



ANCILLAE ASSUMPTA ACADEMY

Health and Safety Plan 2021-2022

Ancillae-Assumpta Academy recognizes that the ideal teaching and learning environment is one in which students and teachers can interact with each other face-to-face. We also recognize the vital importance of creating a campus environment that addresses the health and safety concerns of our students, parents, faculty, and staff. Our Health and Safety Plan seeks to do both, providing a roadmap for our community to follow in the months ahead.

This Health and Safety Plan represents the thoughtful work of the Academy's Health and Safety Task Force, using guidance from the MCOPH and the CDC, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's PolicyLab.

The Academy has implemented this Health and Safety Plan to specifically address, respond to, and limit the spread of COVID -19 in our school community. There are no strategies that can completely eliminate transmission risk within a school population. The goal is to keep transmission as low as possible to safely continue school activities. This Health and Safety Plan will serve as the guidelines for all activities. Remaining mission-driven, community-centered, and data-informed will ensure the quality and high standards of our whole-child approach to instruction.

The plan details protocols for planning, cleaning, safety, hygiene, monitoring, and communication. The best prevention is through avoidance, therefore the five primary ways of promoting the health and safety of our school community are: vaccination, face masks/social distancing, good personal hygiene, regular cleaning of touched surfaces, and daily self-administered health screenings for all students and employees. The Health and Safety plan makes use of all available spaces on our ten-acre campus. This plan reflects our current knowledge; given the dynamic nature of the pandemic, this plan may change to adapt to changing conditions and recommendations.

A focus of our Health and Safety plan is a commitment to meet the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of our community. To that end, the Academy's Health Office, Resource Learning Center, and Guidance Office will partner together to support the diverse needs of our students, faculty, and staff during this year of changing pandemic conditions. Additionally, a dedicated period addressing social/emotional learning will assist students in maintaining wellness.

The success of the Academy’s plan for a healthy and safe environment requires all stakeholders to be prepared with the necessary knowledge and skills to implement the plan as intended.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>Universal and correct wearing of masks</p>	<p>Based on updated guidance from the CDC and MCOPH (Montgomery County Office of Public Health), masks (minimum 2-ply) will be worn indoors by all staff, students, and visitors. Students will change face masks throughout the day. Masks will not be required outdoors.</p>
<p>Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing</p>	<p>A minimum of 3’ of physical distancing will be established in all learning environments to the extent feasible.</p> <p>All student desks will be oriented to face the front of the classroom to the extent feasible. Plastic dividers/separators will be used as needed.</p> <p>Student Dining Room seating will maximize spacing to the extent feasible and will be staggered to avoid sitting directly across from one another. Alternate spaces within the school have been identified and will be used to provide more space for students to socially distance during lunch periods.</p> <p>Special considerations for spacing of musical performing ensembles, vocal/singing in classroom spaces, and instrumental/choral music instruction will be implemented.</p> <p>Students will practice safe physical distancing, to the extent feasible, when moving throughout the buildings.</p>
<p>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</p>	<p>Adequate supplies will be provided in each room for proper hand hygiene (soap, paper towels, hand sanitizer).</p> <p>Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol and other cleaning supplies will be provided for classroom use.</p> <p>Multiple opportunities will be planned throughout the day for handwashing and use of hand sanitizer.</p> <p>Hand sanitizer stations will be placed at all entrances and other locations throughout the campus.</p>

	<p>Students and staff will be encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing. ● Wash hands or use a hand sanitizer every time mouth or nose is touched.
<p>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation</p>	<p>Common areas and frequently touched surfaces will be sanitized throughout the day by maintenance staff.</p> <p>The restrooms will be disinfected by maintenance staff throughout the day.</p> <p>All desks/tables/chairs in the classrooms will be wiped down with disinfecting cleaner at the end of each day by teachers.</p> <p>All disinfectant is approved by the CDC for fighting COVID and meets EPA standards for child safety.</p> <p>The maintenance staff will treat all student spaces with an EPA registered broad-spectrum (Bactericidal, Virucidal, Tuberculocidal, and Fungicidal) disinfectant solution using an electrostatic sprayer weekly. Montessori Unit (Stepping Stones, Preschool, and Kindergarten) classrooms and all bathrooms will be treated daily.</p> <p>Water fountains will be closed; bottle refill stations will be used. Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle daily.</p> <p>Ventilation system filters will be replaced monthly with MERV 13 filters.</p> <p>Classroom windows and doors will be open when possible and conditions allow. Medical grade air purifiers are placed in classrooms that do not have immediate outside access. Filters will be replaced by maintenance staff every three months as indicated.</p>
<p>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments</p>	<p>Contact Tracing, Isolation, and Quarantine is required in accordance with Montgomery County Public Health Code, Chapter 3, Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases.</p> <p>Contact tracing will occur upon receipt of information related to a probable or confirmed positive case in alignment with MCOHP Health Code.</p>

	<p>The Health Office staff will all engage in contact tracing and family notifications.</p> <p>Probable or confirmed positive cases will be isolated as per MCOPH Health Code and CDC guidance. If a student, visitor, volunteer or staff member becomes ill at school, an appropriate staff member will contact the school Health Office by phone for assessment and guidance. Individuals with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be escorted to the Isolation Area to either await the arrival of a parent or caregiver or, if an adult, to leave campus.</p> <p>Generally, Ancillae will be following MCOPH guidance for COVID-19 School Isolation & Quarantine issued on August 16, 2021. However, Ancillae has replaced MCOPH’s COVID VACCINATION EXCEPTION with its own COVID vaccination exception policy. The Academy’s full COVID-19 School Isolation & Quarantine Policy is available on the Family Handbook & Policies webpage.</p> <p>While the Academy considers and relies on guidance from the MCOPH, CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education, all decisions regarding the health and safety of our students, staff and visitors are ultimately made by the Academy in consultation with its Health and Safety Task Force.</p>
<p>Diagnostic and screening testing</p>	<p>Ancillae will continue to work collaboratively with local authorities and our Health and Safety Task Force on potential options for diagnostic and screening testing. Should Ancillae engage in this testing, the community will be notified of such as soon as practicable.</p> <p>Daily screening (RUVNA) will be implemented as a layer of surveillance to identify students, teachers, and staff who may be ill or may have been exposed to COVID-19. Before any staff member is welcome into one of our buildings, they will have completed the daily health screening verifying that they have been COVID-19 symptom and exposure free. Before any student is welcomed into one of our buildings, that child’s parent will have screened them for symptoms and possible exposure to COVID-19, then</p>

	completed an on-line verification advising the school that the child is symptom and exposure free.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	The Academy will continue to provide information on vaccination sites and availability through multiple means of communication.
Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	<p>To the best of the Academy's ability and regardless of instructional model or transmission rate, students with disabilities will be provided accommodations as needed.</p> <p>The Academy will develop a remote learning plan for extended absence from school because of illness or exposure on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>The Academy will develop a working plan for faculty/staff on a case-by-case basis.</p>
Coordination with state and local health officials	<p>The Academy will continue to work closely with MCOPH.</p> <p>The Academy will continue to review guidance and make updates to best practices as needed.</p>