

## St. Agnes Catholic School of Bloomsdale, Missouri COVID-19 Interim Policy for School Reentry

St. Agnes Elementary School has prepared this Interim Policy Document, to provide protocol for mitigating the impact of the SARS-CoV-2 (Covid) during the school day while balancing our children's need for socialization and in person educational instruction. The St. Louis Archdiocese has recommended its schools follow the "American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Covid-19 Interim Guidance for School Reentry" document. This St. Agnes specific reentry policy is based on the AAP document. A copy of the AAP document can be found on the St. Agnes School website. This plan reviews the different activities throughout the school day and how the AAP Guidance document will apply. It should be noted that this policy document will change as conditions warrant or info from the AAP changes. A big portion of the success of this reentry plan will be dependent on parent knowledge and participation. Please talk to your children before school starts about this reentry plan. All parents are required to read this document and sign at the bottom noting they have discussed this plan with their children and their intent to comply.

### *Before School Entry Screening*

No child, visitor, parent or educator will be allowed to enter St. Agnes school with a temperature above 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit. When you pull up to drop your kids off, someone will be there to check the temperatures of your children. If a child's temperature is elevated due to a hat or direct sunlight exposure, the child will be allowed to be retested in 5 minutes (while remaining in the parent's car) provided the parent waits with their child. It should be noted that giving your child fever reducer medication to reduce your child's temperature before school puts the whole school at risk and is a strict violation of this policy. In addition to the morning screenings, faculty will be screening student's mid-day.

If your child has a fever, they are required to stay home for three days until your child's temperature is below 100.0 without the aid of fever reducer for 24 hours. If the student is diagnosed with Covid, the student must remain quarantined for 14 days. If you bring your child to the doctor and the doctor provides a note that the fever is due to non Covid related issues like Strep or an ear infection, the child may return sooner. If a child has a fever and is suspected of having Covid, the family must keep all siblings at

home as well. Any child kept home for health reasons or as precautionary measure will not be counted as absent for disciplinary purposes.

### *Before and After School Care*

St. Agnes asks no children arrive at the school until 7:00 am (with the exception of preschoolers going directly to the Pre K room). For children arriving after 7:00 they will be directed directly to their school room. A big portion of our guidance revolves around keeping children from different classes intermixing whenever possible.

After school, children will be let out of school in staggered groups by class. All parents are encouraged to pick your children up after school. For those that need to leave their children with after school care, children will be separated in tables by family and/or age group. At the after-school care moderator's discretion, children may be given time to play on the playground.

### *Visitor Policy During School Days*

St. Agnes will strongly discourage parents entering school when class is in session, with the exception of parents dropping Pre K kids off. Any visitors or contractors that come in the school during the school day will be required to wear face masks and limit their visit time. Any volunteers other than those regularly in school will be required to wear facemasks as well.

### *Elimination of Touch Points*

A big component of the AAP recommendations relies on elimination of touch points rather than relying solely on disinfection procedures. St. Agnes will adopt the following procedures to eliminate touch points:

- Touchless water bottle fillers will be installed on all water fountains. Students will not be allowed to drink directly from water fountains.
- Parents will be required to send their children to school with two clean water bottles with their child's name clearly written on the bottle. Please talk to your child about not sharing or touching other student's water bottles.
- Doors to classroom will be left open when possible to prevent opening and closing.

- Doors to the school will be kept open (weather permitting) from 7:00 to 7:30 am and 2:35 to 3:00 pm to prevent frequent touching of door handles
- The majority of the students will be kept in the same classroom and faculty will change rooms rather than the students changing rooms to prevent students from touching multiple desks in multiple rooms.
- If students do change classrooms it will be by the upper grades who will wear masks traveling between classes. Desks will be sanitized between class changes.
- Students will be encouraged to not touch railings and keep hands at sides when walking in the halls.

### *Social Distancing*

The following social distancing requirements will be implemented:

- All desks in classroom spaced at least three (3) to six (6) feet apart;
- Limiting number of students allowed in restroom at one time
- Limiting number of students allowed on the playground at one time
- Limiting number of students in the hallways at one time
- Limiting number of students in the library at one time

### *Face Mask Usage*

Since St. Agnes can achieve social distancing guidelines for the majority of the school day, face masks will not be required for students. However, if its determined that social distancing cannot be attained in cases like walking the halls and using the bathrooms, student's 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up will be required to have a clean cloth facemask each day. If a parent determines their child is an at-risk group, they are encouraged to wear face masks as well.

Faculty will wear a facemask when they are giving personal instruction to individual students.

### *Usage of Hand Sanitizer*

St. Agnes has acquired a large amount of 8 oz, 80% alcohol spray hand sanitizer bottles. Faculty will be responsible for ensuring application of the students hands and students will use them after entering the bathroom, cafeteria, or playground.

### *Disinfection Procedures*

In order to maintain clean surfaces, St. Agnes has acquired a large amount of sanitization wipes and other disinfection products. The following disinfection procedures will be followed.

- Desks will be wiped down at the end of each school day
- Bathrooms will be sanitized several times a day.
- Playground equipment will be periodically sanitized
- Cafeteria tables will be wiped down after each use.
- Other common areas will be wiped down as usage warrants.
- Monthly applications of a RAZOR anti-microbial product that when sprayed on surfaces will prevent virus's from attaching for 30 days.

### *Cafeteria Lunch procedures*

St. Agnes has adopted the following cafeteria lunch procedures:

- Smaller groups using the cafeteria.
- Two students per table.
- Student lunches will be delivered to their table by cafeteria staff.
- Lunch choices will be minimized and simplified.

### *Playground and General Student Behavior*

St. Agnes recognizes that the ability to socialize and play with one's classmates is an important part of a child's development. Recesses will be held in smaller groups. While children are encouraged to socialize and play together, we ask parents to discuss with their children reasonable social guidelines such as avoiding hugging, holding hands, excessively close contact or spitting. In addition, younger students will need to be reminded to keep hands out of mouth, nose, and eyes. All students should adhere to good handwashing procedures.

### *School Mass Procedures*

There will not be any all school masses to start the school year. Masses will be limited to smaller groups held four days per week.

### *Final Thoughts*

It is the hope of St. Agnes that the above referenced procedures are sufficient to reduce lost school time due to Covid or other infectious diseases. As always, any program is only as effective as its participants willingness to comply. If you have any questions or concerns the St. Agnes Principal can be reached by phone at 573.482.2506 or by email at [principal@stagneselementary.org](mailto:principal@stagneselementary.org)

**ST. AGNES PARENT RECEIPT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE SCHOOL  
REENTRY POLICY**

I (parent name) \_\_\_\_\_ have received a copy of the St. Agnes Covid-19 Interim Policy for school reentry. I have read the policy and discussed the policy with my children. Our family will comply with this policy to the fullest extent possible. I recognize that failure to comply with this policy may result in the exclusion of my children from in person learning at St. Agnes.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_