



St. Martin of Tours
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

An Independence Mission School

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

2020-2021

The risk from COVID-19 cannot be eliminated while community spread exists. However, there is a strong body of science that points to a set of strategies to most effectively mitigate this risk while allowing for the benefits of wellness, academic growth, social-emotional growth, and physical safety that come with in-person schooling. Each of the strategies listed below is addressed in this plan so that we are able to operate our school in a safe and controlled manner:

- *Cohorts of students in the hybrid model*
- *Spacing/distancing*
- *Cleaning and disinfecting*
- *Physical barriers and masking*
- *Hygiene*
- *Ventilation*
- *Isolation/quarantining and tracing*

Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting

Ensuring that surfaces throughout the building are frequently cleaned and disinfected is a top priority. In order to reduce surfaces and create as much space as possible, classrooms have been emptied except for desks and essential learning materials. All porous, hard to clean surfaces (such as rugs) have been removed from classrooms.

A full-scale disinfecting process will occur weekly. In addition, high touch surfaces, including desks, light switches, doorknobs, and desk barriers, will be cleaned and disinfected several times each day. Cohorts will be assigned to specific bathrooms to limit access, and bathrooms will be cleaned between cohorts. Custodial staff have been trained on how to properly disinfect and have been given a checklist of areas that need to be sanitized multiple times a day. All disinfectants used are EPA-approved to prevent the spread of COVID-19. School leaders will ensure that cleaning happens with the proper frequency. Classrooms also have air purifiers running throughout the day.

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols in the Classroom

Each classroom will be home to two cohorts of students--Monday and Tuesday will be the Maroon Group, and Wednesday and Thursday will be the Gray Group. Students will be spaced 6 ft apart in all classrooms with desks facing in the same direction. Students will also have a three-sided desk barrier surrounding them.

Students will remain in their classroom throughout the day, except for recess or PE. In Pre-K-5 grade levels students will spend nearly all of the day with one homeroom teacher. In 6-8 grade levels, these students will see departmentalized teachers, but those teachers will not work with students outside of those grade bands, and these students will remain in one classroom as the teachers rotate to them. Specials teachers will report to the classroom to lead instruction. Students receiving support from Catapult and Elwyn will receive that extra help in-person but will not mix with any students outside of their cohort.

Classroom windows and doors will remain open as often as possible to increase ventilation throughout the classroom and school. Mounted hand sanitizing stations have been installed throughout the school, including in each classroom.

Teachers will lead instruction from a channel in the front of the room that is six feet from any student desk. Teachers will wear a mask at all times. While they will be able to move around the room to support students in person, they will limit their time working closely near a student to under a minute.

Hallway floors have been labeled with social distancing decals. Hallways are also marked so that students can only walk in one direction on either side. Additionally, stairwells are identified as being one direction only during the school day.

Safety Practices during Meals and Recess

Students will attend recess outside with only their cohort. They will be reminded of social distancing and will be expected to wear masks during recess. Students will sanitize their hands before leaving the classroom and upon returning to their classroom.

Students will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms. Students will disinfect their hands and desks before eating. Students will not remove masks to eat until all students are seated behind their desk barrier. Students will refrain from speaking loudly or turning around in their seats in order to minimize any risk while they have their masks off. Students will not begin to clean up meals until all students have put their masks back on.

The school will continue to provide breakfast and lunch to all students who chose to eat school meals. Students can bring lunch if they would prefer. As no visitors are permitted to enter the school, families will not be able to enter the school to drop off lunches.

Masking and Hygiene

All students in all grades will wear masks from the time they arrive at school (or board a bus, if they are bus riders) until the time they leave the premises or get off the bus. Teachers will give mask breaks during the school day when all students are seated behind their desk barrier. Students are expected to bring their own masks to school and families are responsible for cleaning masks each night. The school will provide one mask to students.

Students and staff will wash or sanitize their hands at least 4 times each school day. All students and staff will be trained on social distancing, masking, and hand hygiene to support a safe and healthy school environment. School supplies will not be shared, so students will need to have supplies available in their desks with their names on their items.

Monitoring Student Health

Each morning before coming to school, families should screen their child for any symptoms of COVID-19 and will complete a form emailed to them about potential exposure and symptoms. Families will be notified if this form is not completed. **If a child has a COVID-like illness as**

described in the graphic below, that child should not report to school. Please contact the school to inform us that your child is displaying symptoms.

COVID-Like Illness

A COVID-like illness is defined as:		
At least ONE of these symptoms		At least TWO of these symptoms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New or persistent cough • Shortness of breath • New loss of sense of smell • New loss of sense of taste 	OR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Chills • Muscle pain • Headache • Sore throat • Nausea/vomiting • Diarrhea • Fatigue • Congestion/runny nose

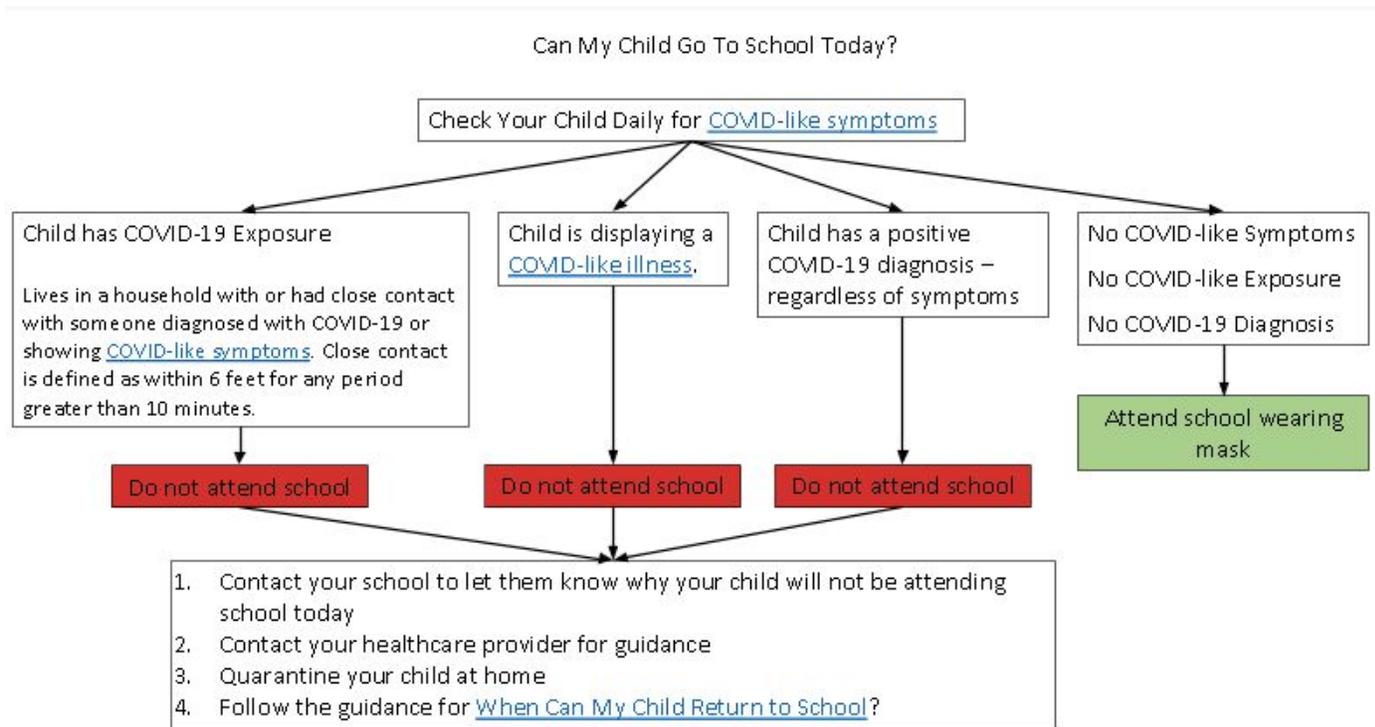
All students will undergo a screening by a staff member including a temperature check before they are admitted to the school building in the morning. Should a child have a fever or any of the observable symptoms above, that child will be taken to the isolation room, and an adult will be called to bring the child home.

When a student becomes ill at school, they will immediately be sent home and will wait in a designated isolation space until they are able to leave/be picked up. They may return to school if they have gotten a COVID-19 test and can show a negative result and they meet other criteria for return after an illness (symptom questionnaire) OR a clinician has evaluated the child and documented an alternative diagnosis and confirmed that the student may return to school OR if a COVID-19 test was not done but the following are true: at least 10 days have passed since the onset of symptoms, the person is fever free without fever-reducing medication for 72 hours, and symptoms are improving.

If a **student has had a close contact with a person confirmed positive for COVID-19** (i.e. a student's family member with whom they live tests positive), the **student should not be sent to school. Please inform the school about your child's exposure.** That student's cohort and any close contacts at school will be kept at home until that student tests negative or two days have passed with no other students in the cohort showing symptoms, whichever happens sooner. If a student is sent home from school because they meet the criteria for likely COVID-19 based on the symptom screener checklist, the cohort and any close contacts at school will be kept at home until that student tests negative or two days have passed with no other students in the cohort

showing symptoms, whichever happens sooner. If a student has symptoms that do NOT meet the criteria of the symptom screener checklist, no action will be taken in the absence of a positive test, even if that student's parent/guardian chooses to keep that student home due to illness.

Families can also consult this decision tree to determine when it is safe to send their child to school:



If a staff member or student tests positive, the school will contact the Philadelphia Department of Public Health for further guidance. Students in the same cohort, the teacher for that cohort, and others who are determined to have had close contact with that student or staff member (15 minutes or more within a 24 hour period within 6 feet – with help from PDPH in determining close contacts), will remain quarantined at home for 14 days before returning to school. Students who were in the same cohort or otherwise close contacts of a student with a confirmed positive case must have a negative test within 72 hours of returning to school and complete the 14 day quarantine period and be fever free without fever-reducing medication for 72 hours. Students who choose not to return can opt for full remote instruction. The school will work with the network and local health authorities to determine communication plans for families in the case of a confirmed case, in order to rapidly notify families while maintaining confidentiality.

Families can determine when it is safe for their sick child to return to school by consulting this chart:

When Can My Child Return to School?

COVID-19 Diagnosis	COVID-Like Symptoms	COVID-19 or COVID-Like Exposure
Your child tested positive for COVID-19, including cases where there were no evident symptoms	Your child experienced COVID-Like symptoms	Your child lives in a household with or had close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 or showing COVID-like symptoms . Close contact is defined as within 6 feet for 15 or more minutes over a 24-hour period
It has been at least 10 days since onset of symptoms AND Student meets IMS' normal criteria for return after an illness (which includes fever free, vomiting and diarrhea free for more than 24 hours without medication) AND Symptoms are improving	Initial COVID-19 testing is negative and individual meets the school's normal criteria for return after an illness (fever free, vomiting and diarrhea free for more than 24 hours without medication) OR A clinician has evaluated the child and documented an alternative diagnosis and confirmed that the student may return to school. OR COVID-19 testing was not done and all of the following are true: 1. At least 14 days since the onset of symptoms AND 2. Fever-free off anti-fever medicine for 72 hours AND 3. Symptoms are improving.	14 days have passed since last close contact with COVID-19 positive person May return to school if COVID-19 diagnosis is ruled out in the person child was exposed to