



COVID-19 Mask & Vaccination Plan

Updated 5/2022

We are a family, and the health and safety of our family members, staff, students and families alike are of utmost importance. We want to keep our community safe and sane as the uncertainties of this school year unfold. We aim to help your child be successful in academics and in forming their faith while engaging in a comfortable and safe social environment.

The foundational principle of Catholic education is the recognition that parents are the primary caregivers, catechists, and educators of their children. Our Lady of the Cross School recognizes that education is best when students and teachers are able to engage not only with the curriculum, but also with one another and their environment. We will continue to monitor our Covid-19 Plan considering laws, guidelines, mandates, and local conditions, while striving to provide a full-time, in-person educational experience.

We respect the unique right of parents to make their own informed decision regarding the use of face masks and vaccination. To that end, the board of directors and administration of Our Lady of the Cross issues the following guidance relating to masks, vaccination, and other Covid-19 related measures:

- Masks are optional for students, faculty, and staff. Decisions regarding masks are to be honored and respected.
- Covid-19 vaccines are not required. Our LC will not inquire into an individual's Covid-19 vaccination status.
- Individuals are expected to contact Mrs. Waters and follow quarantine guidelines if an exposure does occur. We will follow this protocol: If an individual is in close contact with a confirmed positive individual they should closely monitor for symptoms and follow quarantine guidelines for 5 days. Individuals may return sooner if they are without symptoms and have a negative test result (administered 3 days after exposure). If symptoms occur or a positive test result is received, then a 5 day quarantine from appearance of symptoms is required. A return to school may happen after 5 days if symptoms are resolving and the individual is without fever for at least 24 hours.
- Temperature checks will not be conducted except to screen potentially ill individuals and be used to advise individuals if they need to go or remain at home.
- Visitors will be permitted in the building. Masks will not be required. Proof of vaccination status will not be required.
- The school will engage in appropriate cleaning measures.
- Frequent opportunity for hand washing and sanitizing of hands will be given and encouraged.
- Students will be asked to bring their own water bottles; the water fountain will not be used except to fill bottles.
- Parents are asked to be vigilant in checking students for symptoms.
- Students, faculty and staff are required to stay home from school if they feel sick or are experiencing symptoms typically associated with Covid-19 or other transmissible viruses. Any student that arrives at school displaying symptoms will be evaluated and likely sent home.
- The Board and Administration will regularly monitor legal guidance and governmental mandates, as well as the latest data and medical information on community health to ensure compliance with the law.
- We recognize the importance of stability and consistency for students and their families. Any updates or material changes to Our Lady of the Cross School's Covid-19 measures will be communicated to parents and staff.