



**St. Francis Leading With Hope
Health and Safety Protocols
Reopening School Year 2021-22**

Lord, may you bless the world, give health to our bodies and comfort our hearts. You ask us not to be afraid. Yet our faith is weak and we are fearful. But you, Lord, will not leave us at the mercy of the storm. Tell us again: "Do not be afraid" (Mt 28:5). And we, together with Peter, "cast all our anxieties onto you, for you care about us" (1 Pet 5:7).
-Pope Francis Strong in the Face of Tribulation: A Sure Support in Time of Trial

St. Francis of Assisi School Task Force:

Principal: Veronica Lopez

Administrative Team: Jennifer Casanova, Alena Ibarra

COVID-19 Committee: St. Francis Advisory Council

In Cooperation with: Parent Surveys, National Catholic Education Association Leading with Hope, A Reflective Guide for Catholic Schools in a New Reality, Arizona Department of Education Roadmap for Reopening School, June 2020, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) COVID-19 Guidelines, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Yuma County Health Department.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention, NCEA Leading With Hope, Arizona Department of Health Services, and the Arizona Department of Education recommend the reopening decisions be driven by the current prevalence of COVID-19 in our local community.

St. Francis Parish Pastor along with the school principal and Diocese of Tucson will determine the phase of reopening based on Governor Ducey's ordinances and the Yuma County Risk Level of COVID-19.

INTRODUCTION

The goal of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School is to reopen with the health and safety of our students and staff as priority. As you know, COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. The new Delta variant is proving to be even more contagious and is affecting our youth and younger population. Although St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School has implemented protective measures to reduce the chance of spread of COVID-19, there is no guarantee that your child(ren) will not become infected while participating in in-person learning and other school-sanctioned activities. All decisions made by the school will be in accordance with the Diocese of Tucson, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and state and local health officials.

COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. It is thought that the virus may spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection. Therefore, personal prevention practices (such as [handwashing](#), [staying home when sick](#)) and environmental [cleaning and disinfection](#) are important principles to help lower the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread during school sessions and activities.

The more people a student or staff member interacts with, and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread. The risk of COVID-19 spread increases in school settings as follows:

- Lowest Risk: Students and teachers engage in virtual-only classes, activities, and events.
- More Risk: Small, in-person classes, activities, and events. Groups of students stay together and with the same teacher throughout/across school days and groups do not mix. Students remain at least 6 feet apart and do not share objects (e.g., hybrid virtual and in-person class structures, or staggered/rotated scheduling to accommodate smaller class sizes).
- Highest Risk: Full sized, in-person classes, activities, and events. Students are not spaced apart, share classroom materials or supplies, and mix between classes and activities.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Opening - Phase 1
Traditional Reopening with Safety Protocols

Phase 1 protocols are established based on community monitoring that reveals even lower levels of community spread of COVID-19 than in Phase 2. St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will consult with local health officials for guidance. When St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School progresses to Phase 2, the Phase 1 protocols should remain in place.

Traditional Reopening with Safety Protocols:

All students in a physical building following all health and safety protocols.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Opening - Phase 2 - Hybrid 1

When the County identifies a Moderate Risk for COVID19, Phase 2 will be implemented in order to keep students six feet apart. When St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School progresses to Phase 2, safety protocols will be in place.

Phase 2- Hybrid 1: Half of the students will be in the classroom for part day instruction, table 1, following all safety protocols. Distance or virtual learning will be delivered.

Hybrid 1 - Wildcat Half-Day Schedule/ No Distance or Virtual Learning

**Hybrid schedules refer to a split student schedule. This means that no more than half of the class will be in attendance on campus.

TABLE 1

Grade	Green AM	Gold PM	Week 1 & 2 Subjects	Week 3 & 4 Subjects
Kindergarten - Second	7:30-8:45	12:30-1:45	ELA- Comprehension	Math
	8:45-9:00	1:45-2:00	Break	Break
	9:00-10:15	2:00-3:15	Grammar	Religion

	10:15-10:30	3:15-3:30	Break	Break
	10:30-11:15	3:30-4:30	Phonics	Science
Third	7:30-8:45	12:30-1:45	ELA- Comprehension/ Vocabulary	Math
	8:45-10:00	1:45-3:00	Religion	Grammar
	10:00-10:15	3:00-3:15	Break	Break
	10:15-11:30	3:15-4:30	<i>Growing Your Vocabulary</i>	Science

Fourth and Fifth Grades

Week 1 and Week 2

Green AM	Gold PM	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade
7:30-8:45	12:30-1:45	Grammar	Math
8:45-10:00	1:45-3:00	Math	Grammar
10:00-10:15	3:00-3:15	Break	Break
10:15-11:30	3:15-4:30	Vocabulary/Science	Vocabulary/Science

Week 3 and Week 4

Green AM	Gold PM	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade
7:30-8:45	12:30-1:45	ELA	Religion
8:45-10:00	1:45-3:00	Religion	ELA
10:00-10:15	3:00-3:15	Break	Break
10:15-11:30	3:15-4:30	Science/Vocabulary	Science/Vocabulary

Middle School

Week 1 and Week 2

Green AM	Gold PM	Sixth Grade	Seventh	Eighth Grade
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			Grade	
7:30-8:50	12:30-1:50	Religion	Social Studies	ELA
8:50-10:10	1:50-3:10	Social Studies	ELA	Religion
10:10-11:30	3:10-4:30	ELA	Religion	Social Studies

Week 3 and Week 4

Green AM	Gold PM	Sixth Grade	Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade
7:30-8:50	12:30-1:50	Science	Math	English
8:50-10:10	1:50-3:10	Math	English	Science
10:10-11:30	3:10-4:30	English	Science	Math

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Opening - Phase 3

When the County identifies High Risk, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will utilize Phase 3 which will be distance virtual learning. The school will refer to the plan for emergency remote learning if a COVID -19 resurgence happens during the school year.

Wildcat Distance Virtual Learning

Distance Virtual Learning refers to live instruction via social platforms such as Zoom and Google Classroom. This will require students to engage in learning that utilizes electronic technologies.

Distance virtual learning classes will be split into a dual student schedule as noted in Table 2. This means that no more than half of the class will be in attendance via virtual learning per schedule.

TABLE 2

Grade	Green AM	Gold PM	Week 1 & 2 Subjects	Week 3 & 4 Subjects
Kindergarten- Second	7:30-8:45	12:30-1:45	ELA- Comprehension	Math
	8:45-9:00	1:45-2:00	Break	Break
	9:00-10:15	2:00-3:15	Phonics	Religion

	10:15-10:30	3:15-3:30	Break	Break
	10:30-11:00	3:30-4:00	ELA- Reteach	Math- Reteach
	11:00-11:30	4:00-4:30	Phonics Small Group (Aides)/ Open Office Hours	Open Office Hours
Third	7:30-8:45	12:30-1:45	ELA- Comprehension/ Vocabulary	Math
	8:45-9:00	1:45-2:00	Break	Break
	9:00-10:15	2:00-3:15	Religion	Grammar
	10:15-10:30	3:15-3:30	Break	Break
	10:30-11:00	3:30-4:00	ELA- Reteach	Math- Reteach
	11:00-11:30	4:00-4:30	Open Office Hours	Grammar- Reteach

Fourth and Fifth Grades

Week 1 and Week 2

Green AM	Gold PM	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade
7:30-8:45	12:30-1:45	Grammar	Math
8:45-9:00	1:45-2:00	Break	Break
9:00-10:15	2:00-3:15	Math	Grammar
10:15-10:30	3:15-3:30	Break	Break
10:30-11:00	3:30-4:00	Open Office Hours	Math- Reteach
11:00-11:30	4:00-4:30	Math- Reteach	Open Office Hours

Week 3 and Week 4

Green AM	Gold PM	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade
7:30-8:45	12:30-1:45	ELA	Religion
8:45-9:00	1:45-2:00	Break	Break

9:00-10:15	2:00-3:15	Religion	ELA
10:15-10:30	3:15-3:30	Break	Break
10:30-11:00	3:30-4:00	ELA- Reteach	Open Office Hours
11:00-11:30	4:00-4:30	Open Office Hours	ELA- Reteach

Middle School

Week 1 and Week 2

Monday and Wednesday

Green AM	Gold PM	Sixth Grade	Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade
7:30-8:45	12:30-1:45	Religion	Social Studies	ELA
8:45-9:00	1:45-2:00	Break	Break	Break
9:00-10:15	2:00-3:15	Social Studies	ELA	Religion
10:15-10:30	3:15-3:30	Break	Break	Break
10:30-11:15	3:30-4:15	ELA	Religion	Social Studies

Week 1 and Week 2

Tuesday and Thursday

Green AM	Gold PM	Sixth Grade	Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade
7:30-8:00	12:30-1:00	Religion- Reteach	Social Studies- Reteach	ELA- Reteach
8:00-8:30	1:00-1:30	Open Office Hours	Open Office Hours	Open Office Hours
8:30-8:45	1:30-1:45	Break	Break	Break
8:45-9:15	1:45-2:15	Social Studies- Reteach	ELA- Reteach	Religion- Reteach
9:15-9:45	2:15-2:45	Open Office Hours	Open Office Hours	Open Office Hours

9:45-10:00	2:45-3:00	Break	Break	Break
10:00-10:30	3:00-3:30	ELA- Reteach	Religion- Reteach	Social Studies- Reteach
10:30-11:00	3:30-4:00	Open Office Hours	Open Office Hours	Open Office Hours
11:00-11:30	4:00-4:30	Teacher Prep	Teacher Prep	Teacher Prep

Logistic and Planning for Health and Safety

1. Screening and Monitoring of Student and Staff Health

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will inform parents on the school website and via email reminders that they should screen their child each morning and should self-report the symptoms below.

- fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
- Chills
- Cough
- Nasal congestion, or runny nose
- sore throat
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting
- stomachache
- Fatigue/tiredness
- Headache
- muscle or body aches
- new loss of taste or smell

Staff and students who have recently had [close contact](#), (an individual who has had close contact < 6 feet** for ≥15 minutes) with a person with COVID-19 should also [stay home and monitor their health](#) for 14 days after exposure based on the time it takes to develop the illness.

B. Reliance on Barrier/Partitions Controls Screening

- St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will:

- Conduct health checks safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy laws and regulations.
- Will always wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in order to protect the staff member's face and mucous membranes from respiratory droplets that may be produced if the child being screened sneezes, coughs, or talks.
- Make a visual inspection of the child for signs of illness, which could include flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue, or extreme fussiness.
- Conduct temperature screening with non-touch thermometers.
- Check the child's temperature wearing PPE.

2. Teaching and Promoting of Healthy Hygiene Practices

All children, staff, and volunteers are required to engage in the following healthy hygiene practices

Prior to students returning to campus, all staff will be trained on implementation of safety protocols. Training will include proper use of PPE and supplies; cleaning and disinfecting, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.

- Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette
 - St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School students, staff, and volunteers will engage in hand washing and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students, staff, and volunteers to [handwash](#) with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol will be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer) especially at the following times:
 - Arrival to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School
 - Before and after eating (snack or lunch)
 - Before and after handling food
 - Before and after administering medication
 - After using the toilet
 - After coming in contact with bodily fluid
 - After playing outdoors
 - After handling garbage
 - St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will strongly encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol will be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).

- Coughing/Sneezing
 - Cover mouth with tissue, napkin, or inside elbow when coughing and sneezing and throw away used tissue in an assigned lined trash can.
 - Wash hands as soon as possible afterward or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- [Cloth Face Coverings](#)

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, in addition to vaccinations, the wearing of masks is among the primary mitigation strategies to decrease the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, all staff and students 2 years or older **should** wear masks indoors unless medical or developmental conditions prohibit their use regardless of vaccination status (AAP, 2021).

However, as the primary educators of their children, parents/guardians **should** make the determination as to whether their children will wear masks indoors while at school. School faculty and staff **should** wear masks while indoors, especially when working with children under 12 years of age who are unable to be fully vaccinated and/or those who are in a vulnerable health category.

In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors. However, in areas of substantial to high transmission, CDC recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated. (CDC, 2021)

- [Cloth face coverings](#) are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms.
- [Cloth face coverings](#) are not surgical masks, respirators, or other medical personal protective equipment.
- When necessary, St. Francis of Assisi School will have a supply of face coverings available to provide students who do not have their own.
- Plastic face guards, which provide protection for the wearer, will not be required or provided, but are permitted.
- St. Francis Staff will have posters with messaging on handwashing and covering of coughs and sneezes located throughout, along with posters at site entrances reminding individuals not to enter if sick.

3. What will St. Francis do when someone on Site has COVID-19 Symptoms

- St. Francis School will set a low threshold for sending students or staff members home if illness is suspected.
- Any of the symptoms listed above that are not related to an already diagnosed condition or illness (as known by the school healthcare personnel) could be COVID-19.

- The student or staff member should not physically attend school until clearance from isolation criteria have been met or an alternative diagnosis is made.
- All household members of someone confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 should not physically attend school until isolation is complete, an alternate diagnosis is made, or a negative COVID test is received.
- If student A in one school is sent home to quarantine **due to a possible exposure of a COVID-positive person**, any siblings and household members who attend a different school can continue attending their school unless Student A develops symptoms and /or tests positive for COVID-19. Those members must then follow the Isolation & Quarantine Guidance referenced in the appendix.
- St. Francis School will need a written verification of an alternate diagnosis if, for example, a student or employee is sent home with COVID-like symptoms, must come from a medical doctor licensed in the state of Arizona.
- St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Health Coordinator is the Point of Contact if a staff member or student is to become sick. The health coordinator will track positive cases and contacts in a daily log in conjunction with Yuma County Health Department.
- St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Principal will submit a report to the local health department within 24 hours of identification of a COVID -positive student or staff.

Quarantining Classes or Closing School Buildings

- a. Outbreaks of COVID-19: defined as two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among students or staff with onsets within 14-day period, who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household, and were not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting during standard case investigation or contact tracing.
- b. St. Francis of Assisi School will report to staff, students, and parents if an outbreak due to COVID-19 occurs within the population of the school within 24 hours of confirming such information, and provide regular updates on their activities to keep current staff, students, and parents safe.
- c. This report shall include:
 - i. The name and address of the school
 - ii. The number of individuals with the disease, infestation, or symptoms;
 - iii. The date and time that the disease of infestation was detected or that the symptoms began:
 - iv. The number of rooms, grades, or classes affected and the identification of each;

- v. The following information about each individual with the disease, infestations, or symptoms:
 1. Name
 2. Date of birth or age
 3. If the individual is a child, name and contact information for the individual's parent or guardian
 4. Residential address and telephone number
 5. Whether the individual is a staff member or student
 6. The number of individuals attending the school
 7. The name, address, telephone number, and email address of the individual making the report.
 - d. After consulting with the local health department and Diocese of Tucson, St. Francis of Assisi School will make the determination of whether to close a particular cohort or the entire school if an outbreak is determined.
- St. Francis will inform St. Francis of Assisi Parish Pastor and Diocese of Tucson, of a COVID -positive student or staff.
 - St. Francis of Assisi will follow the Arizona Department of Health Services Release from Isolation and Quarantine Guidance.
 - Communication to affected staff and families; the nature of communication will depend on whether there was close contact or exposure in a classroom or area of the school and whether other students or staff would need to self-quarantine.
 - St. Francis will utilize the Parent Alert to COVID Positive Case on Campus letter to communicate a COVID-positive case, without releasing identifiable information.
 - Confidentiality will be maintained to the greatest extent possible.
 - St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will ensure that staff and families know they (staff) or their children (families) should not come to school, and that they should notify school designated COVID-19 points of contact, school principal, if they (staff) or their child (families) become sick with COVID-19 symptoms, test positive for COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 symptoms or a confirmed or suspected case.
 - Staff tending to the care of the sick individual should use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including surgical mask, gloves and eye protection (goggles or face shield). If they are in direct contact with the sick individual they should wear a gown.
 - St. Francis will contact the emergency contact for the individual to be picked up from school as soon as possible, ideally within 1 hour. Call 911 if the individual is exhibiting any serious symptoms, including difficulty getting enough air, change in alertness or responsiveness, bluish lips or face.

- All household members of someone confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 should not physically attend school and quarantine at home for 14 days. Keep in mind, siblings may be at the same school or at another school (age dependent). Should a student become sick, families should notify the schools of any household contact. If a sick student's household contact is in school, the contact's school should be notified and they should be removed from the classroom and sent home as soon as possible, even if not displaying symptoms. If the household contact is also sick, follow steps as above.
- If a student develops COVID-19 symptoms at school, St. Francis of Assisi School will close off any areas that were exposed to the symptomatic employee or student for a prolonged period. Wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting those areas. During that time, if feasible, open windows or outside doors to increase air circulation. After 24 hours, thoroughly clean and disinfect all surfaces in the area, per [CDC guidelines](#).
- Though teachers are considered essential workers, it is recommended that a teacher who is a parent of a symptomatic student or has a household member who is symptomatic must remain at home until such time that their child or member of household is determined not to have COVID-19.
- Distance learning will be afforded to students and who are asymptomatic and need to self-quarantine.
- Employees or students who have developed COVID-19 symptoms or had a positive COVID-19 test may not return to the site until either of the following (listed below) has occurred and they have been cleared by their healthcare provider.

'Release from Isolation and Quarantine' Guidance

Recommendations for quarantine and discontinuation isolation [precautions and home](#) isolation, based upon a person's symptoms and clinical testing are below. In addition, the release from isolation flowchart can be found [here](#). CDC and ADHD **do not** recommend test-based strategy to discontinue isolation. For people that previously tested positive for COVID-19 who remain asymptomatic after recovery, retesting is not recommended within 3 months after the date of symptom onset for the initial COVID-19 infection. The most recent updates to this document can be found [here](#).

- If a person is [symptomatic](#) and **awaiting**** COVID-19 test results:
 - Stay home away from others or under isolation precautions until results are available. If results are delayed, follow guidance for symptomatic and tested positive for COVID-19. Once results are available, follow the recommendations below based on results.
- If a person is [symptomatic](#) and **tested positive** for COVID-19 by PCR or antigen testing, stay home away from others or under isolation precautions until:
 - At least 10 days* have passed since symptoms first appeared; AND

- At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers; AND
- Other symptoms have improved.
- If a person is **symptomatic** and **tested negative**** for COVID-19 by PCR or antigen testing, stay home away from others or under isolation precautions until:
 - At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers; AND
 - Other symptoms have improved.
- If a person is **symptomatic** and has **not been tested**** for COVID-19 by PCR or antigen testing, stay home away from others or under isolation precautions until:
 - At least 10 days* have passed since symptoms first appeared; AND
 - At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers; AND
 - Other symptoms have improved.
- If a person is **asymptomatic** and **awaiting**** COVID-19 test results:
 - No isolation is required while waiting for test results. Take everyday precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Once results are available, follow recommendations based on results.
- If a person is **asymptomatic** and **tested positive** for COVID-19 by PCR or antigen testing, stay home away from others or under isolation precautions until:
 - At least 10 days* have passed since specimen collection of the first positive COVID-19 PCR/antigen testing while asymptomatic. If symptoms develop, follow guidance for symptomatic and tested positive for COVID-19.
- If a person is **asymptomatic** and **tested positive**** for COVID-19 by serology:
 - No isolation is required since there is a low likelihood of active infection. Take everyday precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- If a person is **asymptomatic** and **tested negative**** for COVID-19 by PCR, antigen testing, or serology:
 - No isolation is required. Take everyday precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- If a person has other non-compatible symptoms and has not been tested for COVID-19, stay home away from others or under isolation precautions until:
 - At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers; AND

- Other symptoms have improved.

*A person who had [severe/critical illness](#) or is [severely immunocompromised](#) should:

- If symptomatic, stay home away from others or under isolation precautions until:
 - At least 20 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; AND
 - At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers; AND
 - Other symptoms have improved.
- If asymptomatic, stay home away from others or under isolation precautions until:
 - At least 20 days have passed since specimen collection of the first positive COVID-19 PCR/antigen testing while asymptomatic. If symptoms develop, follow guidance for symptomatic and tested positive for COVID-19.

Some severely immunocompromised persons with COVID-19 may remain infectious beyond 20 days after their symptoms began and require additional SARS-CoV-2 testing (test-based strategy) and consultation with infectious diseases specialists and infection control experts.

Outside of these criteria above, extension of isolation is not routinely recommended if an individual is retested within 3 months of onset of symptoms or date of first positive test while asymptomatic. However, if a person within 3 months of symptom onset of their initial illness or since specimen collection (if asymptomatic) of the first positive COVID-19 PCR/antigen test has a new exposure to a person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and recovered from laboratory-confirmed infection and has met criteria to end isolation, but has or develops new symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within 14 days of the new exposure, consultation with a health care provider is recommended, and consultation with infectious disease or infection control experts may be necessary. If an alternative cause of the symptoms cannot be identified, retesting for SARS-CoV-2 infection may be warranted. In the absence of clinical evaluation to rule out SARS-CoV-2 reinfection, this person should be isolated following the recommendations above.

**A person who had known [close contact](#) with a confirmed COVID-19 case should [quarantine](#) for 14 days from their last exposure to the case regardless of negative tests results or illness where no testing was performed. However, if they test positive for COVID-19 by PCR or antigen testing, they should follow the relevant [isolation guidance](#).

Shortened Quarantine

- Individuals must meet ALL of the following criteria:

- Are not inpatients/residents in healthcare or congregate settings; AND
 - Have remained asymptomatic since the most recent COVID-19 exposure; AND
 - Continues daily symptom monitoring for 14 days after the most recent COVID-19 exposure; AND
 - Continues strict adherence to all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., correct and consistent mask use, physical distancing) for 14 days after the most recent COVID-19 exposure.
- If they experience symptoms consistent with COVID-19, they should immediately self-isolate and be evaluated by their healthcare provider for COVID-19, including testing.
 - Persons who test positive for COVID-19 by PCR or antigen test should follow isolation guidance.
 - The following options to shorten quarantine are acceptable alternatives if the conditions above are met:
 - Quarantine can end on Day 11 (i.e., quarantine at home for 10 full days) without testing and if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.
 - Quarantine can end as early as Day 8 (i.e., quarantine at home for at least 7 full days) if a specimen tests negative by PCR or antigen testing and if no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring. The specimen must be collected and tested no earlier than Day 6 (i.e., after at least 5 full days) following their last known exposure, and quarantine still cannot be discontinued earlier than Day 8.

Not Required to Quarantine – Fully Vaccinated Persons

- Vaccinated persons with an exposure to someone with COVID-19 do not need to quarantine if they meet ALL of the following criteria:
 - Are not inpatients/residents in healthcare or congregate healthcare settings; AND
 - Are fully vaccinated (i.e., 2 weeks or more have passed after receiving the second dose in a 2-dose series, or 2 weeks or more have passed after receiving one dose of a 1-dose vaccine); AND
 - Have remained asymptomatic since the most recent COVID-19 exposure.
 - Fully vaccinated persons should follow CDC guidance: Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People.

- If fully vaccinated persons experience symptoms consistent with COVID-19, they should immediately self-isolate and be evaluated by their healthcare provider for COVID-19, including testing.

- Persons who test positive for COVID-19 by PCR or antigen test should follow isolation guidance, regardless of vaccination status.

Not Required to Quarantine – Previously Infected Persons (that are not fully vaccinated)

- Previously infected persons (that are not fully vaccinated) with an exposure to someone with COVID-19 do not need to quarantine if they meet ALL of the following criteria:

- Exposure is within 3 months of symptom onset of their initial illness or since specimen collection (if asymptomatic) of the first positive COVID-19 PCR/antigen test; AND
- Have met criteria to end isolation; AND

- Remain asymptomatic.

- However, if a person is identified as a contact of a case 3 months or more after symptom onset or since specimen collection (if asymptomatic) of the first positive COVID-19 PCR/antigen test, they should follow quarantine recommendations for contacts.

- There might be clinical scenarios in which the uncertainty about a prior infection or the durability of the immune response exist, for which providers could consider testing inpatients/residents in healthcare or congregate settings for SARS-CoV-2 and quarantine following exposure that occurs less than 3 months after their initial infection, Examples could include:

- Residents with underlying immunocompromising conditions (e.g., patient after organ transplantation) or who become immune compromised (e.g., receive chemotherapy) in the 3 months following SARS-CoV-2 infection and who might have an increased risk for reinfection. However, data on which specific conditions may lead to higher risk and the magnitude of risk are not available.

- Residents for whom there is concern that their initial diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection might have been based on a false positive test result (e.g., resident was asymptomatic, antigen test positive, and a confirmatory nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) was not performed). Updated: 5/3/2021

- Residents for whom there is evidence that they were exposed to a novel SARS-CoV-2 variant (e.g., exposed to a person known to be infected with a novel variant) for which the risk of reinfection might be higher.

Quarantine Recommendations for Admissions and Readmissions of Residents to Post-Acute Care Facilities

- Quarantine is no longer recommended for residents who are being admitted or readmitted to a post-acute care facility if they are fully vaccinated and have not had an exposure to someone with COVID-19, including residing in a facility with a COVID-19 outbreak, in the prior 14 days.
- Previously infected persons (that are not fully vaccinated) with an exposure to someone with COVID-19 do not need to quarantine if they meet ALL of the following criteria:
 - Exposure is within 3 months of symptom onset of their initial illness or since specimen collection (if asymptomatic) of the first positive COVID-19 PCR/antigen test; AND
 - Have met criteria to end isolation; AND
 - Remain asymptomatic.
- However, if a previously infected person (that is not fully vaccinated) is identified as a contact of a case 3 months or more after symptom onset or since specimen collection (if asymptomatic) of the first positive COVID-19 PCR/antigen test, they should follow quarantine recommendations for contacts.
- There might be clinical scenarios in which the uncertainty about a prior infection or the durability of the immune response exist, for which providers could consider testing inpatients/residents in healthcare and congregate settings for SARS-CoV-2 and quarantine following exposure that occurs less than 3 months after their initial infection, Examples could include:
 - Residents with underlying immunocompromising conditions (e.g., patient after organ transplantation) or who become immune compromised (e.g., receive chemotherapy) in the 3 months following SARS-CoV-2 infection and who might have an increased risk for reinfection. However, data on which specific conditions may lead to higher risk and the magnitude of risk are not available.
 - Residents for whom there is concern that their initial diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection might have been based on a false positive test result (e.g., resident was asymptomatic, antigen test positive, and a confirmatory nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) was not performed).
 - Residents for whom there is evidence that they were exposed to a novel SARS-CoV-2 variant (e.g., exposed to a person known to be infected with a novel variant) for which the risk of reinfection might be higher. Healthcare workers and critical infrastructure

workers should follow guidance that includes special consideration for these groups. If you are a healthcare worker or critical infrastructure worker, please follow-up with your employer or HR for specific guidelines. Employers may consider allowing exposed and asymptomatic critical infrastructure workers that do not fit the exemption from quarantine conditions listed above to continue to work in select instances when it is necessary to preserve the function of critical infrastructure workplaces. This option should be used as a last resort and only in limited circumstances, such as when cessation of operation of a facility may cause serious harm or danger to public health or safety. Public health may use additional considerations in determining the need to quarantine on a case-by case basis, including outbreaks of variants of SARS-Cov-2 and serology results.

- St. Francis School will report any outbreaks of COVID-19 to the local health department.
- Having more than one case within a school does not constitute an outbreak. An outbreak is defined as two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among students or staff with onsets within a 14 day period, who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household, and were not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting during standard case investigation or contact tracing.
- St. Francis will work in coordination with the local health department to determine when to reopen the decision to quarantine a class, close a portion of the school, or close the school entirely.
- Both the context of local spread as well as the school's mitigation practices should be considered.
- St. Francis School will begin preparing for virtual learning when one or more benchmark categories fall within the **substantial** spread category.

4. Drop Off and Pick Up Protocols and Procedures

Drop-off Procedures

- Students in grades 1-8 will need to be dropped off at the south church parking lot.
- Students in prekindergarten and kindergarten along with upper grade siblings will need to be dropped off at the west school parking lot.
- Upon arrival at school, each student will remain in their car until a staff member releases the student to enter the school grounds.
- Each student must proceed directly to the playground and should maintain at least 3-6 feet apart from other students.

Pick-up Procedures

- Students in grades K-8 will be picked up at the south church parking lot using the A-B line procedures with parents continuing to stay in their cars as students load.
- Students should maintain at least 3-6 feet apart from other students when walking and waiting in the line for dismissal to the parking lot.
- Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students with no siblings will be picked up in the designated area in front of the pre-kindergarten and kindergarten building.
- Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students will stay seated in their designated seat until their parents are present to pick them up.
- Siblings of pre-kindergarten students will be monitored by a duty teacher and wait on the six foot social distance designated spots until siblings arrive.
- Parents are responsible for adhering to the six foot social distancing by standing on the designated spots.

5. Physical Distancing

Classroom Layout/Student Belongings/Materials

For grades 4-8, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will:

- Rotate self-contained cohorts throughout the day.

For all grades, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will:

- Coordinate social distancing protocols, including student and staff schedules (noted above), as well as facility set-up, and allowing for implementation of the protocols.
- Position desks 3 feet apart unless that spacing is not possible due to the size of the classroom and the number of students assigned to it.
- Position desks to face the same direction rather than facing each other.
- Not permit students to be physically grouped to work together. Instead, teachers will use different engagement strategies to facilitate group work and group learning where appropriate for the age, subject, and capabilities of the students.
- Avoid sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids.
- Require that student belongings be kept for individual use only, in individual bins, and labeled.
- Not permit sharing of school supplies among students. If a school supply or piece of equipment must be shared by students (for instance, a pencil sharpener or blocks/toys), a staff member will wipe down the item with disinfectant after each use.
- Classes, such as Peace Choir, library, computer, PE, and others, may require alternative lesson plans to limit contact and the sharing of supplies, and to reduce the spread of respiratory droplets.

Playgrounds

When on campus students:

- Should maintain at least 3-6 feet apart from other students.

Parish Hall/Cafeteria

When on campus students will:

- Have a grade level rotation of one class assigned to eating in the classroom/ramada while the other two classes will eat in the cafeteria.
- Stand on the designated spots in order to maintain social distancing.
- Strongly be prohibited from sharing lunch items with one another.
- Be assigned a seat in order to maintain at least 3-6 feet apart from other students.
- Cafeteria will be [cleaned and disinfected](#) between each use.

Water Systems

To minimize the risk of [Legionnaire's disease](#) and other diseases associated with water, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will ensure that all water systems and features (e.g., sink faucets, drinking fountains, decorative fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown.

When on campus students will:

- Be asked to bring their own labeled water bottles in order to refrain from the use of water fountains.
- Staff will show students proper usage of the water refill station.
- Drinking fountains will be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- Water bottles will be sold and need to be labeled with the student's name to avoid cross contamination.

Hallways/Pathways

When on campus students will:

- Use one side of the hallway for each direction of travel.
- Use the designated floor markings for social distancing.
- When in a moving line, maintain pacing appropriately to keep social distancing.

Bathrooms/Handwashing

When on campus students will:

- Limit the number of students in the bathroom under staff supervision
- Educate students of proper handwashing techniques.
- Require all students to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol at the following times:
 - upon arrival at school (use hand sanitizer if there is no sink in the classroom),
 - after being outside for physical activity,
 - before and after lunch,

- prior to leaving school for home, and
- after sneezing, coughing, or nose blowing
- Display posters reminding students of proper handwashing techniques.

6. Communication/Education Plan

Prior to students returning to campus, parents will be sent a copy (or directed to review a copy on school website) of the portions of these protocols that relate to students and visitors. As part of this process, the St. Francis Catholic School will send communication via Facts Family Portal to all parents that outlines the symptoms for which parents must screen each morning, as well as the expectation that students will not be sent to school or placed on the bus if they are exhibiting any symptoms. St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will require a signed acknowledgement from parents regarding these protocols.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Principal will be the COVID-19 point of contact, which will be communicated to parents via FACTS Family Portal prior to the first day of school. The principal will be responsible for answering parent questions regarding implementation of COVID-19 protocols and putting systems in place for: law and privacy policies and having staff and families self-report to the school if they or their student have [symptoms](#) of COVID-19.

7. Sports/Extra Curricular Plan

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will:

- Hold field trips at the discretion of the principal.
- Continue to use virtual learning opportunities (such as virtual tours of museums) to enhance students' educational experiences.
- Hold school-wide functions and students should maintain at least 3-6 feet apart from others.
- Reconfigure large-scale school events such as Orientation Day, Open House, or St. Francis BBQ in order to maintain social distancing.
- Conduct parent-teacher conferences will in person and will maintain at least 3-6 feet apart from others.

8. Cleaning and Disinfection

- St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will:
 - Coordinate implementation of cleaning protocols, including ensuring that sufficient cleaning supplies are available to janitorial staff and, as appropriate, students and staff.

- [Clean and disinfect](#) frequently touched surfaces (e.g., playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the school at least daily or between use as much as possible.
- Support [healthy hygiene](#) behaviors by providing adequate supplies, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer), paper towels, tissues, disinfectant wipes, cloth face coverings (as feasible) and no-touch trash cans.
- Limit shared objects when possible, or clean between use (e.g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, games).
- Develop a schedule for increased, routine cleaning, and disinfection.
- Cleaning products will not be used near children and staff should ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using these products to prevent children or themselves from inhaling toxic fumes.
- Ensure [safe and correct use](#) and storage of [cleaning and disinfection products](#), including storing products securely away from children. Use products that meet [EPA disinfection](#) guidelines.
- Sharing Facilities
 - Organizations who share or use these facilities, must follow these all protocols contained in this document.
 - It is the responsibility of the school to clean and disinfect all areas prior to the beginning of the school day.

9. Plan for Emergency remote learning should a COVID-19 resurgence happen during the school year.

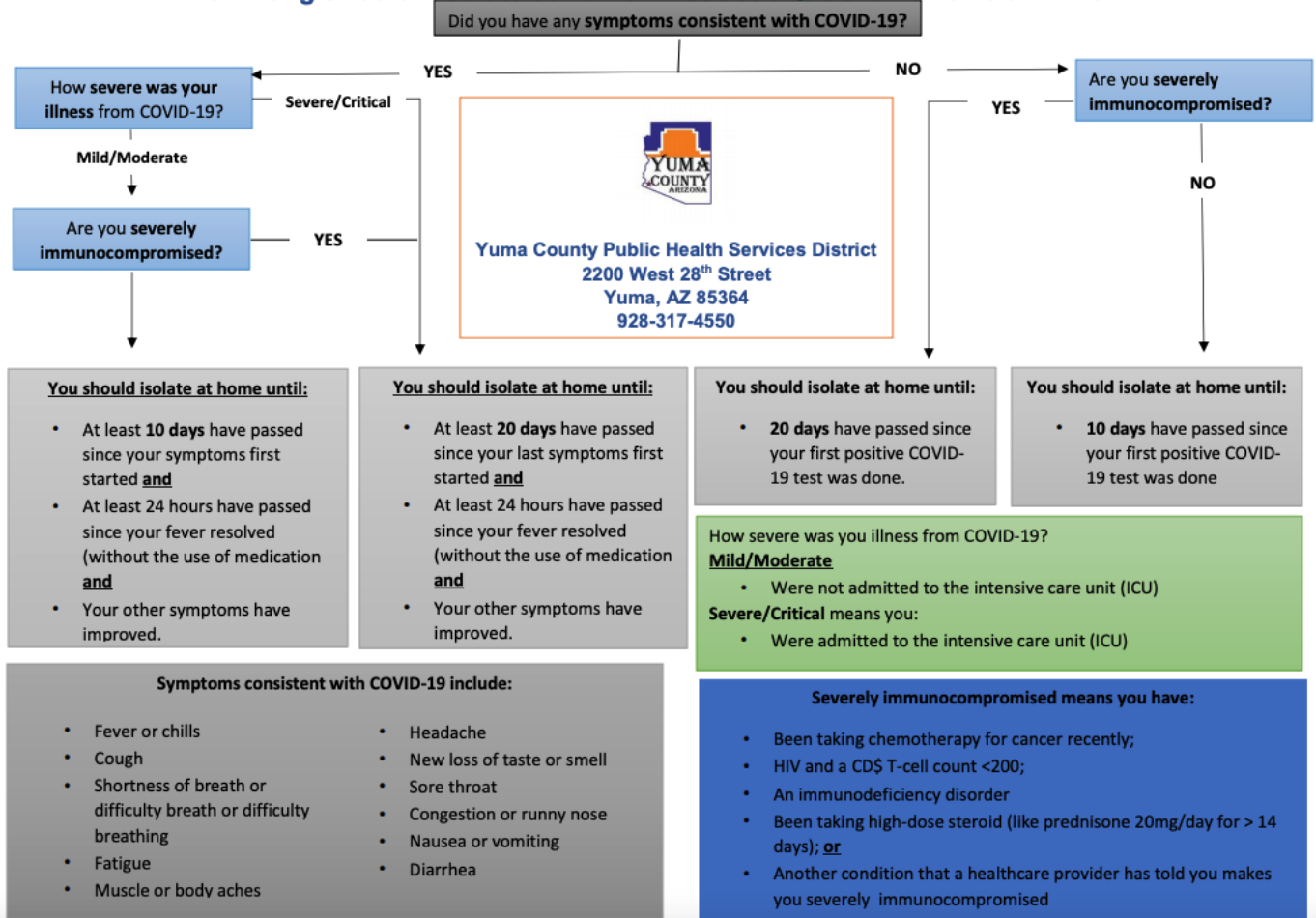
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School will refer to the plan for emergency remote learning should a Covid-19 resurgence happen during the school year. The school has prepared for such by creating the phase 3 distance learning plan.

The school has given consideration for students to:

- Acquire the necessary materials from the school building to participate in and succeed in distance learning.
- Acquire the necessary logins for educational platforms to be used during distance learning.
- Acquaint themselves with social platforms necessary to participate in distance learning- Zoom and Google Classroom.
- Provide technology support to families who may be in need.
- Feel a sense of belonging and a part of a class.

Appendix

ISOLATION CHART HOW long should I isolate at home if I tested positive for COVID-19?



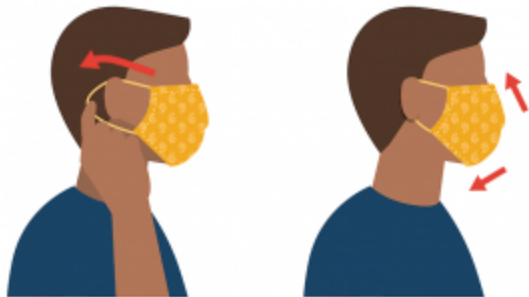
How to Wear Masks

Masks are an additional step to help slow the spread of COVID-19 when combined with [every day preventive actions](#) and [social distancing](#) in public settings.

- Who should NOT use masks: children under age 2, or anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Masks are NOT surgical masks or N95 respirators. Currently, surgical masks and N95 respirators are critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare workers and other first responders.

Wear your Mask Correctly

- Wash your hands before putting on your mask
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily



Wear a Mask to Protect Others

- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth to help protect others in case you're infected with COVID-19 but don't have symptoms
- Wear a mask in public settings when around people who don't live in your household, especially when it may be difficult for you to stay six feet apart
- Wear a mask correctly for maximum protection
- Don't put the mask around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the mask, and, if you do, wash your hands or use hand sanitizer to disinfect



How to Clean

Washing machine

- You can include your mask with your regular laundry.
- Use regular laundry detergent and the warmest appropriate water setting for the cloth used to make the mask.



Washing by hand

- Prepare a bleach solution by mixing:
 - 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) household bleach per gallon of room temperature water or
 - 4 teaspoons household bleach per quart of room temperature water
- Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection. Some bleach products, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing, may not be

suitable for disinfection. Ensure the bleach product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

- Soak the mask in the bleach solution for 5 minutes.
- Rinse thoroughly with cool or room temperature water.
- Make sure to completely dry mask after washing.



How to Dry

Dryer

- Use the highest heat setting and leave in the dryer until completely dry.



Air dry

- Lay flat and allow to completely dry. If possible, place the mask in direct sunlight.

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School
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**Parent/Guardian/Student Health and Safety Protocols Agreement
&
COVID-19 Virus Waiver, Release, and Assumption of Risk**

COVID-19 Virus Waiver, Release, and Assumption of Risk

On my own behalf, and on behalf of all members of my household and my minor child(ren) identified below, I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 virus and its variants, and I specifically assume all risks and hazards associated with my child(ren)'s in-person school attendance during the COVID-19 pandemic. I acknowledge that by attending class in person, my child(ren) will be associating with staff and other children and may acquire COVID-19 notwithstanding all the precautions taken by the school. I acknowledge that St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School cannot control the conduct of its students, guarantee that they or their parents will follow recommended safety protocols and procedures, or prevent infected students from attending and potentially spreading COVID-19 to my child(ren), directly or indirectly.

I further acknowledge that my child(ren)'s physical attendance at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School is voluntary and that I have the absolute right to enroll my child(ren) in other schools of my choice. By permitting my child(ren) to attend St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School during this pandemic, I hereby state that I voluntarily assume the risk that my child(ren) may acquire COVID-19 or its variants, and that such may subsequently be transmitted from my child(ren) to me and members of my household. I understand that symptoms of COVID-19 and its variants include, but are not limited to, fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

I certify that my child(ren) currently has/have none of the above symptoms, and I will prevent my child(ren) from physically attending St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School if they develop any of these symptoms or any other symptoms identified by the CDC as being associated with COVID-19. My child(ren) and I will also follow all COVID-19 protocols and procedures adopted by St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, I hereby waive, release, and discharge any and all claims, causes of action, damages, and rights of any kind against the parish, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School, the Diocese, their insurers, and all of their respective employees, agents, representatives, and volunteers (the "Released Parties") arising from or relating in any way to any damage, injury, trauma, illness, loss, disability, dismemberment, or death that may occur to my child(ren), me, or my household members as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. I further agree not to sue the Released Parties, and to defend and indemnify the Released Parties against all claims, damages, losses, or expenses, including attorneys' fees, if a suit is filed concerning an injury, illness, or death related to me, my child(ren), or my household members as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have read the Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Health and Safety Protocols Agreement. As parents/guardians, we accept the full responsibility to see that our family cooperates with and abides by the health and safety protocols of the school and to promote healthy hygiene practices. We understand that these protocols may be subject to change depending on the health and safety situation within the school and/or broader community.

Student Signature Grade

Student Signature Grade

Student Signature Grade

Student Signature Grade

Print Family Name

Mother/Guardian Signature Date

Father/Guardian Signature Date

The Parent/Guardian/Student Health and Safety Protocols Agreement and COVID-19 Virus Waiver, Release, and Assumption of Risk must be returned by Monday, August 16, 2021.