



## Saint Mary's Hall Plan for COVID-19 PCR Testing

9401 Starcrest Drive  
San Antonio, Texas 78217  
Ph: (210) 483-9100  
Fx: (210) 483-9299  
[www.smhall.org](http://www.smhall.org)

**The Goal of Testing:** Given the rising numbers of positive COVID-19 results in our community and in an effort to identify asymptomatic individuals that may be COVID-19 positive and unknowingly spreading the virus, Saint Mary's Hall is implementing a weekly COVID-19 Molecular Testing surveillance program in partnership with [Your Health Lab](#), a clinical laboratory service that is working with several other Texas independent and public schools as well as private businesses.

Regular PCR testing gives Saint Mary's Hall the ability to quickly identify and isolate positive individuals before they can transmit the virus to others. In turn, this will help to fast track contact tracing, treatment, and isolate positive individuals and quarantine their close contacts. Testing potentially reduces the number of absences for individuals and the need to quarantine those who are potentially exposed.

**Our faculty and staff and any student opting for in-person learning and/or athletic involvement are required to get the weekly PCR test.** While the testing is only a snapshot in time and cannot guarantee that we will not have a positive case on campus, this extra layer of mitigation can help reduce the spread of COVID-19 while we continue to follow all the safety precautions and mitigation strategies already in place.

### The Testing Process

1. On-campus testing will be offered Monday and Thursday of each week. Half of the faculty, staff, and students will test Monday and the other half will test on Thursday. Student - athletes and coaches who are actively competing with other schools will be tested both days for an added level of safety given the potentially higher risk of exposure associated with athletic competition. All testing results will be available within 24-48 hours.
2. Surveillance testing on campus through Your Health Lab is optional. Parents may choose to have student PCR testing completed at an independent testing facility. Results must be submitted no later than Sunday evening in order to return to school on Monday to SMH Nurse Baumholtz ([mbaumholtz@smhall.org](mailto:mbaumholtz@smhall.org)). If you have a Lower School student, please let the Lower School office know you have tested off campus so that your child is not sent for on campus testing.
3. We understand that some parents prefer to accompany their child for on-campus surveillance testing. However, for the safety of our students, faculty, and staff this option is not available. If a parent would like to accompany their child for testing, we recommend they use an independent testing facility.
4. Contact tracing will immediately begin if anyone tests positive for COVID-19. Close contacts (less than 6 ft. for cumulative 15 minutes within a 24-hour period) of persons with confirmed or probable COVID-19 should be tested and isolated for 10 days for those with confirmed COVID-19 or quarantined for 14 days from the date of last exposure to a person with COVID-19.



## Saint Mary's Hall Plan for COVID-19 PCR Testing

9401 Starcrest Drive  
San Antonio, Texas 78217  
Ph: (210) 483-9100  
Fx: (210) 483-9299  
www.smhall.org

5. It is not recommended to retest individuals who have tested positive and do not have symptoms for COVID-19 for up to 90 days from their last positive test. Parents/guardians and employees must request documentation from their health care provider to indicate the date and type of the student's/employee's most recent positive COVID-19 test and submit this documentation to the Nurse's Office. Persons who have recovered from COVID-19 in the past 90 days will be excluded from weekly testing.
6. Additionally, our nurses will notify staff, teachers, families, and/or emergency contacts or legal guardians immediately of any positive case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with legal requirements.
  - If results come back negative, the student/employee is asymptomatic and has not been in close contact with an individual who tested positive or is showing symptoms, they can return to school (referred to below as "history of exposure/close contact").
  - If the results come back negative, the student/employee is asymptomatic **but** has a history of exposure/close contact, then that student/employee must quarantine. **A negative test doesn't allow the individual to be removed from quarantine.** It may still take up to 14 days to test positive if there was an exposure.
  - If the results come back positive, the student/employee must follow quarantine protocols. The individual will be asked to follow up with their physician regarding their positive test results and stay home for 10 days of isolation as directed by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines.

All positive test results will be submitted to the San Antonio Metro Health. Your Health Lab will bill your medical insurance for each test taken. If you don't have medical insurance or your insurance doesn't cover the cost of the test, the test will be paid for through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.