION MATRIX			
	BLUE Low Transmission	YELLOW Moderate Transmission	RED High Transmission
Number of positive cases (St. Mary's Visitation students/staff during past 7 days)	≤ 5% of students/staff positive with Covid	5.1-9.9% of students/staff positive with Covid	> 10% of students/staff positive with Covid
Action	Mask OPTIONAL	Masks Required to be worn by all staff and students regardless of vaccination status.	School Closure - Virtual Learning

## **ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE**

One of the most effective measures for halting respiratory transmission in an indoor, shared space is to identify and isolate sick persons and quarantine any household contacts and close contacts who are not fully vaccinated. In the school setting, isolation and quarantine should be the primary strategy for COVID-19 outbreak mitigation.

**If a student develops any symptoms of COVID-19 or are considered a close contact, please do the following:**

- Stay isolated from others.
- Be tested for COVID-19, but please call your doctor ahead of time.
  - Waukesha testing sites:
   
<https://wcwiki.waukeshacounty.gov/119104-testing/covid-19-testing-sites-available-in-waukesha-county>
- Notify the school, Nicole Klein @ 262-782-7057 or [nklein@stmaryeg.org](mailto:nklein@stmaryeg.org)
- If you are having a medical emergency, call 9-1-1

## CLOSE CONTACT

- **SCHOOL SETTING:** The CDC, DHS, and Waukesha County Health Department have modified their definition of a close contact in a school setting to be within 3-6 feet of a Covid positive individual for 15 or more minutes.
- **SCHOOL SPORTS TEAMS:** Due to the nature of sports, the entire team will need to follow the school's quarantine protocols if a coach or member of the team tests positive for COVID.
- **COMMUNITY SETTING:** The CDC, DHS, and Waukesha County Health Department has defined a close contact in community/non-school setting to be within 6 feet of a Covid positive individual for 15 or more minutes.
- **HOME SETTING:** The CDC, DHS, and Waukesha County Health Department has defined a close contact in a home setting as someone who lives with or stayed overnight for at least one night in a household with the person, unless strict separation was maintained. This includes no shared bathroom, bedrooms, or spaces.

## QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS

### 14-Day Quarantine Remains the Best Option

- A 14-day quarantine is the best option to ensure that a person exposed to COVID-19 does not transmit it into the community, even for people with no COVID-19 symptoms.
- It can take up to 14 days after exposure to the virus for a person to develop COVID-19 symptoms.
- Although asymptomatic individuals are at a lower risk of spreading COVID-19 after the tenth day of exposure, the risk of transmission still exists.

### Not Fully Vaccinated:

- If a non-vaccinated individual is identified as a close contact but has had a positive COVID test within the past 90 days and remains asymptomatic, he/she does not need to be quarantined.

- Identified as a close contact (not in your household):
  - If displaying symptoms, he/she will be required to quarantine for 10 days from onset of symptoms.
  - If not displaying symptoms, he/she will be required to a 10 day quarantine (continue to monitor for symptoms for full 14 days) and required to wear a mask and physically distance for 14 days.
  - 10 day quarantine can be reduced to as low as 7 days with a negative test taken no sooner than day 6.
  - 14 day quarantine is an option.
- Identified as a household close contact, not fully vaccinated
  - 20 day quarantine (quarantined with infectious person plus 7-10 days after exposure)
  - 20 day isolation/quarantine period can be reduced to as low as 17 days with a negative test taken no sooner than day 16.
- Identified as a household close contact (infectious person is completely isolated or leaves the location)
  - Follow guidelines for not fully vaccinated or fully vaccinated close contacts.

#### Fully Vaccinated:

- Based on CDC guidelines, individuals are considered fully vaccinated at least 2 weeks after the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or at least 2 weeks after receiving the single-dose Johnson and Johnson vaccine.
- Not required to quarantine, but need to monitor for symptoms for 14 days.
- 10 or 14 day quarantine is an option
- Should get tested 3-5 days after exposure
- Should wear a mask for 14 days
- If symptoms develop,
  - Isolate from others and contact primary care provider
  - 10 day quarantine from when symptoms appeared, please notify Nicole Klein.

#### Identified as a person who tests positive for COVID-19

- 10 day isolation

#### May return to school or school related activities:

- After quarantine period is over or at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared

- At least 24 hours with no fever (without fever reducing medication)
- Other COVID-19 symptoms are improving

Quarantine means that (but not limited to):

- You must stay out of the public and stay home.
- You must not attend social gatherings or sports events, including both indoor and outdoor activities.
- Do not use public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.
- Do not travel, even within the local community.
- Wash your hands often and practice good hygiene.
- Postpone all non-essential medical appointments until you are out of quarantine. Notify your healthcare provider of your exposure to COVID-19 to determine how he/she would like to proceed.
- You should minimize contact with others in the home and, when possible, stay in your own room and use your own bathroom.
- You should not share personal household items, such as dishes, towels, and bedding.

**These guidelines/protocols are subject to change. We will guide you through this with the help of our local public health authority.**

### **ARRIVAL**

- Face masks are optional for students, faculty and staff.
- Students are not supervised until 7:25 when the doors open. Students will enter through assigned doorways and go directly to their classrooms.
- K3 will enter through the front doors closest to the K3 room, K3 parents may accompany their children to the entrance of the K3 classroom.
- K4 and K5 will enter the door next to the dumpster (closest to the K4 classrooms in the building). This is the same door that was used last year. Bus students in K4 and K5 will enter in the main doors.
- Grades 1-5 will enter in the main doors.
- Grades 6-8 will enter the door closest to the Attic.
- Federal regulations mandate the use of face masks while on a school bus.



- Drop off and pick up can no longer occur in the garage/thrift shop drive. This is for the safety of the children who will be assigned to use the adjacent entrance.
- **We ask that parents do not walk their children into the building, but rather say goodbye outside. If you need to speak to someone or drop something off, please come to the office.**

### **COMMUNICATION OF POSITIVE CLASSROOM CASES**

- We will continue to notify parents if there is a positive case of Covid in **their child's classroom** along with close contact status.

### **PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

- The CDC, DHS, and the Waukesha County Health Department have modified their definition of a close contact in a school setting to be within 3ft of a Covid positive individual for 15 minutes.
- We will strive to provide the appropriate distance when classroom space/furniture allow.

### **ILLNESS AT SCHOOL**

- If a student is sick at school, they will be assessed. If they have a fever of 100.4 or any other Covid symptoms they will be required to wear a mask. If they have 2 or more COVID symptoms they will need to be picked up. If they need to go home they will be picked up at the Senior Center entrance. All other illnesses or appointments students will leave from the office.
- In order to return to school, students must meet the protocols set forth on the Health Screening Checklist.

### **CLEANING**

- We will continue to practice best cleaning/sanitizing practices as we have done this past year.
- Teachers will be encouraged to open classroom windows whenever possible to increase fresh air in the classroom.

### **LUNCH/RECESS**

- Lunch will be eaten in the cafeteria with appropriate distancing.
- We will continue best practice for cleaning.

- Students will have assigned seating for the time being with their grade level peers.
- Students will only interact with their grade level peers.

### **VISITORS**

- Non-personnel visitors and volunteers will be limited and determined on a case by case basis.
- Visitors and volunteers must either wear a face mask or a Health Screening Checklist including temperature checks by school staff.
- All Visitors must check in the office.

### **SCHOOL GATHERINGS**

- Concerts, assemblies and other large group gatherings are tentative and subject to change pending current events at the time of the event.

### **BIRTHDAY TREATS**

- Birthday treats are still allowed. We ask that they are pre-packaged individual sized items.

### **GYM UNIFORMS**

- We will not be changing into gym uniforms. Students will wear their uniforms.

### **SCHOOL MASSES**

- Students will sit with their homeroom.
- Physical distancing will occur to the extent possible.
- Parents/visitors will be asked to sit in the back.

### **BEFORE AND AFTER CARE**

- Students of the same grade level will remain together to the extent possible.
- Physical distancing will occur to the extent possible.
- Use of outdoor space as much as possible.