Trinity School
2022-2023
COVID Mitigation Strategies and Protocols
Based on information available as of August 5, 2022, and subject to change.

“Proclaiming by our lives even more than by our words that God is good, we honor the dignity and sacredness of each person and create community among those with whom we work and with those we serve.”

- Excerpted from the Hallmarks of a Notre Dame Learning Community
Trinity School continues to monitor COVID-19 and assess the conditions within our school community and local area.

Protecting the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff remains our priority. The administration and nurses continue to monitor guidelines from multiple sources and adapt our safety and wellness strategies and protocols accordingly. Sources include but are not limited to: Center for Disease Control (CDC), Howard County Health Department (HCHD), American Medical Association (AMA), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Office of Child Care (MSDE), and state and local agencies.

Rationale rooted in:
- Our mission and philosophy
- The safety and physical and mental well-being of students, faculty, staff, parents, and community

Realities of providing, maintaining, and sustaining reasonable standard of care:
- Evolving medical and scientific information about the virus, variants and vaccine for adults and children
- Evolving guidelines from Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Center for Disease Control (CDC), American Medical Association (AMA), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Howard County Health Department (HCH), Office of Child Care (MSDE), and state and local agencies

We are grateful for your partnership and will continue monitoring this situation and providing updates as necessary.

FALL 2022
- We will continue to assess the effectiveness and sustainability of our safety and wellness strategies and protocols and adjust as needed.
- We acknowledge we will have to transition to all distance instruction and learning if directed to do so by state and/or local mandates and positivity rates.
- Virtual learning is not offered to students who are home sick, taking a day off from school or vacationing during the school year. If a student is not well, they need to concentrate all their energy to get well. Family vacations are discouraged during the school year.

Trinity School is a place where children learn to love learning.
Reasonable Standard of Care: Modifications and Mitigation

- Per CDC guidance, masks should be worn by all students who exhibit illness in the Health Room in St. Lidwine Hall.
- Masks are optional for students and adults throughout our campus. Trinity continues to support those individuals who choose to wear a mask on campus to protect themselves, their families and loved ones.
- Unvaccinated individuals who have had a recent close contact and who have not yet been cleared following the School’s and HCDH protocol may attend school while wearing an N95 or equivalent mask for the 10-day potential infection period.
- Student and faculty hand washing will occur frequently throughout the day using soap and water and/or hand sanitizers when age appropriate.
- All high traffic and touch areas will be sanitized/disinfected frequently throughout the day. The nurses have reviewed and approved all cleaning/disinfecting supplies and materials.
- Classroom and student supplies/materials will not be shared.
- Student, faculty, staff, and/or parent large group gatherings (Chapel, lunch, etc.) will occur considering the most current guidance on large group gatherings.
- Students are asked to use the water fountains with bottle fill stations.
- We strongly encourage everyone who is eligible to obtain the COVID vaccine and boosters as currently recommended by the CDC.

Wellness: Management and Response

- To ensure a quarantine room is available, the Health Room Annex is located in St. Lidwine Hall.
- The administration will monitor absenteeism. The administration asks families, faculty, and staff to avoid anyone who presents as ill.
- If a student or staff member is suspected to have the COVID-19 virus, based on any initial or on-going screenings or through observations from the staff, or self-reporting, the nurses, in consultation with HCHD, will utilize the most up to date Decision Aid and MSDE COVID-19 Protocols for all healthcare decisions for students, faculty, staff, and families.
  o The nurse will notify parents/guardians and/or the Director of Preschool and TED to contact Office of Child Care if warranted.
  o The individual will remain in the Health Room Annex until arrival of parent/guardian. The nurse will escort the child to the parent/guardian.

Fever Policy

If a student develops a fever of 100.0 F or above, they should stay out of school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the aid of antipyretic medication. The nurses will use their clinical judgment to evaluate situations on a case-by-case basis.

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- Parents/guardians are expected to pick up their child within 30 minutes of notification. Following a suspected and/or confirmed case, the Health Room and Annex will be sanitized/disinfected based on established protocols.

- All decisions for exclusion and return for persons with COVID-19 symptoms will be determined on an individual basis using the HCHD Decision Aid and in consultation with the HCHD public health professionals.
  - From Maryland Department of Health (MDH) - If a child or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19 or is a probable case of COVID-19 The child or staff member with confirmed COVID-19 or probable COVID-19 may return to the childcare program when he or she has met the CDC criteria.
  - As we gather more information and as new guidelines have been implemented by the CDC, Maryland Department of Health, and Howard County Department of Health we will update our isolation and quarantine procedures for individuals who test positive or who have been exposed to COVID-19.

- Persons who have confirmed COVID-19 or have symptoms regardless of vaccination status:
  1. **Day 1** is considered the first full day after the test was taken. Individuals are to stay home for 5 days from the date of the positive test.
  2. Individuals must wear a well-fitted mask around others for 10 days after the exposure.
  3. It is **recommended** that individuals take a rapid antigen test on day 5. If the person receives a negative test and has no symptoms for at least 24 hours without medications, he/she may return to school on day 6.

- Persons exposed to COVID-19 and who meet CDC’s definition of a fully vaccinated individual are up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations:
  1. **Day 1** is and considered the first full day after the date of last close contact
  2. Individuals do not need to quarantine unless they develop symptom. They must wear a well-fitted mask around others for 10 days after the exposure.

- Persons exposed to COVID-19 who do not meet CDC’s definition of a fully vaccinated individual and are not up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations:
  1. **Day 1** is considered the first full day after the date of last close contact. Individuals must wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days after the exposure.
  2. Individuals must take a home rapid antigen test on days 1, 3, and 5 (from exposure).
    - If the person tests negative, he/she may return to school the next day if asymptomatic (please send verification of a negative test to the school nurses).
    - If the person tests positive, he/she should follow the recommendations for isolation above.
    - If the person is unable to mask around others, and/or does not test, he/she should remain home 10 days from the date of last close contact.
• The Nurses and School Counselor will provide periodic Health Room and Social Emotional guidance and updates through Newsy Notes to parents, faculty, and staff. Health Room updates will begin in September.

While all plans are subject to change, please know that any measures taken will be continuously evaluated.

VISITORS
To maintain the safety and security of Trinity School and its community members, access to campus continues to be limited to students, faculty, staff, parents, and authorized visitors.