

St. John Neumann Catholic Preschool

Covid Plan 2022-2023

SJN Catholic Preschool will be following the Covid guidelines for Childcare facilities as directed by the Virginia and Fairfax County Departments of Health. We also will follow guidelines from the Diocese of Arlington Office of Catholic Schools. The guidelines below are subject to change as conditions change in our community. We will watch Fairfax County's community spread level – currently it is "low" - to update our guidelines.

Our school based mitigation strategies are multilayered as recommended by FCHD. As in years past, we will:

- Keep classroom windows and doors open to promote air circulation
- Classes will spend nearly ½ of their day outside
- Clean and sanitize all used toys daily as well as high touch surfaces in the classroom
- Health screenings performed daily on all teachers and students
- All students or staff with any symptoms of Covid must be cleared to return to school by a doctor

Any student who has any symptoms of Covid (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 or vomiting, diarrhea) must stay home and be checked by a doctor. We must have a note from the doctor clearing the child to return to school before the child is allowed to return. The doctor does not need to perform a Covid test, I just need the child cleared to return to school.

The local health departments no longer recommend that we cohort students, which means keeping each class separate from the others. Because of this, we will start both 4 year old classes at 9:15. The students will sit by class in the auditorium once they arrive. It also means that we can have every class attend Before care and Lunch Bunch on the days they attend school.

Our masking policy remains that neither students nor staff are mandated to wear a mask. If one chooses to wear a mask, that is fine. There are recommendations below for when one should consider wearing a mask.

Our Isolation guidelines for students or staff who have tested positive for Covid are as follows, regardless of vaccination status:

- 7 day isolation at home
- Can return to school on Day 8 if fever free with no medication for 24 hours and resolved symptoms **only if test negative on either PCR test or home antigen test on Day 6 and again on Day 8.** Parent must send a picture of the negative tests to Preschool before student can be re-admitted
- Consider wearing a mask on days 9-10
- Can return to school on Day 11 if not tested

Our Quarantine guidelines for students who have been in close contact with someone with Covid, either at home or at school, regardless of vaccination status:

- May continue to attend school
- Monitor for symptoms
- Consider wearing a mask for 10 days after exposure
- Consider testing immediately after exposure and again between Days 3 and 5

If there is a classroom exposure to a student with Covid, we will alert parents, but we will not shut the classroom. The only time we will consider closing a classroom is if we have an outbreak in the classroom which is more than 3 students or staff test positive for Covid within a 14 day period.

Information on testing from home

Parents may administer an at home test that you have purchased or SJN Catholic Preschool has obtained a limited supply of home antigen tests. These tests were provided free of charge to our program by the Virginia Department of Health. These tests require that while the test is taken, it is proctored by an organization called eMed Labs. This requires you to create an account with eMed and then follow the steps outlined in their guide and then follow the live proctor's

directions. These tests are free to use but do require you to administer the test while on a live connection with the proctor.

As conditions change in Fairfax County, we may need to change our policy. Families will be alerted via email with any updates.