



## ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan

### Health and Safety Plan Summary: Saint John Catholic School

**Initial Effective Date:** August 29, 2023

**Date of Last Revision:**

1. How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

*Saint John Catholic School is committed to the health and safety of our students, staff, and visitors. This plan is intended to provide a safe learning environment for all, while keeping our students in school for in-person learning. The strategies, policies, and procedures outlined below are subject to change at any time for reasons including, but not limited to: current Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Pennsylvania Department of Health (PaDOH), and Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) guidelines and recommendations, community transmission, and occurrence of school outbreaks.*

2. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?

#### ACADEMIC

*Saint John Catholic School is committed to ensuring continuity of services to address academic needs by offering in-person learning full-time for all students, with a plan for temporary remote learning should COVID case data necessitate.*

*Saint John Catholic School will utilize the STAR Reading and Math Assessments three times a year for screening to inform instructional decisions and assist with identifying students not performing at grade level.*

*Saint John Catholic School will continue to work with the Central Intermediate Unit 10 and our local public schools to provide remediation in math and reading, as well as Title I Reading services.*

#### SOCIAL EMOTIONAL

*Saint John Catholic School staff has spent time reviewing best practices for Social Emotional Learning and will continue to incorporate effective strategies in the classroom, as well as monitor students for needed additional support.*

*Saint John Catholic School will continue to work with the Central Intermediate Unit 10 to provide guidance counseling and social work services to students and families in need.*

#### HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

*The Diocese of Altoona Johnstown Human Resources department will work with any staff who have individual health-related needs.*

*Saint John School will request that diocesan staff and families report positive cases to the school to facilitate planning.*

*Students who are isolated or quarantined will have the opportunity to participate in classes remotely to the extent possible. The use of Schoology, Google Classroom, Zoom, and other programs may be utilized for maintaining participation in learning.*

*Saint John School will continue to consider all directives from the Diocesan Education Office, CDC, PDE, PA DOH, and others as they may become available.*

#### Sources of Information:

- [Centers for Disease Control](#)
- [The American Academy of Pediatrics](#)
- [Pennsylvania Department of Education](#)

3. Use the table below to explain how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

| ARP ESSER Requirement   | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures  |
|---|---|
| <p>a. Universal and correct wearing of <a href="#">masks</a>;</p> | <p>Saint John Catholic School, considering the guidance of the CDC and PaDOH, has developed a layered prevention plan for the wearing of masks and physical distancing. This plan is for all students, staff, and visitors to the school, regardless of vaccination status.</p> <p><b>INDOOR MASKING</b></p> <p>There are three options for masking indoors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optional for all</li> <li>• Highly recommended</li> <li>• Required</li> </ul> <p><u>Optional for All:</u> When Centre County is a Low or Medium Community Level according to the <a href="#">CDC</a>, masks will be optional.</p> <p><u>Highly Recommended:</u> When Centre County is a High Level according to the <a href="#">CDC</a>, masks will be highly recommended. It is highly recommended that individuals living with covid positive family members wear masks for the recommended period of time following a positive case or exposure.</p> <p><u>Required:</u> Special circumstances, such as large gatherings, local mandates, or multiple Covid-19 positive cases that appear to be connected as close contacts in time and space in the same classroom, could result in temporary mandatory masking on a case-by-case basis, and decided upon at the diocesan level. Individuals may also be required to wear masks for the recommended period of time following a positive case or exposure.</p> <p>Students and staff returning to school after a covid positive test will be required to wear masks for the recommended period of time following a positive case or exposure.</p> <p>Students will follow the rules of their public school district regarding masks when utilizing district transportation.</p> <p><b>OUTDOOR MASKING</b></p> <p>Masking will be optional outdoors at all community levels.</p> <p>Students exhibiting any cold-like or allergy symptoms will be sent home and may be required to present a negative Covid test result and/or report from physician.</p> |

| ARP ESSER Requirement   | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures   |
|---|--|
| <p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for <a href="#">physical distancing</a> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>         | <p>As with masking, Saint John School has developed a layered prevention plan for physical distancing when indoors following the <a href="#">CDC Community Levels</a>.</p> <p><u>No Physical Distance Requirement:</u> When Centre County is a Low or Medium Community Level according to the <a href="#">CDC</a>, there will not be a requirement for physical distance.</p> <p><u>3-6 Feet Physical Distance Requirement:</u> When Centre County is a High Community Level according to the <a href="#">CDC</a>, student desks, as well as seating in the cafeteria, will be required to be 3-6 feet apart.</p> <p><u>6 Feet + Physical Distance Requirement:</u> Any time that masks become mandatory, those same individuals, or groups of individuals, will be required to maintain a distance of 6 or more feet.</p> |
| <p>c. <a href="#">Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</a>;</p>  | <p>Students will be asked to wash/sanitize hands at sensible times, as always: at start and end of the school day, before and after lunch, when they have sneezed or used the restroom, and as needed. Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and high traffic areas. All staff and students will be taught and regularly retrained on when and how to properly wash hands, and how to appropriately cover mouths when sneezing/coughing.</p>  |
| <p>d. <a href="#">Cleaning</a> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <a href="#">ventilation</a>;</p> | <p>All areas of the school will continue to be cleaned on a nightly basis.</p> <p>Any outside entities using the building after school hours will be required to adhere to the protocols in this Health and Safety Plan.</p> <p>When weather permits, Saint John Catholic School will encourage opening windows to increase air circulation.</p> <p>Air Purifiers will continue to be utilized in classrooms and common areas, with filters being changed regularly.</p> <p>Water fountains will be open, but the use of personal water bottles will continue to be encouraged. Saint John School has multiple water bottle refill stations.</p>   |

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|   | <p>Adequate supplies will be provided to support healthy hygiene behavior:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water, soap, and hand sanitizer</li> <li>• Paper towels, tissue paper</li> <li>• Gloves (non-latex), masks</li> <li>• EPA cleaning supplies that minimize asthmatic reactions</li> <li>• Open-faced trash cans or no-touch trash cans</li> </ul>   |
| <p>e. <a href="#">Contact tracing</a> in combination with <a href="#">isolation</a> and <a href="#">quarantine</a>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p> | <p>Saint John Catholic School will follow Pennsylvania Department of Health and CDC guidance in the event of quarantine, with all contact going through the Diocesan Education Office.</p> <p>Individuals will be required to stay home and follow isolation or quarantine protocols if they have tested positive for Covid-19 or are a close contact, as per <a href="#">current CDC recommendation</a>.</p> <p>Per Diocesan guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- COVID positive students, faculty, and/or staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• will be required to isolate at home for five days from the time of testing.</li> <li>• On day six, if they have been symptom free for 24 hours, they can return to school with a mask from days 6 to 10.</li> <li>• If not symptom free they would continue isolation at home, then when returning to school spend the next five days masked.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Students, faculty, and/or staff living with COVID positive persons they are unable to isolate from should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor for symptoms for 10 days from exposure</li> <li>• Wear a mask around others indoors for 10 days from exposure</li> <li>• Test 5 days after exposure, or sooner if you have symptoms</li> <li>• If you test positive, follow isolation guidance</li> <li>• If negative, continue taking precautions through day 10</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>In the case of quarantine/isolation, students will receive work to complete at home via Schoology or Google Classroom, with daily face-to-face check-ins via Zoom and, when appropriate, opportunities to participate in live instruction via Zoom for particular lessons.</p> |

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|  | <p>If quarantine is needed for a group of students, the school will strive to accommodate that group through a combination of virtual and traditional learning methods.</p> <p>Students may not be virtual for any reason other than exposure to Covid-19 or illness due to Covid-19. Illness for any other reason, or vacations, does not qualify for virtual learning.</p> <p>Per Diocesan guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be no contact tracing required at the school, however, if there is a student who was in school when they were COVID positive the parents will be notified that their child was in class with someone who tested positive.</li> </ul>   |
| f. <a href="#">Diagnostic</a> and screening testing; | <p>Individuals will be asked to screen themselves for Covid-19 symptoms prior to attending school or school-related activities.</p> <p>Parents are asked to be vigilant in checking students for symptoms of illness and to keep students home when ill.</p> <p>Parents will be notified to pick up their child(ren) if symptoms appear.</p> <p>People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever or chills</li> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li> <li>• Fatigue</li> <li>• Muscle or body aches</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• New loss of taste or smell</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• Congestion or runny nose</li> <li>• Nausea or vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> </ul> <p>This list does not include all possible symptoms. Older adults and people who have severe underlying medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to</p> |

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|  | <p>be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness.</p> <p>Please keep your child home if they have any possible symptoms of Covid-19.</p> <p>Saint John School will maintain a list of Covid testing centers to share with parents and staff.</p> |
| g. Efforts to provide <a href="#">vaccinations to school communities</a> ;                                   | Vaccination, while encouraged, will not be required for anyone.  |
| h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and | <p>Alternative face covering options will be provided for special populations as needed and tolerated.</p> <p>Attendance Policy flexibility may be granted on an individual basis for those who are following the Stay-at-Home guidelines, are isolated, or quarantined.</p>         |
| i. Coordination with state and local health officials.   | Saint John Catholic School will collaborate and consult with the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Centers for Disease Control for ongoing Covid-19 guidance and support through the Diocesan Education Office.                        |