



COVID-19 Mitigation and Prevention Plan 2021-2022

Updated: February 10, 2022

Strategy	Guidance	Related Resources
FACE COVERINGS	<p>Iowa law prevents schools from requiring face coverings for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors. However, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Association of Pediatrics (AAP), and the Holy Family Medical Advisory Task Force recommend universal indoor masking in K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.</p> <p>Holy Family strongly encourages all families to consider this effective mitigation strategy to support the health of our students as we face rising COVID-19 case rates in our community.</p> <p>Parents should discuss with their child(ren) their family's decision and the importance of respecting the face-covering decisions of others. Holy Family will also reinforce this message with our students.</p> <p>Face coverings may be required at school masses held in a church building at the discretion of the pastor and following local parish practices.</p> <p><i>From Dubuque Community School District Transportation:</i> For students riding school buses, masks will be required on board in accordance with an official CDC Order requiring masks on all public transportation, including school buses.</p>	<p>Iowa House Amendment on Face Covering Policies</p> <p>CDC - Mask Use in Schools</p> <p>CDC - Face Masks on Public Transportation</p> <p>IDPH - COVID-19 School Update Fall 2021</p>
WHEN TO STAY HOME	<p>To reduce the spread of infection, students and staff are asked to be diligent about staying home when they have signs of any infectious illness and should consult their healthcare provider for testing and care.</p> <p>Students who are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 in school will be sent home. Students must have improved symptoms and be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school.</p>	<p>CDC - COVID-19 Symptoms</p>

	<p>Those who have been tested for COVID-19 must stay home while awaiting their test results.</p> <p>Everyone who tests positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home for five days. • If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after five days, you can leave your house. If you have a fever, continue to stay home until you are fever-free for 24-hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication). • Continue to wear a mask around others for five additional days or isolate for the full 10-day period. 	
TESTING	<p>Holy Family strongly recommends testing for students and staff members who have symptoms of COVID-19. Individuals may also choose to be tested by their primary healthcare provider or another local testing site.</p> <p>Those who have been tested for COVID-19 must stay home while awaiting their test results.</p>	<p>Dubuque County Testing Options</p>
ISOLATION	<p>Everyone who tests positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home for five days. • If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after five days, you can leave your house. If you have a fever, continue to stay home until you are fever-free for 24-hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication). • Continue to wear a mask around others for five additional days or isolate for the full 10-day period. <p>Those who have been tested for COVID-19 must stay home while awaiting their test results.</p>	<p>IDPH - Childhood Illnesses</p> <p>CDC - Quarantine and Isolation</p>
VIRTUAL LEARNING	<p>As of Jan. 31, 2022, teachers will no longer be asked to facilitate virtual access to the classroom. As with all childhood illnesses and needs, teachers will work with their students and families to accommodate absences as necessary.</p>	
CONTACT TRACING AND SELF-QUARANTINE	<p>In accordance with IDPH guidance, Holy Family will not require students to quarantine following an exposure, though will support a family's decision to do so.</p> <p>As Holy Family learns of positive COVID cases within the school community, the information will be posted on the system-wide COVID-19 dashboard by 3:30 p.m. each day. Parents will be notified via email or phone call if their child has been in close contact with a positive case at school.</p> <p>If a student or staff member has been exposed to COVID-19, they are advised to monitor closely for symptoms.</p>	<p>IDPH - COVID-19 School Update Fall 2021</p> <p>CDC - Quarantine and Isolation</p>
VACCINATIONS	<p>The CDC and Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) encourage all eligible Iowans to receive the COVID-19 vaccine as</p>	<p>IDPH - Vaccinate Iowa</p>

	<p>the most effective approach to preventing the spread of illness.</p> <p>All Iowans age 5 and older are now eligible for vaccinations. To find vaccine locations, visit Dubuque County's vaccine information site: dubuquecounty.org/sleevesup.</p> <p>Holy Family does not require staff or students to be vaccinated, though we join Archbishop Jackels and his brother Bishops of Iowa in strongly encouraging all those eligible to give the vaccine their full consideration.</p>	<p>CDC - Vaccination</p>
VOLUNTEERS & VISITORS	<p>As of Jan. 31, 2022, parents and grandparents will be invited to fully participate in school Mass with their loved ones. Click here for our school Mass schedules.</p> <p>Volunteers and local college students will be permitted to re-engage classroom partnerships.</p>	
HAND WASHING	<p>Handwashing is a proven prevention strategy and one of many important layers of protection for students.</p> <p>Holy Family will utilize reminders and scheduling to promote consistent hand washing throughout the school day. Hand sanitizer will continue to be available throughout the school building.</p>	<p>CDC- Hand Washing</p>
CLEANING AND DISINFECTING	<p>Cleaning and disinfection are important layers of prevention to keep our schools safe.</p> <p>Holy Family will continue cleaning and disinfection efforts throughout the school day including increased cleaning of restrooms, frequently touched surfaces and eating areas.</p>	<p>CDC - Cleaning and Disinfection</p>
WATER FOUNTAINS	<p>Water fountains and bottle fillers will be regularly cleaned, disinfected and available for student use. Students are still encouraged to bring their own water bottles to reduce the spread of illness.</p>	
MONITORING GUIDANCE	<p>The CDC suggests localities should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies.</p> <p>Holy Family Board of Education will continue to assess guidance from the Dubuque County Public Health, IDPH, CDC, the Department of Education and the Archdiocesan Office of Catholic Schools and our Holy Family Medical Advisory Task Force.</p> <p>Following IDPH guidance, Holy Family tracks all student illnesses (Influenza, COVID-19, Norovirus, etc) on a daily basis. If more than 10% of our students are absent due to illness, Holy Family will communicate this information with the school community and IDPH.</p>	<p>COVID-19 in Iowa</p> <p>Iowa COVID-19 Cases by County</p> <p>CDC - COVID-19 Data Tracker</p>