



HOLY SPIRIT
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Health and Safety Addendum



** Holy Spirit Episcopal School may modify the Health and Safety Addendum as needed based on changes within the school community and under the guidance of public health officials.*

1. Prevention and Mitigation

The goal of Holy Spirit Episcopal School is to provide the least restrictive environment possible while maintaining the health and safety of students, faculty, staff and HSES community. In 2020-2021, we observed a decrease in all illnesses due to the increase in safety protocols. To continue with our prevention and mitigation strategy during this time of COVID-19 resurgence, HSES will continue to implement health and safety guidelines based on the recommendations of CDC, AAP, TEA and local health agencies. The school task force, in collaboration with the medical advisory board, will re-evaluate the policies and procedures in approximately four weeks to determine if less or more restrictions can apply.

We are grateful for the flexibility and support of families that allow for HSES to operate under unusual circumstances and still transform hearts and minds, regardless of the conditions.

2. Masks

The CDC and APP continue to recommend wearing masks for all individuals ages two and older. However, we have adapted the mask requirements, under the guidance of the medical advisory board and local health officials, for the following rules to apply on campus.

2.1 REQUIRED

All Adults and students in kindergarten through eighth grade must wear masks indoors. This includes teachers, staff, visitors, students in Lower and Middle School, and any other adult members of the community, regardless of vaccination status.

Students with symptoms that visit the nurse and may be allowed to return to class by wearing a mask until further notice, regardless of their age. The nurses will contact parents to review the options and seek their preference and consent.

2.2 OPTIONAL

Masks for students in Early Childhood and Primary School are not required indoors, yet highly encouraged to avoid potential exposure.

Masks are also optional for all individuals while:

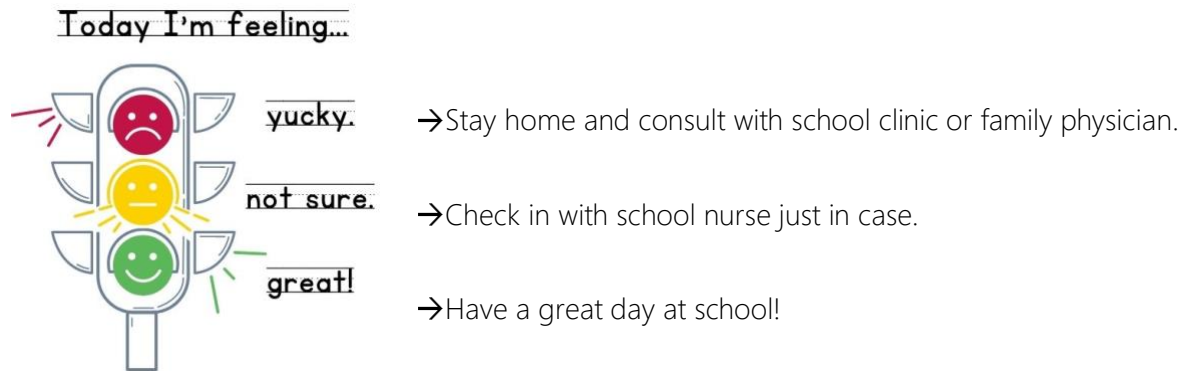
- Outdoors.
- Conducting physical activities.
- Practicing strenuous sports.

2.3 SUPPORT

HSES strongly encourages following these policies and asks families to partner with us in monitoring the usage of masks. The school also supports anyone that chooses to wear a mask at their discretion when optional. We promote a nurturing and inclusive community for all members to feel comfortable in their setting. Please review the [CDC guidelines](#) on mask-wearing to make an informed decision.

3. Daily Screening

The school has discontinued formal screening with temperature checks at arrival and daily questionnaire through the App. Instead, we will conduct informal screenings every morning during carpool with a simple “traffic light” method. *See example diagram.*



4. Monitoring Symptoms

Because formal daily screenings are no longer required, families will be mainly responsible for monitoring symptoms and communicating with the school clinic about health concerns. Anyone with signs or symptoms associated with an infectious disease should stay home.

If a student or staff member develops signs of illness during the school day, the nurses will evaluate them and determine a course of action. Depending on the symptoms of students, the nurses will review these options with parents:

1. Return to class by wearing a mask until further notice.
2. Pick up student from school clinic.
3. Return to school with doctor clearance.
4. Receive a COVID-19 test on site with parent permission.

The key to prevention is open communication; when in doubt, [contact the nurses](#).

5. Hygiene and Sanitation

The school will continue to implement strong hygiene and sanitation practices such as:

- Hand sanitizing before entering the building.
- Washing hands constantly, including after transitions, before and after snacks and lunch, after group activities and recess, during sports and P.E., etc.
- Encouraging to frequently clean individual items like supplies and personal belongings.
- Disinfecting common areas, play equipment and high touch surfaces.
- Posting signage with reminders and examples.

Another priority is to remind students of health best practices.

- Covering mouth for sneezes and coughs,
- Disinfecting hands after blowing nose.
- Maintaining distance for respiratory etiquette.

6. Quarantine

The school clinic, with the guidance of local health authorities and medical advisory board if needed, will determine the quarantine timeframe for individuals that display symptoms of a contagious disease.

Depending on the exposure, the nurses can provide a reduced quarantine with the option to return early by following strict guidelines and specific requirements

At this time, vaccinated individuals directly exposed to a COVID-19 positive case who do not experience symptoms are not required to quarantine but must provide negative results of a PCR test for approval to return.

People directly exposed to COVID-19 and exhibit symptoms are required to quarantine, regardless of their vaccination status.

7. Cohorts

Students in Lower and Middle School will experience group activities with assigned cohorts that allow them to socialize beyond their immediate classroom. These social pods will help maintain a balance between social interaction and limited exposure to prevent spread.

Early Childhood and Primary School students will remain only with their assigned classroom and will not be part of a cohort while indoors.

8. Social Distancing

The CDC recommends observing social distancing of 3 ft. when possible. We will encourage the practice of social distancing in situations that merit protection, and all grade levels will take advantage of the beautiful campus to enjoy activities outdoor when practical.

9. Testing Available on Campus

The school clinic offers rapid tests on campus for staff and students. Access to this program helps reduce the risk of exposure by testing symptomatic or asymptomatic individuals with quick results. The nurses will coordinate with the parents for permission and testing of children.

The [BinaxNOW tests](#) provide results in 15 minutes and are administered using a nasal swab in the front area of the nostril.

Curbside testing is offered after holiday breaks or other instances for convenience and peace of mind.

10. Distance Learning

Students in every division, from infants to eighth grade, must resume **in-person instruction** on campus for the 2021-2022 school year.

Online Instruction will only be available if a classroom must quarantine due to exposure. For individual students that must quarantine due to exposure outside of the school, the family will coordinate with the Division Head for protocol based on the grade level and resources available.

11. Vaccinations

HSES recommends for all eligible members to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and encourages employees to follow the Adult Immunization Schedule as advised by the CDC to protect children from communicable diseases. The school clinic facilitates vaccinations for influenza and COVID-19 as part of prevention program.

The majority of faculty and staff are vaccinated against COVID-19. Non-vaccinated employees must commit to weekly testing on campus until further notice.

12. Visitors

Visitors are allowed on campus under strict guidelines and by invitation to:

- Special events.
- Meetings
- Scheduled appointments.
- Pick up child at EC classroom or office.

All visitors must sign in through the Front Office and must adhere to the policies and procedures detailed in this guideline, including wearing a mask and hand sanitizing when entering the building.