



2023-24

ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOLS

Health Response Plan



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INTRODUCTION

The coronavirus pandemic that emerged in the spring of 2020 has profoundly impacted the world. At St. Andrew's Schools, we are grateful for our faculty, staff, students, and families, who have demonstrated extraordinary resilience in adapting and adjusting during this shared journey.

We continue to calibrate our school operations and teaching to the most current health conditions by monitoring the latest information from the Hawai'i State Department of Health (HDOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and by collecting and analyzing school data. Any updates or changes to campus operations will be emailed to our families and employees.

For Fall 2023, we will continue solely providing face-to-face instruction at our Queen Emma Preschool (QEP) and Queen Emma Square (QES) campuses. Rest assured that St. Andrew's Schools is well-positioned to pivot to online learning should that become necessary again.

The widespread availability of COVID-19 vaccines, high levels of vaccination and immunity, increased access to testing, and effective treatments have significantly reduced the risk of severe COVID-19 disease, hospitalization, and death. The strategies in our health response represent may also help prevent the spread of other infections, such as influenza, norovirus, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

Our most important practices to combat COVID-19 are staying home when sick or showing symptoms, staying up to date on vaccinations, and regular, thorough handwashing. We strongly encourage all eligible members of our school community to stay up to date with all available vaccinations to maintain a strong, healthy immune system to combat not only COVID-19 but also influenza, norovirus, and RSV, as well as other infections that may arise.

St. Andrew's Schools remains committed to providing our students with an exceptional education in the safest and most supportive way possible. Maintaining a healthy environment is paramount and will require vigilance and dedication from all members of our extended school 'ohana.

ABOUT OUR APPROACH

This Health Response Plan represents the thoughtful, ongoing work of our Risk Management Team. Our primary concern is the health and safety of our St. Andrew's School 'ohana. Our policies and procedures are based upon government mandates and the recommendations and guidelines set forth by the CDC, the DOH, and the Hawai'i Department of Human Services (DHS). We also incorporate what we have learned from our experiences since the beginning of the pandemic and the feedback we receive from our school community.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following principles guide our decision-making in crafting our health response. These principles speak to our Mission, Vision, Values, Aims, and Educational Philosophy (see Appendix 1).

Safety

Our highest priority is the health and well-being of our St. Andrew's Schools community. We believe that a healthy and safe environment is one where students, teachers, and staff can thrive. We also believe that we have an obligation and responsibility to support the health of the broader community – from our families to those around our state. We will always seek to align our measures with guidance from the Hawai'i State DOH, Hawai'i DHS, and the CDC.

On-Campus Instruction

St. Andrew's Schools recognizes that the optimal learning environment for children is one in which they learn from their teachers and fellow students in person. To the best of our ability and per official health guidelines, we will work to provide the safest on-campus instruction possible for all students every day.

Academic Coherence & Excellence

St. Andrew's Schools believes in the pursuit of academic excellence and is committed to helping students develop their intellectual capacities and habits of mind so they can thrive in life. We believe a continuous educational experience is vital to achieving this end. While health circumstances may necessitate certain changes or restrictions to student life, our ultimate goal is to support our students' learning and development as seamlessly as possible.

Flexibility & Adaptability

St. Andrew's Schools recognizes that any plan we design to respond to external health conditions must be flexible and able to adapt to circumstances beyond our control. Our overarching goal is to create a continuous learning structure durable enough to adapt to possible future major health concerns while still allowing us to maintain on-campus instruction.

THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF FAMILIES

Families play a vital role in maintaining safety at our school. Safe in-person learning will require continual collaboration between the school and our families. **Staying home if sick continues to be the most critical community safety measure for all students and employees, regardless of vaccination status.**

If a student must isolate due to COVID-19 or an illness lasting greater than five days, the student's teacher will develop a personalized academic plan for the period of the student's absence. This will include scheduled Zoom meetings between the teacher and student. As the Parent Student Handbook indicates, students encountering long absences will be given extra time to make up work.

The effectiveness of our efforts will also depend heavily on the members of our school community continuing to take precautions while not at school. We encourage families to implement situational COVID-19 precautions such as wearing face masks, avoiding large social gatherings, and limiting travel in areas of high COVID-19 community spread per the current guidelines from the government and health organizations.

COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

All members of our school 'ohana have a shared responsibility to prevent the spread of illness. Following are the expectations for our students, families, and St. Andrew's Schools employees.

Follow Federal, State, and Local Orders. Please adhere to the directives of applicable federal, state, and local government health departments, including the CDC, regarding social distancing in public and other measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 or other infectious diseases.

Stay Home if Sick. People with symptoms of infectious diseases, including COVID-19, influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and gastrointestinal infections, should **stay home and get tested** for COVID-19 (PCR, rapid, or home test). Each day parents/guardians should check their children for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19 or other infectious diseases before coming to school. If these signs are evident, the child must remain at home until the symptoms clear. If a child is absent for three or more consecutive school days due to a non-COVID-19 illness, he/she will need written clearance from a medical provider to return to school. COVID-19 illness must be reported to the Health Aide. **Staying home when sick is an important mitigation strategy** to keep COVID-19 and other common infectious diseases from spreading in schools.

Students who have experienced a non-COVID-19 illness can return to school after their symptoms have resolved and they have been fever-free without fever-reducing medication for at least 24 hours. Please review the [Parent Student Handbook](#) for your division on our website for more details. Parents/guardians of sick students should contact the Health Aide the day before the intended return to school to confirm their readiness. Distance learning is not available for students absent for short, non-COVID-19 illnesses; however, they will be given extra time to make up any missed schoolwork.

COVID-19 Testing and Notification. If your child or someone in your household tests positive for COVID-19, you must notify the Health Aide at (808) 532-2403 or healthaide@standrewsschools.org as soon as possible. Students and employees tested due to having symptoms must also remain home if awaiting COVID-19 test results. See page 7 ("Notifying the School of COVID-19 Events") for further details. All students and employees who test positive must isolate for five days, regardless of vaccination status.

Face Masks. Face masks are optional for students, faculty, and staff in indoor and outdoor settings on the downtown (The Priory & The Prep, After School Care) and Nu'uaniu (Queen Emma Preschool) campuses. Students who fall ill during the school day must wear a mask. All students must carry or store two well-fitting facemasks in their backpacks/school cubby. The school reserves the right to mandate mask use in response to community and campus conditions and/or for specific on-campus activities. Additionally, students who return to school after COVID-19 isolation must wear a well-fitted mask indoors through Day 10 of their recovery.

Temperature Checking. Queen Emma Preschool will continue administering temperature checks after lunch and before nap time.

Hand Hygiene. Handwashing is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of any infection. All students and employees will wash their hands frequently throughout the day. Hand sanitizer stations are readily available throughout campus. Please practice and reinforce hand washing at home.

Hand washing should occur:

- Before and after meals
- Before and after play
- After using the restroom
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing

Required Forms and Emergency Contacts. Parents/guardians must complete and submit the required Student Health Form to Magnus Health System before the first day of school. The Parent-Student Handbook lists the health requirements for each grade level. Parents/guardians must provide at least three (3) emergency contacts who can pick up your child within one (1) hour of receiving a call from the school if your child presents with a fever or becomes ill/injured during the school day.

Vaccination. We highly encourage all students and employees to remain up to date: vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19, and other infectious diseases, such as influenza, when eligible. Parents are encouraged to upload a copy of their child's COVID-19 vaccination card, including boosters, into Magnus Health. Knowing the vaccination status of our student population helps our Risk Management Team to make informed decisions about school activities.

Students' Personal Items. Please limit the personal items your child brings onto campus each day in accordance with the Parent Student Handbook and reinforce policies of not sharing food items with other students. Students K–12 must bring their own water bottles and snacks each day.

Visitors. Visitors must have a scheduled appointment and must visibly display their visitor badge at all times while on campus. A log of all visitors is maintained for security and contact tracing purposes. Scheduled visitors to the K-12 campus must check in at Transfiguration Hall to receive their visitor badge. Visits to Queen Emma Preschool must be coordinated through the Director at (808) 595-4686 or sokoga@standrewsschools.org.

Receiving Room (K-12 Campus). Parents/guardians may drop off forgotten items (e.g., water bottles, lunch, etc.) in Transfiguration Hall, Room 101, without the need to enter the campus or receive a visitor badge. You may park briefly (less than 5 mins) in front of Transfiguration Hall and use the walk-in gate directly in front of Transfiguration Hall. Please follow posted directions for leaving items. Upper School students may pick up items from the Receiving Room themselves. Items for K-6 students will be delivered to the classroom by a staff member.

STAYING HEALTHY & PREVENTING INFECTION

The best way to prevent illness from COVID-19 and other infections is to educate yourself and to practice the Mitigation Strategies:

- Stay up to date on vaccinations
- Stay home when sick
- Wear a mask when appropriate
- Practice good hand hygiene

RESOURCES

[How to Get the COVID-19 Vaccine in Hawai'i](#)
[COVID-19 Self Checker: Do I need a COVID-19 test?](#)

[Information about COVID-19 – City & County of Honolulu](#)

[Information about COVID-19 – State of Hawai'i Department of Health](#)

[Information about COVID-19 – Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#)

NOTIFYING THE SCHOOL OF COVID-19 EVENTS

Randi Yamauchi, Health Aide
healthaide@standrewsschools.org
 (808) 532-2403

Please notify the Health Aide by email or phone call as soon as possible for any of the following COVID-19 events in your household:

- Student/employee or a household member has been diagnosed with COVID-19
- Student/employee or household member has been identified as a close contact (as defined by the Hawai'i State Department of Health) of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19

Please do not report in person at the risk of infecting others. The information provided will help the school respond appropriately, i.e., notify others if they have been exposed, initiate facility cleaning if needed, and monitor the community's health.

We encourage only the affected person or a family member to notify the school. If you become aware of a COVID-19 event affecting a St. Andrew’s Schools community member outside your family, please encourage them to notify the Health Aide. In the interest of privacy, the school will not publicly share information identifying the affected person or household. St. Andrew’s Schools will, however, collaborate with the Department of Health in promoting contact tracing and advising other students or families who may need to self-quarantine as part of that process.

As a result of a COVID-19 event in the household, a student/employee may be required to isolate or wear a mask indoors, as follows:

ISOLATION (COVID-19 positive) *Regardless of vaccination status.			
Faculty/Staff	After School Care Employees	K-12 Students	QEP Students
5 days	5 days	5 days	5 days

Isolation (COVID-positive)

- Individuals (students, faculty, and staff) who test positive for COVID-19 must stay home and ISOLATE for at least five full days, regardless of vaccination status.
- Day 1 is the first full day after your symptoms started or your positive test specimen was collected for people who do not have symptoms.
- You may return to school on Day 6 if you are 24 hours with no fever (and no fever-reducing medications) and your symptoms improve.
 - If you are not improving, you must remain in isolation until the above are true.
- A mask must be worn Indoors when around others from day 6 through day 10 after completing isolation.
- Students and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 may return to school after a Negative test if they have been 24 hours with no fever (and no fever-reducing medication) and symptoms are improving. If you have a fever or are sick and your negative test was from a home test, continue to isolate and test again after 24-48 hours.

Exposure (close contact)

- Quarantine of exposures is no longer recommended, regardless of vaccination status.
- Parents/Guardians/Employees will be notified via email of an in-school exposure.
- Individuals exposed to someone with COVID-19 should immediately take precautions.
 - Wear a well-fitting, high-quality mask indoors for 10 full days
 - Day 1 is the first full day after exposure to the person with COVID-19
 - Watch for symptoms through Day 10
 - If symptoms start, isolate immediately.
 - Test and stay home until you know the result.
 - If positive, follow the isolation protocol.
 - Test on Day 6 even if there are no symptoms.
 - If positive, follow isolation protocol.
 - If negative, continue wearing your mask indoors through Day 10.
 - COVID-19 can develop up to 10 days after exposure.
- Active clusters within a cohort may require a return to targeted case investigation, close contact identification, and quarantine.

QUARANTINE (QEP)	
Faculty/Staff	QEP Students
<p><i>Have the option of:</i></p> <p>5 days quarantine at home OR Remain in school but <u>must</u> wear a mask in school through Day 10</p>	<p><i>Have the option of:</i></p> <p>5 days quarantine at home OR Students who are able to wear a mask consistently and correctly may remain in school but <u>must</u> wear a mask in school through Day 10</p>

Quarantine (close contact) – QEP only

- Queen Emma Preschool students and employees identified as close contacts may choose to quarantine at home for 5 days or, if able to wear a mask correctly and consistently may remain in school but must wear a mask in school through Day 10.
- Students and employees are strongly encouraged to get tested on Day 5, regardless of symptoms.

For more information about isolation and quarantine at Queen Emma Preschool, please visit the updated [DHS Guidelines](#).

EDUCATIONAL ACCOMMODATIONS

In all situations that require a student to undergo COVID-related isolation, accommodations will be made by St. Andrew's Schools to support instruction at home.

ATHLETICS

St. Andrew's Schools recognizes the important role athletics plays in the educational experience of our students. Our sports programs follow Hawai'i High School Athletic Association (HHSAA), Interscholastic League of Honolulu (ILH), city and state COVID-19 guidelines for interscholastic competition, and align with the school's health policies.

We highly encourage all prospective student-athletes to be up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations.. Athletic Director Missy Kilbey will keep students and families apprised of the status of our athletic programs and athlete requirements throughout the year as information becomes available. There is currently no testing mandate from the ILH for athletes, and St. Andrew's will not be performing screening testing for athletes.

Masks are optional for athletes for all indoor and outdoor sports. If an athlete who plays an indoor sport tests positive for COVID-19, masks are required indoors for days 6 through 10 after returning to the sport from the 5-day isolation period, regardless of vaccination status. Masks must also be worn for indoor sports for days 6 through 10 for anyone taking precautions due to exposure to someone who tested positive for COVID-19. Indoor mask wear includes facilities such as the locker room. For outdoor sports, athletes have the option of mask-wearing for days 6 through 10 after returning to the sport from the 5-day isolation period.

ACCOMMODATIONS, SUPPORT & RESOURCES

Queen Emma Preschool Director
Susan Okoga
sokoga@standrewsschools.org

Wellness Director (Grades K-12)
Mara Pavich Garcia
mgarcia@standrewsschools.org

Lower School Principal, The Priory & The Prep
Ka'ipo Bailey-Walsh
kbailey-walsh@standrewsschools.org

Athletic Director
Missy Kilbey
mkilbey@standrewsschools.org

Upper School Principal, The Priory
Nichole Field
nfield@standrewsschools.org

Health Aide
Randi Yamauchi
healthaide@standrewsschools.org

Director of Extended Learning (Grades K-12)
Alethia Donathan
adonathan@standrewsschools.org

Attendance Office
attendance@standrewsschools.org

If you have any questions or concerns about school policy, please contact your child's Principal or Director. For questions, suggestions, or concerns regarding our COVID-19 procedures, please contact our [Health Aide](#).

The following websites provide important information about COVID-19, health alerts and updates, symptoms and testing, and guidelines for staying healthy:

- [Information about COVID-19 – City & County of Honolulu](#)
- [Information about COVID-19 - State of Hawai'i Department of Health](#)
- [Information about COVID-19 – Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#)
- [Information about COVID-19 – World Health Organization](#)