



# St. Alphonsus School COVID-19 Handbook 2021-22

*This handbook is a special supplement to the St. Alphonsus School Parent and Student Handbook and St. Alphonsus School Faculty Handbook. Safety protocols, procedures, processes, and policies related to the Coronavirus Pandemic are outlined here. The protocols may be adapted, deleted, or revised as needed based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, American Academy of Pediatrics, Department of Public Instruction and the Greendale Health Department.*

## **St. Alphonsus School COVID-19 Policies and Procedures**

The health and safety of the St. Alphonsus School community is a top priority as we begin the 2021-2022 school year. The goal is to keep students in school to receive in-person instruction. The protocols developed give us the best opportunity for instructional continuity. We are asking all students, staff, and visitors to follow the guidelines outlined in this handbook.

The St. Alphonsus School Leadership Team anticipates these policies will change over time based on data from the Greendale community. St. Alphonsus School reserves the right to revisit the health and safety guidelines as the data changes and inform subsequent changes in practice for the continued safety of the school community.

### **Attendance**

During the 2021-22 school year all students will attend school in person. Students not in person on a given day will be marked absent. Please call the school office if your child will be absent. Virtual learning will only be available to students who are learning from home while in quarantine because of COVID.

### **COVID Related Absence**

Students will be asked to stay home or be sent home home if:

- They have taken medication (for example, ibuprofen, Tylenol) to reduce fever in the last 24 hours.
- They have tested positive for COVID-19, with or without having symptoms, and have not yet finished their isolation period per public health recommendations.
- Have been diagnosed with COVID-19 by a healthcare provider and have not yet finished their isolation period per public health recommendations.
- Within the last two weeks, they have come in close contact with anyone who has COVID-19 or within the last 24 hours, they have experienced the follow symptoms above their baseline:
  - Fever (at least 100.4°F)
  - 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

For the most up-to-date list of symptoms, visit <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/symptoms.html>.

Following these guidelines students will be asked to be tested for COVID-19. If the test is negative the student may return to school. If a parent/guardian chooses not to have the student tested for COVID-19 the student will need to be out of school for at least 10 days as per DHS guidelines and Greendale Health Department guidelines. If siblings of students with symptoms are asymptomatic they may come to school. If a family has multiple members with symptoms all family members may be asked to stay home as a precaution.

Note: Fully-vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine if they are exposed to someone who has COVID-19. If an unvaccinated person is within six (6) feet and no less than three (3) feet from a positive case AND both the positive case and the close contact are wearing a tightly fitted mask, quarantine is not required.

**Returning After COVID-19**

When a student tests positive for COVID-19 or comes into “close contact” with someone that tests positive for COVID-19 he or she will need to stay home. Close contact is defined as being within six feet of someone that tested positive for COVID-19 for at least fifteen cumulative minutes over a 24-hour period. In elementary schools, close contact may include an entire classroom of students if the students are not able to maintain physical distance to one another.. The following chart delineates how long students in such situations will need to remain at home before being able to return to in-person instruction. Note: Fully-vaccinated individuals or individuals who were diagnosed with COVID within 90 days of the current exposure do not need to quarantine if they are exposed to someone who has COVID-19. If an unvaccinated person is within six (6) feet and no less than three (3) feet from a positive case AND both the positive case and the close contact are wearing a tightly fitted mask, quarantine is not required.

Classroom teachers will communicate directly with families regarding the way in which assignments will be shared with students.

<b>IF</b>	<b>THEN</b>	Calendar days student is not in school
Your child test positive for COVID-19	Your child will need to learn from home for 10 days from the date of the on-set of symptoms. The last day prior to your child’s return to in person instruction, your child must be symptom free.	At least 10 days
Someone in your child’s household tests positive for COVID-19	Your child will be at home during the time any members of the household that test positive are isolating plus an additional 10 calendar days after the infected member(s) are released from isolation or 14 days from the date of observing symptoms. This assumes the child continues to be in direct, close contact with the household member while they are infectious. If the COVID positive	At least 20-24 days from the date of household members' onset date.

	<p>household member is able to isolate themselves separately from the child, the child would follow the guidelines for “close contacts”. This also assumes your child does not develop symptoms during the quarantine period.</p>	
<p>Someone your child has been in “close contact” with tests positive for COVID-19</p>	<p>A 14-day quarantine remains the safest option if you are a close contact of someone who has COVID-19. Quarantine may be shortened to 10 days, provided people still monitor for symptoms for the full 14 days. Quarantine may be shortened to 7 days if a person receives a negative test result (PCR or antigen) that was collected on day 6 or 7.</p>	<p>At least 7-14 days from date of exposure</p>

## **Anti-Bullying**

During this time of the pandemic teachers will be extra vigilant to the potential of students bullying one another if a student shows symptoms of COVID or has to quarantine at home.

## **Band and Orchestra**

Band and Orchestra will resume following safety precautions for COVID-19.

## **Birthday Treats**

Students may bring in individual treats for classmates. They may be homemade or prepackaged. Teachers will hand out the treats. Treats are only for the birthday students' classmates and not for other grade levels or other teachers.

## **Classroom Protocols**

- All students and staff will wear face coverings, regardless of vaccination status, indoors. Teachers may allow a mask break for a short portion of the day when students are seated, socially distant, and not talking.
- Students must use hand sanitizer upon entering the classroom.
- Teachers will establish routines for entering and exiting classrooms.

## **Classroom Snacks**

Students, in accordance with the classroom policy, may bring their own snacks to school. They may not share food. All classrooms are nut free. No snacks are allowed with any kind of nut.

## **Cougar Club**

Cougar Club will have students from all grade levels and follow the same COVID-19 protocols followed during the school day.

- All students will wear a face mask while inside during Cougar Club.
- All students should bring their own nut free snack.
- All tables and chairs will be disinfected after all students have left each night.

## **Educational Programs**

St. Alphonsus School will maintain its established educational programming. Some may require modifications because of COVID-19.

## **Encore Classes**

Encore classes will be held in their designated classrooms.

## **Extra-curricular after school activities**

Extra-curricular activities will resume. Additional information will be forthcoming regarding these activities.

## **Face Masks**

Face masks will be worn to begin the 2021-2022 school year. They will be worn by all students, staff, and visitors entering the building regardless of vaccination status. They must be worn in all common areas and in the classrooms. If a student is not able to wear a mask because of a medical condition, a note from the student's doctor stating the condition and the reason for exemption must be provided.

The CDC recommends universal masking in school for everyone over the age of 2, regardless of vaccination status, in areas of substantial community transmission or high community transmission. As of August 12, 2021 Milwaukee County and Greendale are in the high transmission category. If the community transmission decreases to the moderate or low transmission rates, the masking policy will be re-evaluated in accordance with CDC and Greendale Health Department guidance.

Teachers may allow a mask break for a short portion of the day when students are seated, socially distant, and not talking.

Face masks will be optional and not required outdoors.

Our goal is to keep children in school to receive in-person instruction rather than at home quarantined. This protocol provides us with the best opportunity for instructional continuity.

## **Field Trips**

We anticipate that field trips will resume.

## **Health Screenings**

Daily health screening and temperature checks will not be required for students, staff, or visitors. Students who begin exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or other contagious illnesses while at school will be sent home to the care of parents/guardians so that formal medical assessment or testing may occur.

## **Hallways**

All students and staff must wear face masks when in the hallways and public spaces. For efficient traffic flow we ask that students remain in a single file on the right side of the hallway.

## **Illness Policy**

Families are asked to closely monitor their children's health. Students who are unwell are asked to remain at home. A return to in-person learning may occur when a student is symptom free for 24 hours. Please call the school office if your child will be absent.

## **Locker Rooms**

Students in grades 5-8 will be permitted to use the locker rooms to change clothes before and after Physical Education classes. Students will be required to wear masks while changing.

## **Lockers**

Students in grades 6-8 will use lockers this year.

## **Lunch Period**

Students will return to eating lunch in the cafeteria. There will be two lunch periods. Tables will be wiped down between lunch periods. Students will have assigned seats. Approved parent volunteers will assist with hot lunch.

## **Mass**

All students will attend mass each week. Parents and visitors will be allowed to attend the all school mass.

## **Service**

Service is an important part of our curriculum and school mission. With fewer restrictions, St. Alphonsus will plan to reinstate and foster service activities at all grade levels.

## **Vaccination**

Students and staff are welcome at St. Alphonsus School regardless of their vaccination status. St. Alphonsus School will not require staff or eligible students to be vaccinated for COVID-19. Full vaccination remains the best strategy for eligible students (12 and older) to avoid missing class time. Fully vaccinated students and staff will not be required to quarantine following a close contact COVID-19 exposure.

## **Visitors and Volunteers**

On a limited basis, visitors and volunteers will be allowed to enter the school. All visitors and volunteers are asked to follow the school's mask requirements.

# COVID-19 Handbook 2021-22

## Signature Sheet

**Please sign and return by Monday, August 30, 2021**

I have received and have reviewed with my child/children the St. Alphonsus COVID-19 Handbook 2021-22 and agree to uphold the policies and procedures of the school.

Parent Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_