

January 12, 2022

Following the recent CDC update, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Baton Rouge are implementing the following policies regarding COVID protocols to maintain safety and keep schools open in service to families.

Updates - Isolation & Quarantine (January 9, 2022)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

General Note: When testing is required, parents must submit test results to the school before returning. If tests are not available, parents must contact the principal in advance and receive permission before returning to school.

Diocese of Baton Rouge Catholic Schools Updated January 12, 2022	
Situation	Protocols
Symptomatic for COVID-19: DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL	
Test Positive for COVID-19 OR Have COVID-19 Symptoms <u>Isolate</u> Regardless of Vaccination Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay home in isolation for 5 days (Note: To Calculate Isolation: Day 0 is the first day of symptoms or a positive viral test. Day 1 is the first full day after symptoms developed or your test specimen was collected.)• End isolation if did NOT have symptoms<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Return to school after 5 full days after positive test (on Day 6)○ Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days• End isolation if HAD symptoms<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Return to school after 5 full days (on Day 6) if fever-free for 24 hours without use of medication and symptoms are improving○ Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days

<p>Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 and Asymptomatic</p> <p><u>No Quarantine at Home</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boosted <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed the primary series of the Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed the primary series of the Pfizer vaccine within the last 5 months <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed the primary series of the J&J vaccine within the last 2 months <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed COVID-19 within the past 90 days (positive test using a viral test *CDC - Viral Tests) 	<p>Note on How to Calculate Quarantine: Day 0 is the date of exposure. Day 1 is the first full day after your last contact with someone who has had COVID-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return to school unless you develop symptoms and wear well-fitted face mask for 10 full days. • Watch for symptoms until 10 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19. • Test at least 5 days after last close contact and submit results to the school. • At any time, if symptomatic, immediately isolate and get tested. Stay home until test results are negative. Provide results to the school.
<p>Exposed to Someone with COVID-19</p> <p><u>Quarantine at Home</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unvaccinated <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Boosted, Completed Primary Series of Moderna more than 6 months ago <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Boosted, Completed Primary Series of the Pfizer vaccine more than 5 months ago <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not Boosted, Completed Primary Series of the J&J vaccine more than 2 months ago 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home for 5 full days • Watch for symptoms until 10 days after last close contact with someone with COVID-19 • Test at least 5 days after last close contact with someone with COVID-19; Submit results to the school • Return to school after Day 5 (on Day 6), but continue to wear a face mask for an additional 5 full days • At any time, if symptomatic, immediately isolate and get tested. Stay home until test results are negative. Provide results to the school.

- **Virtual or Online Learning:** Students in quarantine or isolation may have the support of virtual or online learning, depending on the school’s policy.

- **Extra-Curricular Activities:** Because there is an increased risk of post-quarantine transmission associated with options to shorten quarantine, individuals who had close contact with infection may not participate in any activities with a higher risk of spreading the virus (i.e., extra-curricular or co-curricular activities, including sports teams, PE class, music instruction, field trips, etc.) or take part in any activity that cannot maintain a 6-foot physical distancing until 10 days from contact. After 10 days, students and staff members in quarantine may resume all activities provided by the school.

All schools activities, including field trips and overnight travel, can be held if current CDC and LDH guidelines are followed. Schools should post signs throughout campus indicating when face masking and physical distancing are in effect.

Note: CSAA and LHSAA schedules for the spring semester will remain in-tact with students playing under the guidelines above.

- **Face masks:** There is no universal masking required in schools at this time. Wearing a face mask continues to be optional in general for those not listed above as requiring masking to return to school. For individuals requiring a face mask, their masks must be well-fitted and worn with fidelity.
- **Physical Distancing:** Students need to maintain a distance of at least 3-feet apart and adhere to static seating assignments in classrooms. In common areas, including eating areas, all individuals should distance 6-feet apart as much as possible. Activities and classes that involve increased exhalation should continue to be held outdoors or in large, well-ventilated spaces, whenever possible. School buses may operate at 100% capacity if all passengers are masked, the windows are open, and assigned seating charts are utilized and enforced.
- **Visitors to Campus:** Non-essential visitors (i.e., volunteers, external groups, organizations, etc.) may not be allowed to visit campus unless required by law or by contract for services or considered essential. All visitors are required to wear masks and maintain 6-feet physical distancing from others.
- **Child Nutrition Program:** Breakfast, lunch, and after-school meals continue to be provided at no cost to all students during the 2021–2022 school year. Grab-n-go packaged meals such as cereal bars, pop tarts, muffins, fruit, juice, and milk will be available for breakfast. Students will be afforded a main dish and/or menu choices for lunch, which will be provided through the cafeteria serving line. Extra items may also be purchased through the student's cafeteria account, which can be funded through www.myschoolbucks.com. After-school meals will be distributed to the program director at each site. Principals are to determine where students eat lunch within state guidelines.

The policies listed above come from concern for the safety of all stakeholders. The Diocese is grateful to pastors, school leaders, faculty, staff, advisory board members, parents, and students

for their vigilance in embracing health and safety practices to protect others in the community. Only through care for our brothers and sisters in Christ during this pandemic are we able to continue to enjoy learning communities that ***Evangelize Hearts, Educate Minds, Encourage Talent, and Embrace the Future.***