



FALL 2020

BACK TO SCHOOL

Returning safely to Shakopee Area Catholic School
Policies and Procedures *for* Parents and Students



SHAKOPEE AREA
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Our detailed Pandemic Preparedness Response Plan, which will be available mid-August in its entirety on our school website (www.sacsschools.org), includes detailed plans to reduce the risk of exposure by:

1

PROMOTING BEHAVIORS THAT REDUCE THE SPREAD

- Students and employees showing no sign of illness will be allowed in the school building.
- Students will have their own desk and classrooms arranged to maximize individual space.
- Small groups of students stay together as part of a learning "house." Houses will not intermix, thus reducing exposure. Middle School will adopt a Block Schedule.

2

MAINTAINING HEALTHY FACILITIES

- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of classroom surfaces, restrooms, lunchrooms, meeting rooms and drop-off and pickup locations.
- Modern HVAC system set to maximize air flow throughout the building.

3

MAINTAINING HEALTHY OPERATIONS

- Families, students and employees have been informed of and encouraged to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 through regular health checks. See page 8.
- Every individual entering the school will have his/her temperature scanned.

4

COMMUNICATING, TRAINING AND EDUCATING

- Parents, staff, teachers and students receive education and training on the health and safety procedures for shared involvement and responsibility.



Our plan for returning to school was developed thoughtfully in collaboration with the Archdiocesan Office for Mission of Catholic Education, the Catholic School Center of Excellence and a task force of SJA-SACS community members. As educators do, we carefully read and studied the latest research including information from the Center for Disease Control, the Minnesota Department of Health, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and knowledge gained by schools across the world.

We used the following **Guiding Principles** in the development of our plan:

- Focused on health and safety: The health and safety of our students and staff are our highest priorities. This includes physical health and emotional well-being.
- Mission-aligned: Protocols are aligned with the mission of Catholic education.
- Safeguarding high quality education: Protocols help ensure that Catholic schools provide a high-quality education that advances excellence for every student in all areas of their lives.
- Responsible: We will follow public health and safety guidelines.
- Research-based: We will utilize the Minnesota Department of Health and the CDC COVID-19 guidelines.
- Flexible: Protocols are flexible enough to be able to respond to changes in community spread or public health guidance and the publication of new research.
- Fiscally responsible: Protocol implementation is financially viable and reflects responsible stewardship

Our plan includes an **investment of resources** in:

Technology: new mobile computers for each teacher and an individual chromebook for every K- 8 student

Professional Development: training for our staff in health and safety practices, technology, and social emotional well-being

Spacing and Exposure Mitigation: each student will have their own desk and classrooms will be arranged to maximize individual space

Health Protocols and PPE: temporal scanning stations, hand sanitizing stations, PPE for staff, and signage for our school

Shakopee Area Catholic School plans to open for 2020 - 2021 school year on Tuesday, September 8, with in-person, Monday - Friday, education for students. Distance learning options will be offered to students who are at increased risk, quarantined because of exposure to the virus, or who are not ready to return to in-person.

Current Plan



PLAN A: IN PERSON LEARNING

- In-person, at school learning Monday - Friday
- New health protocols, procedures, and classrooms designed for physical distancing
- Daily self-screen by employees and students before coming to school and again upon arrival
- Small groups of students stay together and do not intermix with other groups to minimize exposure
- No live large group gatherings until further notice
- Online learning options available

Alternative Plans



PLAN B: HYBRID LEARNING

- In-person, at school learning part-time combined with at home online learning part-time
- This plan can be enacted to reduce the number of students in the building at one time



PLAN C: ONLINE LEARNING FROM HOME

- Students remain at home with online learning
- This plan can be enacted for varying lengths of time if the community spread of the virus increases or the MN Department of Health recommends this option for our school

PREPARING FOR FLEXIBILITY

The health and safety of our students and staff are our top priorities. School leadership will continue to monitor the situation and make changes to our educational plan as necessary. We do anticipate students moving in between the models if they need to stay at home due to illness (COVID-19 or other).

the school day

AT-A-GLANCE

Shakopee Area Catholic School is a healthy, safe, positive, and joyful place for students to come each day. We are professional educators. We understand that children had different experiences with distance learning. We understand that all families and children are handling these uncertain times in different manners. We are ready to welcome your child and meet his/her needs emotionally, socially, spiritually, and academically in the coming year.



9.02.20

Back To School Night -NEW FORMAT

Sign up for an individual time slot

Information coming soon

9.08.20

first day of school



MIDDLE SCHOOL

7:20 - 7:45 AM

ELEMENTARY

8:45 - 9:05 AM

arrival time



MIDDLE SCHOOL

2:25 PM

ELEMENTARY







3:40 PM

dismissal time

Together, we can support a healthy school.

At Shakopee Area Catholic School the health and safety of our students and staff are our top priority. Creating and maintaining a healthy school is essential and will require our community's support and participation. We have a long history of working in partnership, and we will draw on that as we work through this school year.

OUR COMMITMENT:

 <p>TEMPERATURE SCREENINGS</p> <p>Screening kiosks supervised by school staff will be used at each entrance.</p>	 <p>HAND WASHING</p> <p>Additional hand sanitizing stations added throughout the school.</p>	 <p>RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE</p> <p>Educate and encourage proper cough etiquette and mask usage as directed by Executive Order 20-81</p>	 <p>FREQUENT SANITATION</p> <p>Increased daily disinfecting throughout the school.</p>	 <p>FULL-TIME SCHOOL NURSE</p> <p>School Nurse on site daily.</p>	 <p>PATIENCE AND CARE</p> <p>Our caring teachers and staff will patiently nurture your child through understanding and following the changes to school</p>
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YOUR COMMITMENT:

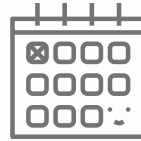
 <p>Symptom Screening</p> <p>Screen your child for symptoms before sending him/her to school each day. Anyone with symptoms should stay home.</p>	 <p>STUDENTS WITH SYMPTOMS</p> <p>Any person with COVID-19 related symptoms or who tests positive for the virus will be required to follow quarantine procedures.</p>	 <p>RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE</p> <p>Review proper cough etiquette with your child. Send a clean face mask to school with your child each day.</p>	 <p>CHECK-IN</p> <p>Check in with your child frequently to talk about the transition back to school. Let us know how we can help.</p>	 <p>PRAYER</p> <p>We believe in the power of prayer and ask you to pray for our school community.</p>	 <p>EMPATHY</p> <p>Practice empathy with other parents, other students, and school staff.</p>
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Each student will have his/her own desk or table. Classrooms arranged to maximize space in between students.



Small groups of students stay together as part of a learning "house." Houses do not intermix in order to reduce exposure.



Block Scheduling for our middle school students will decrease the number of daily classes and reduce the chance of exposure.



Students will have recess and time outdoors each day.



Face masks are required for students in K- 8 and all school staff in accordance with the MN Executive Order.



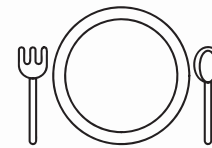
Hand sanitizing stations are now located throughout the building .



The number of students in the hallways will be limited. Hallways are marked with direction arrows and physical distancing decals.



Weekly Wednesday school Mass will be live-streamed to classroom.



Hot lunch and salad bar option will be available in pre-packaged containers.



The number of students in the cafeteria will be limited and students will be given more individual space.



Our modern HVAC system set to maximize airflow.



Necessary visitors (parents, vendors, etc) will be allowed by appointment.



Large group gatherings will be modified or live-streamed to classrooms.



Before and after school care provided by the YMCA as in the past.



We are waiting to hear from Palmer Bus Company about transportation.

For the health and safety of our community, you need to develop a habit of screening your child(ren) each day before school. Teaching your child to monitor his/her own health is an important life skill.

COVID-19 Screening Questions:

Do you have **one** of the following symptoms?

- Fever of 100 or higher or chills
- A new cough
- Shortness of breath

OR

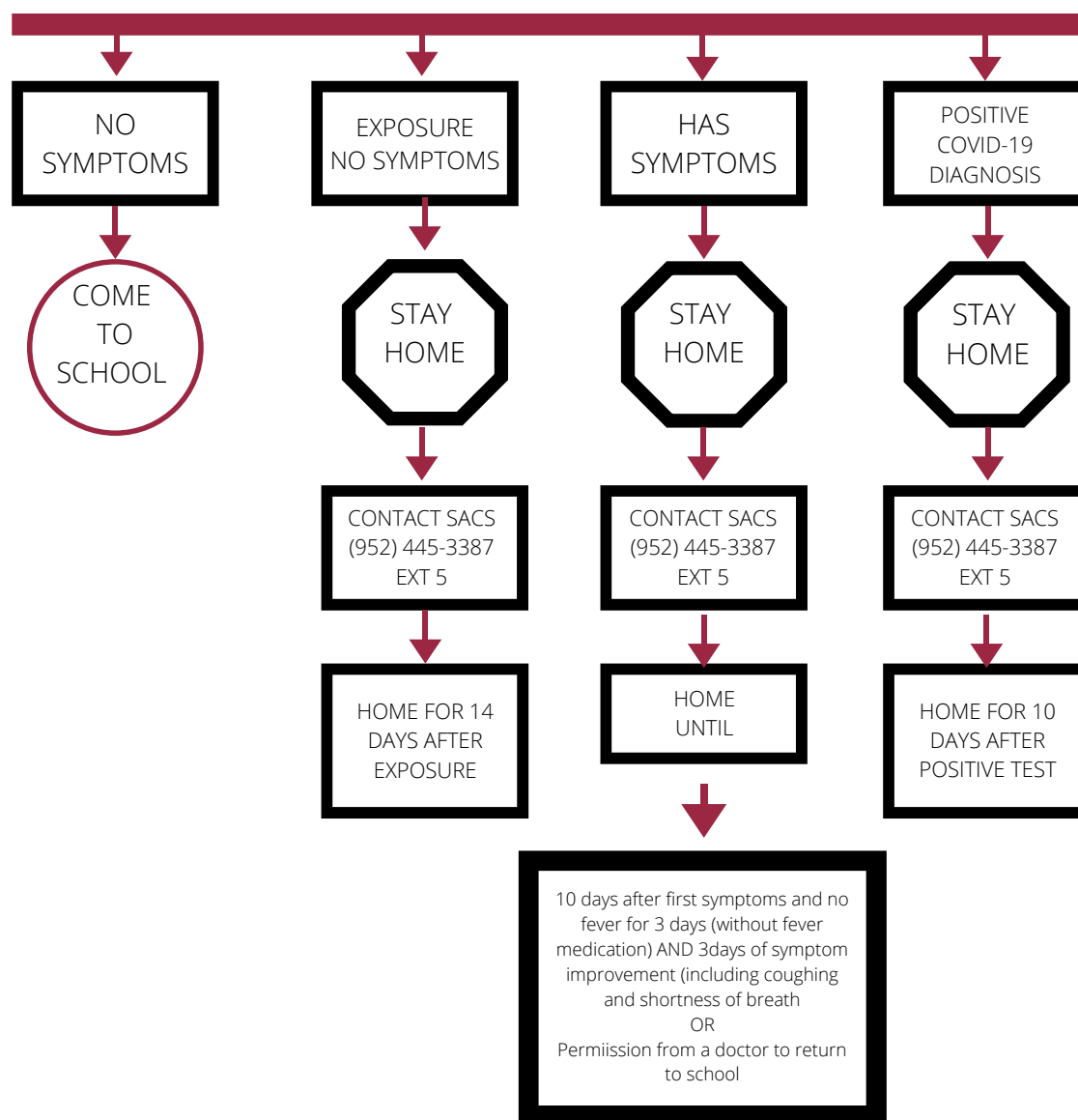
Do you have **two** of the following symptoms?

- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- A new sore throat
- New muscle aches
- New loss of smell/taste
- Congestion/runny nose
- Purplish fingers or toes

If you answered YES to either of the screening questions, we advise you to stay home, isolate, and contact your health care provider.

EXPOSURE is defined as having been within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes.

Daily Decision Tree

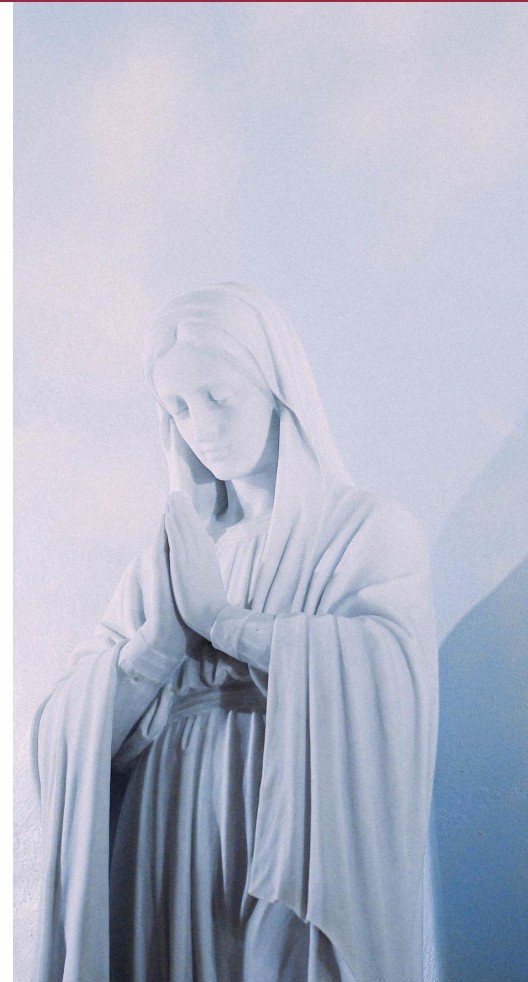


final notes

Realizing that we are all connected in raising our children is a beautiful and awesome responsibility. In order to open school, we need to work together as a community. We have a long successful history of working together. This fall marks the 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY of the Catholic Parishes of Shakopee (back when there were three separate parishes in Shakopee) coming together to have a consolidated school: Shakopee Area Catholic School. I believe we can be leaders by acting as a unified community and working together with respect and empathy to safely return to school.

As we say each day at SACS, "May Jesus be the way you walk, the truth you follow and the life you lead,"

Julie Moran, Principal



OUR RE-OPENING LEADERS:

Father Erik Lundgren
Julie Moran
Bruce Doyle
Rose Link
Cori Benz
Callie Strop

Jessica Imholte
Laura Rasmussen
Charlie Boeckenheuer
Brian & Jessica Moe
Laura Wermerskirchen
Trevor Geis



GET THE LATEST INFORMATION

We are committed to sharing current information throughout the school year. We will be adding a section to our weekly @SACS e-newsletter regarding the Pandemic Preparedness Response Plan.



SHAKOPEE AREA
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2700 17th Avenue East
Shakopee, MN 55379

WWW.SACSSCHOOLS.ORG |
(952) 445-3387

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Shakopee Area Catholic Schools nurtures the body, mind and soul of each child. We develop morally responsible leaders through rigorous, innovative academics in a welcoming and faith-filled Catholic community.