



# Health and Safety Plan

## Promoting Safety on Campus from Infection During an Epidemic or Pandemic

4<sup>th</sup> edition, January 2022

### Introduction

This Plan been developed with the guidance from Washington State Department of Health in collaboration with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) in their set of rules and guidance for student and staff health and safety laid out in their District Planning Guide '**Reopening Washington Schools 2020**' and updated in accordance with the August 11, 2021 **K-12 COVID\_19 Requirements for Summer 2021 and the 2021-2022 School Year (DOH 820-105)** and January 2022 updated CDC guidance on quarantine and isolation periods.

As in summer 2020, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the Washington State Superintendent's office have all issued statements for the 2021-22 school year strongly recommending maximizing in-classroom instruction. We believe in-classroom instruction with the fewest distractions to learning and socialization is essential to the education and development of the students of St. John of Kronstadt School

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to the administration, staff and students for promoting safety from infection while on SJKS campus during the COVID19 pandemic and other infections during a pandemic.

This policy will be continually reviewed and updated as guidance changes, which may come in short notice. We also ask that you monitor your families closely and to err on the side of caution and keep students at home if they or family members develop symptoms of COVID-19, influenza, or gastroenteritis.

## **Staff arrival**

- All staff will be familiar with the list of possible symptoms related to COVID-19 and will not enter the building if any symptoms are present. In fact, staff should not leave home in the morning if they develop symptoms and should contact the Principal as soon as possible.
- All staff will take and record their temperature on the sign-in sheet.
- If any responses to the Health Survey are YES and/or temperature is above 100.0° F, the staff member must notify the Principal immediately and go home.

## **Parent obligation:**

- It is imperative that parents understand their full responsibility and obligation to ensure the safety of their children as well as their classmates and school staff. With this in mind, we expect that if your child is showing symptoms of COVID-19 flu, or gastroenteritis, that you will keep your child(ren) home as to not jeopardize the health and safety of others. Additionally, if called to pick up your child, please make every effort to do so in the timeliest manner.
- If family members are sick with COVID-19 symptoms or if there is a diagnosed case in the household, children should be kept at home. See page 5.
- If there is any suspicion of fever or any symptoms of illness, take the child's temperature at home before using fever reducers. If oral, forehead, temporal, or rectal temperature is over 100° F or axillary (under the arm) is over 99° F please do not bring the child to school. If axillary temperature is over 98 degrees, and forehead or temporal temperature is over 99° F please confirm the measurement with an oral or rectal temperature and do not bring the child to school if the confirmatory temperature measurement method is over 100° F.
- If the child's forehead reading is over 100° F at drop off, the child will be required to go home for the day; and if other symptoms develop, be tested.

## **Student drop-off:**

- Please wait until your child(ren) has been temperature screened before leaving.
- Students' temperatures will be taken and recorded.
- Upon entering the building, each student will use hand sanitizer or wash their hands, if visibly dirty.

## **Reducing Transmission**

- According to the guidelines from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, social distancing of three feet is required in the classroom for teachers and students when sitting down.
  - Both the DOH and L&I recognize that some tasks and movements will require proximities closer than three feet, including passing in the hallway or a teacher moving around in the classroom.
  - Teachers will wear masks when staff or students are with them in the classroom, except when providing direct verbal instruction.
- Physical distancing will be maintained as much as possible. There will be times when physical distancing is not possible, but particularly during these times students will be required to wear masks or shields; other types of barriers may also be employed.
- All students and staff must wear cloth mask or face covering when social distancing cannot be maintained outside of established "family units" unless an exception has been granted based on health status, development, or disability.
  - A clean mask/face covering should be put on at the beginning of each day. Dirty masks should be disposed of or washed before they are used again.
  - Masks/face coverings should be plain or simple (no logos, words, etc.) and be in accordance with the general nature of the dress code policy.
- Desks will be situated to allow for social distancing. Students will be grouped in family units whenever possible, and the use of barriers may be employed between desks if necessary.
- Students and staff will wash hands or use hand sanitizer upon entering the building and when entering or exiting a classroom. Students and staff will also wash hands after using the restroom and before and after lunch.
- Students and staff will perform regular cleanings of desks and doorknobs with disinfectant throughout the day and a cleaning of all surfaces each evening or the following morning before student arrival.

- There will be no shared materials or supplies in the classroom besides paper. Teachers will develop protocols for distributing and collecting materials, student work, work sheets, etc.
- Gloves will be available for teachers.
- Students should bring a personal water bottle with a cap.
  - The water fountain will only be used to fill drinking bottles and will not be operated and used for direct consumption.
  - Students will develop a routine of checking and filling water bottles as needed before each class session.
- There are individuals who should not wear masks for health and safety reasons. Shields are an acceptable alternative in most cases. Allowances will be made and determined by the Principal on a case-by-case basis.

### **Bathrooms and Hallways:**

- Students should not congregate in hallways, bathrooms, or entryways.
- Students may be assigned bathrooms.

### **Lunch**

- Students will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before eating.
- Students will be grouped by family assignments.
- Groups of students will be separated by unoccupied tables.
- Masks are not required at lunch or at recess.
- A microwave will be available to students for use during lunch. An adult lunch supervisor will manage the operation of the unit (open door & push set the time). Students will handle their own lunch. The microwave and tables will be sanitized between uses.

### **Recess**

- Masks are not required at recess or at other times students are outside, but hand sanitization (or hand washing if visibly dirty) and masks or face covers are required before returning to class.

### **Parent Visits/Volunteers**

- Parents/volunteers will be referred to the symptom screening tool posted inside the entry way and will be denied entry if any answers are "yes" and/or if their temperature reads over 100° F.

- When a child returns to school midday, they must follow the building entry/screening protocols prior to entering.

**What to do if students or staff are diagnosed with, develop symptoms of, or have had close contact\* with someone with COVID-19:**

- Anyone developing symptoms of COVID-19 is encouraged to get tested.
- Symptoms of COVID-19 are variable, but common symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, nasal congestion and runny nose, and new loss of taste or smell.
- If a student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19 or has had close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, the school Principal should be notified as soon as possible.
- Guidance on return to school/work after isolation, due to COVID-19 diagnosis (or symptoms and pending testing result) and after quarantine due to COVID-19 close contact, are described below:

*\*Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone diagnosed with COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes.*

**When can a student or staff member return to school after recovering from COVID-19?**

- A staff member or student who had symptoms of suspected or confirmed COVID19 can return to school after a full 5-day day isolation period with day 0 as the first day when symptoms present and day 1 as the first full day after your symptoms developed
  - o Isolation can be considered complete after five full days only if you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved.
  - o Rapid antigen COVID tests are fairly sensitive to viral load, which is a determinant in transmissibility in infection, and can also be utilized to determine if return to school/work is appropriate after the 5<sup>th</sup> full day of isolation. Contact Principal to confirm on a case-by-case basis.
  - o Note: Loss of taste and smell and residual cough may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation.
- If fever or other symptoms have not improved after 5 days of isolation, you should wait to end your isolation until you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved.

- Contact your healthcare provider if you have questions.
- You may also contact the Principal to talk through the situation.
- When the criteria above have been met for “returning to school” following COVID-19 recovery (after isolation), the student or staff member does not need to continue to quarantine if there is a re-exposure from the same series of cases (i.e., a family member has recently contracted COVID-19 but the originally infected person has fully recovered).

### **Must the school close when there is a confirmed case of COVID-19?**

- Not necessarily. The response will depend on the number of cases, the extent of the exposure, and whether the virus appears to be spreading within the school. The Yakima Health District will be promptly notified of a COVID-19 outbreak. An outbreak has occurred when: 2 or more cases among students or staff, cases have a symptom onset within 14 days, are epidemiologically linked, and the cases did not come from a common household.

### **For how long must a “close contact” of a person diagnosed with COVID-19 quarantine?**

- Following a shared decision-making model, the school may choose to follow a “test-to-stay” and heighten symptom management approach for lower-risk exposures.
  - In other words, not all exposures necessarily require quarantine.
  - Example of lower risk: children that occupied the same, not crowded/well-ventilated, room for short periods of time on a single day but did not have prolonged close contact.
    - Previous COVID infection also confers some degree of protection, especially if it was relatively more recent (last 3-6 months).
    - At home close contact is usually the highest risk
  - The low-risk exposure student should perform rapid testing every 2-3 days during the “test-to-stay” period.
  - The school plans to keep OTC COVID-19 testing kits on hand, and parents may request use of one of the schools OTC test kits, or may acquire their own OTC COVID test kits, or find a location with rapid antigen testing.
    - Any COVID testing of children will occur only at the request of the parents/guardians.

- During “test-to-stay” a student must wear a mask, practice increased hand hygiene, maintain a 6-foot social (vs. 3-foot) distance, and clean their work area frequently.
- If the risk is not low or it is inappropriate to follow “test-to-stay” and heightened symptom management, **a quarantine (stay at home) is initiated for 5 days.**
- If exposure to a person with a COVID infection is on-going (i.e., in the home), the 5-day quarantine period is counted from the last close contact exposure to the actively sick COVID-19 contact.
- If you stay asymptomatic:
  - Perform constant symptom monitoring and continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
  - You may return to school/work after a 5-day quarantine period if you are completely asymptomatic on day 6.
- If you become symptomatic:
  - Do not return to school or work and get tested. If positive, contact the principal and your health care provider, and follow the isolation protocol above.

### **Remote Learning**

- If a student is home sick from school, arrangements will be made on a case-by-case basis for classroom work to be completed.

### **Training**

- Teachers and staff will receive training on:
  - The Health and Safety plan.
  - Social distancing expectations for prior to school, in class, at recess, during transitions, during lunch, at end of the day, etc.
  - Building and classroom disinfecting procedures.
  - Personal hygiene for teachers, staff and students.
  - Mask and face covering expectations.
  - Mandated L&I Training (PPT).
- Much of the first few weeks of school will be spent educating the students about these new expectations and guidelines including properly washing hands and using a paper towel to turn off the faucet and open the door before discarding.
- Teachers will also include in-class training for students to use and access the selected communication platforms in the event that school is temporarily closed and we enter into distance learning.