

St. Mary's Return-to-School Plan

*All categories of the Return-to-School Plan are subject to change based on high number of school cases, high community transmission rates, or lack of staff.

Category	Important Notes
Face coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face coverings are recommended in school buildings, but are not required at this time. ● Face covering usage on transportation is required as per federal public transportation code. ● Face coverings may be required in instances such as: high number of school cases, high community transmission rates, or lack of staff. ● If masks are mandated, Individuals with underlying health conditions will have their face covering needs met on a case-by-case basis. ● If your child is fully vaccinated or have a positive case in the household, but your child remains symptom free, it is strongly recommended that your child wear a mask at school unless they have tested negative.
Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents and Guardians are being asked to drop off and pick up their children at the door 3. Play Island Preschool will use door 1. ● In certain instances, such as parent meetings and classroom presentations, visitors may be allowed into St. Mary's School for limited periods of time with prior approval. ● The St. Mary's School will continue to provide local updated case information as one data point for decision making. ● Visitors may not be allowed in instances such as: high number of school cases, high community transmission rates, or lack of staff. ● If you are sick, please stay in your car. We will be happy to send your child out to you when you arrive and call the office. ● Visitors are encouraged to wear a mask while on school grounds.
Illness Protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MDH defines symptoms of Covid-19 as a new onset cough OR shortness of breath (by themselves) OR at least two of the following: fever of 100.4 or higher, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of sense of smell or taste, and gastrointestinal symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting or nausea. ● If a person has a new symptom with no other diagnosis to explain it, they should stay home and call their health care provider. ● When a person is waiting for the result of their COVID-19 test, they should remain home. Homework will be available for the student the following day by 12:00 PM. ● Parents must call into school by 9:00 a.m. identifying the illness as to why their child is sick. ● If a child displays symptoms of illness, the child will be sent to the office and immediately, receive a mask if they aren't wearing one and parents will be contacted. ● If your child tests positive you will be out of school for 10 days. A negative test result allows them to return immediately.

<p style="text-align: center;">Strategies for Safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ventilation ● Hand washing ● Sneeze/Cough etiquette ● Cohorting (<i>if needed</i>) - keeping people together in a small group and keeping them together for the duration of the day, to limit the spread. ● Assigned seating will be used. ● Continued cleaning and sanitizing throughout the day with EPA-disinfectant for COVID-19. ● Plexiglass is available upon staff request. ● Spot quarantines and face covering implementation of student groups or classrooms when needed. ● Water fountains have been turned on. The use of personal water bottles is still highly recommended.
<p style="text-align: center;">Distance Learning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distance Learning via Zoom will only be incorporated if a student has been confirmed with a positive COVID test. ● Contact is to be made to the school office 320-365-3693 ext. 201. The administrative assistant will pass the message on to the staff deemed necessary. ● If a household contains one positive tested individual: If your child/ren are unvaccinated they are to remain home during this time. If they are fully vaccinated and it has been 10 days from the last vaccination, and are not showing any symptoms they may attend school. ● If they choose not to test, they are to remain home for 4 days beyond the positive individual(s) quarantined time. If they remain symptom free at the end of the 14 days, they are to return to school/work. During this time the students will not be “zooming” with the class. Their absence for the day will reflect as a sick day. ● “Zooming: will only be implemented to those students who have tested positive or to those who will need to be quarantined due to having someone in the household who has tested positive. ● Travel restrictions are contained to “Out-of-the-Country” travel at this time. If you are traveling outside of the USA you are to inform the school office with dates/location/etc... two weeks prior to your trip so that homework can be prepared and sent with your child prior to the trip. Returning to school will be handled on a case by case incident as advised by the CDC and/or MDH at the present time.
<p style="text-align: center;">Direct Student Support (Special Education and English Learners)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● St. Mary’s Schools will utilize the recommendations for Delivering Direct Student Support Services guidance from the Minnesota Department of Education and direction for our local district. ● This includes the <i>potential</i> for certain students to receive more in-school or in-person instruction in the event of a hybrid or distance learning model being implemented. ● Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) will be followed and evaluated to ensure appropriate access and equity. This includes the level of masking appropriate for those students.

<p>Quarantine- Contact Tracing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you are sick, please stay home. ● When waiting for test results or when a positive test is discovered - isolate from school. Contact tracing may become necessary in determining additional positive cases. ● Testing may result in shorter-term quarantine/isolation. ● 3 feet is the initial social distance threshold for contact tracing purposes. St. Mary's may move to 6 feet threshold if cases warrant. ● 10-day quarantine for those who have tested positive or if unvaccinated, have a household member who is positive. ● Fully vaccinated students without symptoms will not be required to quarantine if exposed.
<p>Extracurriculars/ Activities/ Events/School Masses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spectators will be allowed at all activities. ● The District reserves the right to limit capacity based on local and state agency recommendations. ● Face coverings are recommended but not required and are subject to change.
<p>Transportation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face Coverings are required while riding on school provided transportation per federal law. Families should provide face coverings for their own children. ● Bussing services will be provided by Superior Transportation. Questions regarding transportation should be directed to 320-523-1224. ● Bus stop locations have been determined by capacity loads which include licensed Day Care operations.
<p>Mental Health Supports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School-linked mental health: https://www.woodlandcenters.com/services/school-based-services/ ● Leslie Henslin, Student Resource <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ lhenslin@stmarysbi.com ● Verbal or physical harassment of vaccination status/face covering preference will not be tolerated.

****Pending additional information from MDE and MDH**

Revised 1/15/22