



**HEALTH AND SAFETY
PLAN 2021-22**

**Our Plan for the
Mitigation of Viruses
and Other Infectious
Diseases**

St. Francis will continue to implement the following health and safety guidelines to promote and maintain a safe and healthy start to in-person learning. As we evaluate institutional data, the school will make adjustments and implement changes and updates as needed.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

MASKS OPTIONAL INDOORS

As of now, masks are optional indoors for all students, faculty and staff, and campus visitors. All masks should be school appropriate.

Facilities and Healthy Practices

ENHANCED CLEANING PROCEDURES

St. Francis will continue to use hospital grade disinfectant to clean all flat surfaces and high touch areas, such as doorknobs and light switches, multiple times a day. Teachers and classrooms will be supplied with disinfectant wipes or a suitable disinfectant spray.

SIGNAGE

We will continue to display signage that encourages healthy practices such as hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, social distancing, etc.

INCREASED HAND HYGIENE

Hand sanitizer and hand washing stations are readily available in the classroom, common areas, and wherever food is served. We will provide time for students to wash or sanitize hands before and after eating and after activities such as PE or recess.

RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

We will continue teaching and encouraging students to practice respiratory etiquette, such as sneezing into their elbow, covering their coughs, and washing hands or using hand sanitizer after blowing their nose.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

All individuals are encouraged to practice physical distancing of at least 3 feet whenever possible and to the extent possible.

EVENTS

We will continue to monitor data leading up to our events and gatherings, and their corresponding protocols will be adjusted to maintain the health and safety of our community.

As always: please refrain from coming to campus if you are sick or experiencing symptoms of COVID.

Monitoring and Reporting Illness

SELF-MONITORING

Individuals should monitor how they and/or their children are feeling on a daily basis. Anyone who does not feel well, has a fever, or has any of the signs and symptoms associated with viruses or other infectious diseases should stay home and consult with their health care provider for testing and care.

AFTER-HOURS REPORTING

St. Francis has created an [*online reporting form*](#) that can be used to report a positive or suspected-positive COVID case within the household after the school day has ended, between the hours of **4:00 p.m. and 7:30 a.m.**

- To report a positive case within your family—or for your student—during school day hours, please continue to contact your campus nurse.
 - **Couper Campus Nurse:** Debbie Toler, 713.458.6167
 - **Piney Point Campus Nurse:** Fay Gant, 713.458.6128
- General COVID questions should also be directed to the nurse for your campus, or you can email HealthResponse@StFrancisHouston.org

The [*online form*](#) is the best way to get in touch with the school after hours, and it will ensure that we are able to communicate quickly with your child's teacher(s) and make arrangements for remote instruction.

MONITORING STUDENTS

Teachers will monitor their students for signs and symptoms of illness. If a student does not appear to feel well, the school nurse may do a clinical assessment. The nurse will contact the parent of a student who needs to go home and/or to a physician for further evaluation.

Health Protocols

ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

School policy prevents students with symptoms of a communicable illness (like COVID-19, flu, or measles) from attending school. The school and parents are in partnership to keep our community healthy, and together we can prevent outbreaks of contagious diseases.

Individuals exhibiting symptoms of viruses and/or infectious diseases will be referred to the nurse for a clinical assessment and for isolation. The nurse will contact the parent of a student who needs to go home and/or to a physician (or healthcare provider) for further evaluation.

**The following updates are from the CDC and the Harris County Public Health Department as of Dec. 30, 2021.*

INDIVIDUALS WITH A COVID-19 POSITIVE TEST RESULT

- Isolate at home for 5 calendar days (day 0 is your first day of symptoms or a positive test result)
- If symptoms continue through day 5, stay home.
- If asymptomatic or symptoms resolve by day 5 (fever-free for 24 hours without medication), return to campus on day 6
- Wear a well-fitted mask from days 6 through 10 at all times while on campus

RETURN TO PLAY AFTER POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST

With a reduced isolation period from 10 days to 5 days, there is an additional risk of myocarditis in the pediatric population after a COVID-19 infection.

- Students who wish to return to athletics/physical activities from days 6 - 10 must obtain and provide clearance from a medical provider before they can participate.
- Masking will be required from days 6-10 while in-play, even with a medical provider release.
- Medical clearance is not needed if a student returns to play after day 10.

Exposure to COVID-19

FULLY VACCINATED AND BOOSTED

**Completed full dose with booster AND vaccination records confirmed with the school*

- There is no need to quarantine
- Wear a mask for 10 calendar days (exposure date is day 0)
- Test on day 5 (PCR or rapid test preferred over home test)
- If symptoms develop, contact medical provider

VACCINATED WITHIN THE LAST 6 MONTHS AND NOT YET ELIGIBLE FOR THE BOOSTER

**Completed full dose AND vaccination records confirmed with the school*

- There is no need to quarantine
- Wear a mask for 10 calendar days (exposure date is day 0)
- Test on day 5 (PCR or rapid test preferred over home test)
- If symptoms develop, contact medical provider

VACCINATED MORE THAN 6 MONTHS AGO

**Vaccination records confirmed with the school*

- Quarantine for 5 calendar days (exposure date is day 0)
- Test on day 5
(PCR or rapid test preferred over home test)
- Return to campus on day 6
- Wear a well-fitted mask from days 6 through 10 at all times while on campus

TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 WITHIN 90 DAYS

** Test results on file with school*

- Stay home if experiencing symptoms
- Provide doctor clearance to return to campus

UNVACCINATED WITH KNOWN EXPOSURE

Students with a **known exposure** to COVID-19 (being coughed or sneezed on, sharing a drinking glass or utensils, kissing, or living with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19) should take the following steps:

- Quarantine for 5 calendar days
(known exposure date is day 0)
- Test on day 5
(PCR or rapid test preferred over home test)
- Return to campus on day 6
- Wear a well-fitted mask from days 6 through 10 at all times while on campus

UNVACCINATED WITH POSSIBLE EXPOSURE

Students with a possible exposure to COVID-19 (within 3-6 feet for more than 15 minutes with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, but have not had known exposure as described above) are advised to self-monitor for symptoms for 10 days (possible exposure date is day 0) and contact their medical provider as needed.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Staff, students, and parents can monitor active COVID-19 cases at their campus on the St. Francis COVID case dashboard located in the Parent Portal. In addition, St. Francis will email parents to report positive cases in the following manner:

Pre-Primary-Kindergarten: St. Francis will report positive cases by homeroom class.

Grades 1-5: St. Francis will report positive cases by

grade level.

Grades 6-8: St. Francis will report positive cases by grade level and extracurricular activities.

Grades 9-12: St. Francis will report positive cases to the entire division.

REMOTE LEARNING MODELS

If students are required to quarantine, the school will provide remote instruction as follows:

- **Primary School:** Remote learning will not be offered to Primary School students. Students can participate and stay connected through activities that teachers post on Seesaw.
- **Grades K- 6:** If students are required to quarantine, they will remote into classes via Zoom.
 - In Lower School, teachers will send a daily Seesaw post with the class schedule and links. Students will know exactly when classes or their small group instruction is occurring. They will not be required to attend PE, recess, or lunch. Seesaw will continue to be the mode of communication to students and parents.
 - In Middle School, students in grades 5 and 6 will also remote in via Zoom to their academic classes. Students will receive their instructions, schedules, assignments, and communication through Veracross teacher pages.
- **Grades 7-12:** We are planning for a vaccinated population. If students are required to quarantine, they will have access to class materials, resources, and videos via Veracross teacher pages. While they will not remote into classes, students will have access to materials and instructional videos needed to stay current in the class. Conferring with teachers will also be an integral component of this scenario. We feel that older students are more capable of self-managing and self-pacing instructional time. Students will meet with advisors when they return for an individualized re-entry plan.
- For extenuating circumstances, including extended quarantines, each division office will work with families to address.