



**ADOM POLICY Regarding COVID-19 STUDENT Exposures,  
Reporting Requirements and  
RETURN TO SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS (Sept 16, 2020)**

For parents:

1. **Keep your child home if sick.**
2. **Follow procedure for daily screening** including calling the *designated* person at the school if there is a YES response on the screening tool for guidance about remaining out of school.
3. All school staff are also screened daily and anyone who is sick or has the possibility of an exposure is not admitted to school.
4. While we cannot guarantee 6' distance between all individuals at all times, **social distancing will be practiced** wherever possible for children and adults in all areas of parish and school campus, classrooms, offices, meeting areas, church, lunchrooms, school offices, after school care and while on school buses. In some cases, additional barriers or plexiglass screens have been added on or between desks or tables.
5. Movement in hallways, between classrooms or buildings, is in one direction only and directions are marked.
6. **Masks are required** to be worn by all except for children age two (2) or younger. While at play in supervised school recess, if socially distant AND engaged in vigorous activity, the mask may be removed.
7. The children will be seated with maximal available distance between them, facing the same direction, and in most cases, desks are assigned. This will help in enhancing the safety in the classroom and assist in contact tracing if that becomes necessary.
8. Space around Teachers' desks will be designated to provide social distancing between teachers and students.
9. No visitors will be allowed in the school for the safety of everyone.
10. Morning arrival to school and afternoon departure procedures will be required by the school for the safety of all and cooperation is expected and appreciated.

In the event of an exposure from someone diagnosed as positive within the parish or school, the school will follow CDC guidelines (and County Department of Health (DOH) guidelines) on contact tracing related to the exposure, on closing off and sanitizing the area(s) involved, and on whether or not students in the class or school need to be quarantined.

In addition to reporting of confirmed exposures to the County Department of Health, the Archdiocese requires all exposures to be reported by the schools to the Chancellors' Office

**REQUIRED ADOM POLICY**

- All persons over 2 years of age wear masks when with anyone – even if at a distance in excess of 6'

- As per the CDC guidelines that anyone with a *credible exposure* to **someone who has already tested positive** needs to quarantine until they receive negative test results or 14 days from exposure have passed and the individual remained asymptomatic throughout the period.
- **Please inform the school immediately if you, your child, or a member of your household believes they have had a credible exposure.**

**According to the CDC, a *credible exposure/close contact* may have occurred if:**

- ✓ You were within 6 feet of someone who has been infected with COVID-19, for at least 15 minutes;
- ✓ You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19;
- ✓ You had direct physical contact with the person (touched, hugged, or kissed them);
- ✓ You shared eating or drinking utensils; or
- ✓ They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you.

**DAILY SYMPTOM SCREENING FOR STUDENTS**

**STUDENTS will undergo symptom screening daily based on program and grade level, using a screening tool and data collection process determined by the school.**

Parents are the best persons to screen their child for symptoms of any illness. The school will provide the screening tool and the procedure for submitting the information daily.

Symptoms of regular childhood illnesses can be confused with COVID. In an abundance of caution, the parent may be advised to keep the child home and contact the school the following day to report progress of the child. The CDC notes that children experiencing the usual childhood diseases should return to school once symptoms resolve in a day or two. Symptoms of COVID will take longer to resolve and return to school would be based on the protocol provided by the ADOM and the FL Department of Health

**Your school may provide a temperature check at arrival and periodically during the day.**

**RESPONDING TO A POSSIBLE EXPOSURE**

If there is a possible exposure on the school campus from a sick child -- as well as providing for the needs of the sick child (providing waiting space, contacting parent, etc.), the following steps will be taken:

- The School notifies the pastor (for elementary schools), and the Office of Schools as quickly as reasonably possible;
- The School notifies the County Department of Health (DOH) for guidance regarding management of the exposure, including, but not limited to,

actions needed regarding contact tracing and communication and cleaning and disinfecting of space where the sick child or adult may have been. The School communicates with the Office of Schools regarding directions from the DOH.

- Any classroom or school-wide closure is determined in collaboration with the County DOH and the ADOM Office of Catholic Schools
- The School seeks the guidance from the County DOH on any additional community communication that may be necessary.
- If classroom or school-wide closure is necessary, cleaning and sanitization protocols consistent with the CDC guidelines and the local ordinances will be implemented. Reopening will occur only after the risk of exposure has been fully evaluated. While classroom or school is closed, students will participate in remote learning activities.

If there is a possible exposure on the school campus from a sick employee, the school follows a similar process including contact with the County DOH and disinfecting of the space used.

### **ADOM PROTOCOL FOR ENDING ISOLATION AND RETURN TO SCHOOL**

- An OUTBREAK SURVEILLANCE FORM (DOH) is used for possible exposure of children in the school/parish and is required to be submitted to the County Department of Health and the Archdiocese of Miami.

#### **The ADOM protocol for return to school is based on the CDC determination based on symptoms**

- that anyone who tested positive and has remained asymptomatic must isolate for a minimum of 10 days from testing date before consideration to return to school; if any symptoms appear, including fever, they should be reported immediately to the school; after 10 days, school seeks confirmation for student to return to school by contacting Chancellors' Office (Note – no repeat testing needed)
- that anyone who had mild to moderate symptoms of the disease, the symptoms, including temperature, should be monitored and reported to the school; that once the symptoms resolved AND a minimum of 10 days had passed from the onset of symptoms AND at least 2 days had passed without fever, school seeks confirmation for student to return to school by contacting Chancellors' Office. Note – no repeat testing needed)
- that anyone who had serious symptoms of the disease (and likely was treated in a hospital) will require medical clearance from a physician. The physician may prescribe additional test. The individual must remain isolated until medical clearance is received to return to work. **Contact Chancellor's Office for confirmation on clearance.**