



Holy Spirit Catholic School's COVID-19 Protocols & Procedures

Updated: November 17, 2021

After about two and a half months into school, we now have some more data to make informed decisions as to what's best for our students and staff. For the past several weeks, our burden rate (case rate per 100,000) in Outagamie County has been in the [very high](#) category (similar to where we were in December 2020 or January 2021). See the latest Outagamie County Public Health school report [here](#). As I said in the last line of our initial reopening letter on August 4, 2021, "we will be flexible and make sure we are doing everything we can to provide a safe, God-centered learning environment for your children."

As of today, we have not had a positive case identified since October 4, 2021.

Below are updated COVID-19 protocols & procedures for Holy Spirit Catholic School:

Holy Spirit's Mission

The mission of Holy Spirit Catholic School is to serve God by providing a challenging academic education within the Catholic Tradition.

Holy Spirit's COVID Protocols & Procedures: Our Goals

1. To protect the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual health of students, families and staff.
2. To ensure our students feel safe, valued and loved.
3. To support our parents in providing a challenging academic education within the Catholic Tradition.
4. To maximize student participation with in-person education and extra-curricular activities.

Holy Spirit COVID-19 Dashboard

Holy Spirit will continue to update our COVID-19 Dashboard daily so parents can track the impact COVID has on our school community. <https://www.holyspiritknights.org/covid-19> Along with tracking this information, Mr. Zuleger continues to have weekly meetings with Outagamie County Public Health to track how COVID has impacted our local community, county, and state.

Masking

- On November 16, 2021, the Education Committee met and gave their guidance on the new COVID protocols.
- Effective January 3, 2022, masks will be optional for students in grades preschool 3 through grade 8.
- This decision is meant to align with vaccination availability for students ages 5+.
- Masks will be optional in before care, extended care, and after school care.
- On school buses, masks will continue to be required for all students and staff.
- If Holy Spirit has an outbreak or multiple COVID positive cases, masks may be required for 14 days, for a classroom(s) or school and then a review of cases and spread will be conducted. An outbreak of COVID-19 is defined as two or more positive cases in a single classroom.



Guidelines for Athletics

- Masks will be optional for guests/spectators.
- Holy Spirit student-athletes need to be wearing a mask while entering the gym, but athletes who are actively participating in warm-ups or games do not need to wear a mask.
- Coaches should be masked at all times.

COVID-19 Testing

Students and staff are strongly encouraged to test for COVID-19 when symptoms are present. Unvaccinated students are strongly encouraged to test for COVID-19 when they are deemed a close contact to a positive case. COVID-19 tests are most effective 5-7 days after the most recent contact with a positive case. Holy Spirit *may* require testing in the event of an outbreak of COVID-19 in a classroom. An outbreak of COVID-19 is defined as two or more positive cases in a single classroom. Unvaccinated students and staff refusing a test in the event of an outbreak will be required to quarantine for 10 days consistent with state and local health departments guidelines.

Holy Spirit will not accept any at-home testing kit results. This is guidance from Outagamie County Public Health.

Holy Spirit will continue to provide on-site COVID-19 testing for 1 hour every school day.

Please note: As of right now, if a family/household member has symptoms and is being tested for COVID, siblings will be allowed to come to school while we await test results.

Tests: Antigen vs. PCR

Holy Spirit is accepting rapid antigen tests and PCR tests. Some cases of negative antigen tests, may require a confirmatory longer PCR test.

Positive COVID-19 Cases

If a student tests positive for COVID, parents should contact the school immediately. If that student has siblings, siblings will need to be picked up and follow the [close contact](#) guidelines.

Please note: As of right now, if a family/household member has symptoms and is being tested for COVID, siblings will be allowed to come to school while we await test results.

Positive Cases, Close Contacts and Quarantine

During the 2021-22 school year, Holy Spirit will continue to follow CDC Guidelines for:

- [identifying close contacts](#)
- [quarantine for close contacts](#)
- [isolation for COVID positive cases](#)

CDC guidelines for close contacts for K-12 classrooms [are available here](#). When needed, Holy Spirit will contact the Outagamie County Public Health Department to assist with identifying close contacts and determining the appropriate next steps.

In accordance with CDC guidelines, local public health authorities make the final decisions about how long quarantine should last, based on local conditions and needs. We will continue to follow the recommendations of Outagamie County Public Health Department when determining the appropriate length of quarantine.



For information on quarantines see the [WI DHS document: How long should I quarantine?](#)

Holy Spirit is accepting the 14-day quarantine option, 10-day quarantine option, and 7-day quarantine with a negative test option. If an unvaccinated student-athlete is deemed a close contact, they will be excluded from athletics for 14 days.

Vaccinations

Vaccines are now available to anyone 5 years and older. We encourage all families to talk with their primary care provider about vaccinations. For vaccination locations, please visit www.vaccines.gov.

Children ages 5+ would need to receive their first dose by the following dates to be considered fully vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to Christmas or returning to school after Christmas break.

Christmas

November 19: Pfizer vaccine

Returning to school (Jan. 3) after Christmas break

November 28: Pfizer vaccine

*Vaccinated students and staff deemed a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case will **not** require quarantine, provided they remain symptom free.* Holy Spirit may ask for proof of vaccination in order to confirm excusal from quarantine.

Daily Monitoring – Parent help needed

Please screen at home for the following symptoms daily.

If your child has any one of the below symptoms, they should not come to school and need to be tested for COVID-19.

- Cough – [new or different](#) from what you usually have
- Shortness of breath trouble breathing
- New loss of sense of taste or smell

If your child has two or more of the below symptoms, they should not come to school and need to be tested for COVID-19.

- Sore throat
- Unusual fatigue
- Nausea (sick to the stomach or vomiting)
- Diarrhea
- Fever ($\geq 100.4^{\circ}$ F) or chills (would indicate fever) or used fever reducing medications
- Muscle or body aches
- Runny nose or nasal congestion
- Headache

Here is a link to our [Daily COVID-19 Health Screening Checklist for Children](#) for the 2021-22 school year.

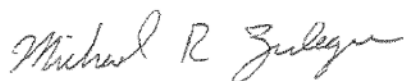
HOLY SPIRIT

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

COVID protocols vary on a case-by-case basis, but are based on the CDC & Wisconsin DHS guidelines.

If my child/I (staff)...	And is/am...	Then he/she/I should...
Tests positive for COVID-19	Vaccinated or Unvaccinated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isolate for 10 days from symptom onset or positive test result
Has COVID-19 symptoms	Vaccinated or Unvaccinated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay Home Be tested for COVID-19 Return to school with proof of negative test result Begin 10-day isolation with positive test result
Is a close contact to a positive case at school	Vaccinated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remain in school and monitor symptoms Consider being tested 5-7 days after exposure Consider wearing a mask indoors in public for 14 days after exposure or until a negative test result
Is a close contact to a positive case at school and is masked	Unvaccinated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remain in school and monitor symptoms Be tested 5-7 days after exposure Wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days after exposure or until a negative test result
Is a close contact to a positive case at school or community	Unvaccinated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarantine for 10 days after last close contact without testing, or Quarantine for 7 days after last close contact, with a negative test result collected on day 6 or 7 (provide a copy of the test result to the school), or Quarantine for 14 days after last close contact without testing Remain out for athletics for 14 days
Is a close contact to a positive case in their household	Vaccinated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remain in school and monitor symptoms Consider being tested 5-7 days after exposure Consider wearing a mask indoors in public for 14 days after exposure or until a negative test result
Is a close contact to a positive case in their household	Unvaccinated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarantine for 10 days after last close contact without testing, or Quarantine for 7 days after last close contact, with a negative test result collected on day 6 or 7 (provide a copy of the test result to the school), or Quarantine for 14 days after last Remain out for athletics for 14 days
Is a close contact and had COVID-19 in last 90 days	Vaccinated or Unvaccinated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remain in school and monitor symptoms

God bless,



Mike Zuleger, Principal

