

St. John's Lutheran School

2021-2022 Pandemic Intervention Plan

SJLS School Board Approved 2-24-22

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. James 1:22

Overview:

- On behalf of the St. John's Lutheran Church and School, it is our intent to educate students in school in a safe environment conducive to learning. **The plan is a fluid document and changes may occur.**
- We want children to feel safe at school. Although there are restrictions, we want children to enjoy learning with their teachers and being with their friends. St. John's will always be a happy place to learn and grow.
- This guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies to protect all members of the St. John's community including students, teachers, staff, and other members of their households.
- Indiana Department of Health, Local LaPorte Health Department, and the CDC recommends **universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status, and layered prevention to remain safe for in-person learning**, maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms to reduce transmission risk.

Prevention Strategies: A combination of the following strategies are employed by St. John's.

- Masking recommendations
- Physical distancing
- Ventilation
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Staying home when sick and getting tested
- Screening testing to promptly identify cases, clusters, and outbreaks
- Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine
- Cleaning and disinfecting

Attendance and Home Check:

- Parents are required to monitor students for the following symptoms.
 - Fever or chills
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Cough
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - Muscle or body aches
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
 - Fatigue
- Students who are ill or experiencing these symptoms should be kept home. If you have any questions, please call the office.
- Individuals who suspect a COVID-19 infection should get tested, isolate to protect others (stay home when sick), rapidly notify their close contacts if they are positive, and seek healthcare if at higher risk.
- Local LaPorte Health Department, and the CDC isolation, quarantine and masking guidelines will be followed for students who test positive for COVID-19
- St. John's Lutheran School will continue to collaborate with IDOH and local health departments.

ADVISORY LEVEL PLANS:

- The Indiana Department of Health Advisory color levels will be followed

	RED	ORANGE/YELLOW	BLUE
	Risk of Covid-19 transmission is HIGH.*	Risk of Covid-19 transmission is MODERATE.*	Risk of Covid-19 transmission is LOW.*
Instructional Model	In-person instruction for all students, with home-based learning if necessary.	In-person instruction for all students, with home-based learning if necessary.	5 days of in-person instruction for all students.
Masks (Students and School Personnel)	Masks are strongly encouraged in public and transition spaces and when social distancing is not possible.	Masks are optional.	Masks are optional.
Social Distancing	Social distancing is enforced to the greatest extent possible	Social distancing is encouraged whenever possible.	No COVID Restrictions in place.
Classrooms	Student seats face in the same direction and are spaced at least 6 feet apart.	Student seats spaced at least 3 feet apart	No COVID restrictions in place..
Cafeteria	Students are spaced 3-6 feet apart, facing the same direction. Eagle Care will use the Music Room for lunch.	Students will be seated every other seat.	No COVID restrictions in place.
Visitors	Visitors will be limited to the office area unless approved for educational purposes. Masks are required.	Visitors will be limited to the office area unless approved for educational purposes. Masks may be required.	No COVID restrictions in place.
Large Group Settings	Large group meetings/assemblies will be limited to allow at least 3 feet of social distancing, facing the same direction.	Large group meetings/assemblies permitted. Students will be spaced apart if possible.	No COVID restrictions.

***Risk of transmission will be determined by Indiana State Department of Health's Advisory Levels, in collaboration with local health officials, and will take into account active school cases as well as close contact quarantine cases.**

Student Arrival and Bus Transportation:

- Bus transportation will be provided through LaPorte Community School Corporation.
- Bus Transportation guidelines are provided by LPCSC Transportation.
- Parents may walk students to Door 2 at morning arrival time. Parents will not escort students to the classrooms.
- Preschool, Pre-K, and morning Eagle Care will enter through Door 3. Students will be signed in at the door.

Face Masks:

- Acceptable Face Mask Dress Code: Solid color, patterned or may have St. John's logo. No masks with pictures or words are allowed.
- If students are required to wear (or refrain from wearing) a mask for medical reasons, medical documentation must be provided so that a plan may be written through the school yearly for teachers to enforce. This plan will be done through an ISP, 504, or Medical Plan.
- Masks are not required outdoors
 - CONSIDER masking outdoors if:
 - You are at risk for illness
 - You are in a crowded environment and unable to physically distance
 - You feel more comfortable wearing a mask

Water Bottles:

- Students must bring their own water bottles. Water fountains are only available to refill bottles.
- Refillable water bottles must be clear or translucent.
- Bottles must go home daily and be properly washed.
- Disposable water bottles must be disposed of at the end of each day.

Snacks:

- In addition to following the guidelines in the school's Wellness Policy, snacks and birthday treats should be prepackaged and preferably individually wrapped. The teacher will distribute treats.

Hallway Traffic:

- There will be socially distanced markings in the certain areas of the hallways and cafeteria.

School Visitors:

- To reduce the number of visitors in the school, we ask that you contact the school for an appointment.
- A dropbox is available by the parking lot outside Door 2.

Extra-Curricular Activities:

- After School Group Leaders
 - Be responsible to implement the Pandemic Intervention Plan.
 - Log attendance
- Spectators at extracurricular events may be required to wear a mask and practice social distancing in accordance with transmission risk levels above.

Athletics:

- See Athletic Guidelines

Student Dismissal:

- Normal Dismissal procedures. A staggered dismissal may be reimplemented if risk of transmission is high.

What if my child gets sick at school?

- Students exhibiting symptoms of Covid-19 will be moved to the Office.
- Parents will be contacted and will need to immediately pick up their child.

When a student is absent:

- Contact the school office to make arrangements for your child.

What if St. John's has a case of COVID-19?

- If a student or employee has tested positive for COVID-19, they should isolate/quarantine according to ISDOH/CDC guidelines and notify the school immediately.
- Once a student or employee is excluded from the school environment, they may return if they satisfy the recommendations of the [Indiana Department of Health](#)
- The Health Department will be contacted for further guidance.

As mentioned earlier, this is a fluid document. This plan will be re-evaluated at the end of each quarter and if there is new guidance from the Indiana Department of Health and Local LaPorte Health Department. Please ask questions, share concerns, etc.

Julie Berndt, Principal
julie.berndt@stjohns-laporte.com
219.362.6692

Bethany Fischer, Administrative Assistant
schooloffice@stjohns-laporte.com
219.362.6692