



St. Joseph COVID Safety Measures

St. Joseph will comply with the recommendations of our public health officials. These include recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and the DuPage County Health Department (DCHD). Each recommendation below is supported with a hyperlink to the source documentation.

This document is up to date as of 8/23/2021. St. Joseph's policies will mirror the guidelines from our public health officials as they evolve.

Policy for students with symptoms:

Every morning, each child should be screened at home for the following symptoms: Fever equal to or greater than 100.4F (38.0C), chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.

If a child exhibits ANY ONE of these symptoms at home, they should not be sent to school. If these symptoms are observed while in school, the student will be sent home.

A student can return to school:

After a negative confirmatory diagnostic test for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19). Per the DuPage County Health Department, this test MUST be a reverse-transcriptase PCR (RT-PCR) test or other SARS-CoV-2 confirmatory nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) as defined by the IDPH. Please note: point-of-care tests or tests that use saliva or oral mouth swabs are not recommended for confirmatory testing.

OR

Without testing, due to the clinical judgment of a healthcare provider, a medical note must be provided documenting that there is no clinical suspicion for current COVID-19 infection due to an alternative diagnosis.

OR

A student tests positive for SARS-CoV-2 and completes a period of isolation. See below for details.

AND

The student has been without a fever for greater than 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications, and symptoms do not interfere with the student's ability to participate in school learning and activities.

[Source: https://www.dupagehealth.org/DocumentCenter/View/5673/DCHD_Updated-COVID-19-Testing-and-Sports-Safety-Protocols_Apr192021-PDF?bidId=]

Policy for COVID-19 isolation:

Isolation refers to the separation of a person infected with SARS-CoV-2 from those who are not infected.

Isolation can be discontinued:

Ten days after symptom onset (for symptomatic students) or specimen collection date of positive test (for asymptomatic students)

AND

The student has been without a fever for greater than 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications, and symptoms do not interfere with the student's ability to participate in school learning and activities.

[Source:

<https://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/IsolationQuarantine%2004.26.21.pdf>]

Policy for quarantine:

Quarantine refers to the separation of a person from others when they might have been exposed to the virus.

If a student is a close contact of an individual who tests positive for SARS-CoV-2, they must quarantine. The DuPage County Health Department strongly recommends quarantine for 14 calendar days. However, they permit a quarantine of 10 days if no symptoms of COVID-19 develop during daily monitoring. SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing is recommended near the end of the quarantine period.

The last day of contact with the infected individual is considered day 0 of quarantine.

If a student in quarantine develops symptoms, they should be tested immediately.

[Source:

[DCHD COVID-19 Updated-Quarantine-Recommendations Updates Final-8162021-PDF \(dupage health.org\)](#)]

Policy for siblings of symptomatic/infected students:

If a student tests positive for SARS-CoV-2 and has siblings who are also students at St. Joseph School, the siblings will be subject to quarantine. The duration of this quarantine will depend on the extent to which the infected student can isolate from his/her siblings at home. Quarantine could last as few as ten days (if the siblings can completely isolate from the infected student) or as long as 20 days (ten days of continuous exposure to the infected student, plus 10 days of quarantine). Put differently, the last day of exposure to the infected student (the last day of their isolation) is day 0 of quarantine for the non-infected student.

[Source: <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/schoolfaqs>]

If a student is symptomatic and is kept home from school, his/her siblings can remain in attendance pending the symptomatic student's confirmatory SARS-CoV-2 test. We ask

parents to practice good judgement by keeping asymptomatic siblings out of school if they have a high suspicion that their symptomatic son/daughter has COVID.