



Saint Pius X Catholic School

Student COVID-19 Management Plan

2020-2021 School Year
Updated: January 1, 2021

All protocols in this document are subject to change as mandated by local/state/federal government agencies, the Diocese and/or Parish and School leadership.

DEFINITIONS

Close Contact: An individual is considered a close contact if any of following is true:

- Was within 6 feet of a positive person for more than 15 minutes total in a day
- Had physical contact with the person
- Had direct contact with the respiratory secretions of the person (i.e., from coughing, sneezing, contact with dirty tissue, shared drinking glass, food, or other personal items)
- Lives with or stayed overnight for at least one night in a household with the person

These close contact criteria apply regardless of mask use, face shields, or physical barriers, such as Plexiglas or plastic barriers.

The exposure window starts from two (2) days before illness onset, or, for asymptomatic patients, two (2) days prior to positive specimen collection, until the time the patient is isolated.

When an individual's symptom, contact, or test status changes, the **quarantine** or **isolation** requirements should be reassessed.

Symptoms of COVID-19 Infection (does not include all possible symptoms): If a student, **or household member**, has any of the following symptoms, this indicates a possible illness that may put them at risk for spreading illness to others.

PRIMARY SYMPTOMS

- Temperature 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- Loss of taste or smell

SECONDARY SYMPTOMS

- Fatigue
- Runny nose or congestion
- Headache
- Muscle or body aches
- Mild cough

Quarantine: keeps someone who might have been exposed to COVID-19 away from others. Quarantine helps prevent spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick or if they are infected with the virus without feeling symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from their health care provider and local health department.

Isolation: separates people infected with COVID-19 from people who are not infected. People who are in isolation should stay home until it's safe for them to be around others. In the home, anyone sick or infected should separate themselves from others by staying in a specific "sick room" or area and using a separate bathroom (if available).

HEALTH SCREENING

At-Home Health Screening

A health screen is required of all students prior to arrival at the building every day.

- Parents are expected to take their child's temperature every morning. If it is 100.0° or higher, the child should not come to school.
- Additionally, students should not come to school if they answer "yes" to any of the following questions:
 - In the last 14 days, have you had close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19?
 - In the last 14 days, have you had close contact with someone who had symptoms of COVID-19?
 - Do you have any of the following symptoms that are not otherwise explained*?

PRIMARY SYMPTOMS

- Temperature 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- Loss of taste or smell

SECONDARY SYMPTOMS

- Fatigue
- Runny nose or congestion
- Headache
- Muscle or body aches
- Mild cough

*Note: For symptoms to be considered "otherwise explained," the student must have a note on file in the Saint Pius X Health Office listing pre-existing medical conditions (see below) **OR** provide one negative test result, resolution of symptoms, and confirm that the student has not had close contact with a confirmed COVID case.

In order to protect the health and safety of all, it is essential that parents are faithful to this screening and do not send a sick child to school. Parents should contact their student's health care provider and notify the school at 574-272-4935 for further direction.

Pre-Existing Medical Conditions

Saint Pius X recognizes that students have pre-existing conditions that exhibit symptoms that are similar to that of COVID-19 (i.e. seasonal allergies, asthma, etc.). A note from the student's primary care physician must be on file in the Health Office documenting ANY pre-existing condition(s). A documented record of a student's health history is important and will be helpful as Health Office personnel evaluate student symptoms and illness at school.

Medications for Pre-Existing Conditions

If a student requires medication for a pre-existing condition (i.e. allergies, asthma, etc.), it is critical that the student takes the medication in the morning, prior to arriving for school. This will help curb any symptoms that might develop during the school day if unmedicated.

Reporting a Positive or Pending Test for COVID-19

Parents are required to inform the school if their student, **or anyone in the household**, tests positive for COVID-19 **or is awaiting test results**. Parents may call the school office at 574-272-4935 or email at healthscreen@stpious.net. The Saint Joseph County Health Department may indicate any additional communication needs.

Confidentiality

Saint Pius X is committed to protecting the confidentiality of our students and staff members. We will not discuss information related to individual COVID-19 test results with anyone other than the school administration, the Health Office, the St. Joseph County Health Department, and the Catholic Schools Office.

GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING WHEN A STUDENT SHOULD QUARANTINE OR ISOLATE

The charts below will be used to assist school administration/health office staff determine if a student needs to be excluded from the facility for COVID-19 **quarantine** or **isolation**. The charts use three criteria in this determination: close contact, symptoms, and COVID-19 test status.

STEP 1 – CLOSE CONTACT: Determine if the student was a close contact to a COVID-19 positive case or symptomatic case and then selecting the appropriate chart.

STEP 2 – SYMPTOMS: Determine if the student is showing symptoms of COVID-19 (symptomatic) or not.

STEP 3 – TEST STATUS: Determine if the person was tested for COVID-19 and the result of the test*.
***Negative test results from a rapid test will not be accepted.** (The reliability of rapid tests has not been independently verified.)

Close Contact: An individual is considered a close contact if any of following is true:

- Was within 6 feet of a positive person for more than 15 minutes total in a day
- Had physical contact with the person
- Had direct contact with the respiratory secretions of the person (i.e., from coughing, sneezing, contact with dirty tissue, shared drinking glass, food, or other personal items)
- Lives with or stayed overnight for at least one night in a household with the person

These close contact criteria apply regardless of mask use, face shields, or physical barriers, such as Plexiglas or plastic barriers.

The exposure window starts two (2) days before illness onset, or, for asymptomatic patients, two (2) days prior to positive specimen collection, until the time the patient is isolated.

When an individual's symptom, contact, or test status changes, the **quarantine** or **isolation** requirements should be reassessed.

Symptoms of COVID-19 Infection: If a student has any of the following symptoms, this indicates a possible illness that may put them at risk for spreading illness to others.

PRIMARY SYMPTOMS

- Temperature 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- Loss of taste or smell

SECONDARY SYMPTOMS

- Fatigue
- Runny nose or congestion
- Headache
- Muscle or body aches
- Mild cough

CHART 1: STUDENT IS **NOT A KNOWN CLOSE CONTACT TO A CONFIRMED COVID CASE**

When an individual's symptom, contact, or test status changes, the **quarantine** or **isolation** requirements should be reassessed.

STUDENT	SYMPTOMATIC	NO SYMPTOMS
Not tested for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must remain home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms, before returning. Siblings who are SPX students should follow CHART 3 (as well as household members and other close contacts), unless diagnosed with another condition (see above). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student may attend school. Siblings who are SPX students may resume normal activity (as well as household members and other close contacts).
Tested (after symptom onset) and negative for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications AND with improvement of symptoms, unless advised otherwise by a healthcare provider. If diagnosed with another condition, the student must complete the exclusion period for the diagnosed disease. The parent must provide a copy of the test results (non-rapid) AND the daily symptom checklist from their quarantine period before the student returns to school. Siblings who are SPX students may resume normal activity (as well as household members and other close contacts). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student may attend school. Siblings who are SPX students may resume normal activity (as well as household members and other close contacts).
Tested and positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must isolate at home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement in symptoms, before returning. Siblings who are SPX students should follow CHART 2 (as well as household members and other close contacts). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must isolate at home for 10 days after the day the test was taken. Siblings who are SPX students should follow CHART 2 (as well as household members and other close contacts).

CHART 2: STUDENT IS A KNOWN CLOSE CONTACT TO A CONFIRMED COVID CASE

When an individual's symptom, contact, or test status changes, the **quarantine** or **isolation** requirements should be reassessed.

STUDENT	SYMPTOMATIC	NO SYMPTOMS
Not tested for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must quarantine for 14 days from the date of last contact before returning to school, even if the student has an alternate diagnosis for symptoms. If the confirmed case cannot properly isolate from the student, the student quarantine will be determined by the COVID Response Team (date of last contact may be the last day of isolation for the positive person). Since the individual is BOTH a known close contact AND is symptomatic, they must also remain home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms, before returning. Siblings who are SPX students should also follow CHART 2 (this chart) to determine quarantine length (as well as household members and other close contacts). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must quarantine for 14 days from the date of last contact before returning to school. If the confirmed case cannot properly isolate from the student, the student quarantine will be determined by the COVID Response Team (date of last contact may be the last day of isolation for the positive person). Siblings who are SPX students must monitor symptoms, but are not required to quarantine (if the household close contact becomes symptomatic, siblings must follow CHART 3 to determine quarantine).
Tested and negative for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must quarantine for 14 days from the date of last contact before returning to school, even if the student has an alternate diagnosis for symptoms. If still symptomatic after the 14 days, the student must be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms, before returning. If the student becomes symptomatic after testing negative, the student must remain home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms, before returning. Siblings who are SPX students should follow CHART 3 (as well as household members and other close contacts). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must quarantine for 14 days from the date of last contact before returning to school. If the confirmed case cannot properly isolate from the student, the student quarantine will be determined by the COVID Response Team (date of last contact may be the last day of isolation for the positive person). Siblings who are SPX students must monitor symptoms, but are not required to quarantine (if the household close contact becomes symptomatic, siblings must follow CHART 3 to determine quarantine).
Tested and positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must isolate at home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement in symptoms, before returning. Siblings who are SPX students should also follow CHART 2 (this chart) to determine quarantine length (as well as household members and other close contacts). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must isolate at home for 10 days after the day the test was taken. Siblings who are SPX students should also follow CHART 2 (this chart) to determine quarantine length (as well as household members and other close contacts).

CHART 3: STUDENT IS A KNOWN CLOSE CONTACT TO A SYMPTOMATIC INDIVIDUAL

When an individual's symptom, contact, or test status changes, the **quarantine** or **isolation** requirements should be reassessed.

STUDENT	SYMPTOMATIC	NO SYMPTOMS
Close contact not tested for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must also remain home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms, before returning. Siblings who are SPX students should also follow CHART 3 (this chart) to determine quarantine length (as well as household members and other close contacts). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must quarantine for 14 days from the date of last contact with the symptomatic individual before returning to school. If the symptomatic individual cannot properly isolate away from the student during the entire isolation period, the student must quarantine for 24 days from the date of symptom onset of the symptomatic individual. Siblings who are SPX students should also follow CHART 3 (this chart) to determine quarantine length (as well as household members and other close contacts).
Close contact tested (after symptom onset) and negative for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must follow symptomatic column in CHART 1. Siblings who are SPX students should also follow CHART 1 (as well as household members and other close contacts). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student may return to school. Parents must provide the school a copy of the negative test result (non-rapid) from the symptomatic individual. Siblings who are SPX students may resume normal activity (as well as household members and other close contacts).
Close contact tested and positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must isolate at home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement in symptoms, before returning. Siblings who are SPX students should also follow CHART 3 (this chart) to determine quarantine length (as well as household members and other close contacts). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student must follow CHART 2. Siblings who are SPX students should also follow CHART 2 (as well as household members and other close contacts).

RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER QUARANTINE OR ISOLATION

When a student is cleared to return to school based on the guidelines above, the following steps should be taken:

- The parent should contact the School Office to confirm date of return based on meeting the clearance guidelines above
- The student should report to the Health Office on the date of return and provide the completed symptom tracker and all pertinent documents for the student's health file
- The health office staff will perform a health screen prior to the student's reentry

ILLNESSES THAT OCCUR DURING SCHOOL HOURS

If a student develops any symptoms of COVID-19 while at school:

- They will be escorted to a COVID-19 isolation room and evaluated by health office personnel
- We will notify the emergency contact, send them home or recommend they be seen by a primary care physician
- All siblings of the symptomatic student will also be sent home, even if the siblings are not showing symptoms
- We will clean and sanitize the room and any other areas as needed
- They must follow the health protocols listed beginning on page 3 before returning to school.

REINFECTION AFTER A POSITIVE DIAGNOSIS

At this time, there is limited information about reinfections with the virus that causes COVID-19. This is a new virus, and the CDC is actively working to learn more. Therefore, if a student who has recovered from COVID-19 has new symptoms of COVID-19, the student may need an evaluation for reinfection, especially if the student has had close contact with someone infected with COVID-19. The student should isolate and contact a healthcare provider to be evaluated for other causes of their symptoms, and possibly retested.

Additionally, students who have returned from isolation must still adhere to all Saint Pius X health and safety guidelines.

VIRTUAL LEARNING DURING ISOLATION OR QUARANTINE

Virtual learning will not take place in the case of a student waiting on pending test results for themselves or a household member. During that time, the student will be considered excused absent and homework will be provided until test results are received.

Virtual learning will begin 24 hours after it has been determined that a student is required to **isolate** or **quarantine** due to a positive COVID-19 test or known close contact.

RISK OF EXPOSURE DUE TO TRAVEL & EVENTS/GATHERINGS

Travel and Risk of Exposure

Travel to certain geographic areas and/or by certain modes of transportation present an increased risk of exposure. Criteria include:

- Travel by airplane, train, or bus
- Extended travel by private vehicle requiring stops at travel plazas, rest areas, roadside rests, hotels, etc.

School families should be aware of the increased risk of exposure to COVID-19 by traveling away from the local community. Because travel increases the chances of getting infected and spreading COVID-19, staying home is the best way to protect the school community and others from getting sick. If travel is unavoidable, please review the following recommendations of the CDC: [Travel Recommendations](#)

Parents of students are asked to voluntarily report travel plans to the School Office.

Events/Gatherings and Risk of Exposure

It is safest to avoid crowded places and gatherings where it may be difficult to stay at least 6 feet away from others who are not from your household. If in a crowded space, try to keep 6 feet of space between yourself and others at all times, and wear a cloth face covering. Cloth face coverings are especially important in times when physical distancing is difficult.

COVID 19 Event Risk Assessment Planning Tool – The map found [HERE](#) shows the risk level of attending an event, given the event size and location. The risk level is the estimated chance (0-100%) that at least 1 COVID-19 positive individual will be present at an event in a county, given the size of the event.