



Sacred Heart PreK Safety Plan 2020-2021

****Some protocols may change before school starts.

Handwashing

- Teachers/staff will reinforce handwashing routines for children to include washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially when children arrive, before/after using the playground, after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing. Hand washing posters will be visible reminders for our staff and children.
- If soap and water are not available, children will use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Students will be supervised at all times when using hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer will be inaccessible to children when not in use.
- Staff will wash hands upon arrival and when re-entering the classroom if they have left for a break.

Practicing Healthy Hand Hygiene

- Arrival to the facility and after breaks
- Before and after eating or handling food
- After using the toilet or helping a child use the bathroom
- After coming in contact with bodily fluid
- After playing outdoors or in sand
- After handling garbage

Respiratory Etiquette: Cover your cough and sneeze

- Staff are instructed to cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or elbow or a tissue when coughing or sneezing and avoid touching their face.
- Staff will instruct children to practice the same respiratory etiquette. This will be reviewed daily.
- Tissues must be disposed of in waste basket and hands washed immediately. Sanitizer should only be used if soap and water is unavailable.
- Tissue boxes are located in the classroom and in the recess cinch sack.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Routine cleaning and disinfecting is key to maintaining a safe environment for our faculty, students and staff.
- High-touch surfaces such as doorknobs, light switches, stair rails, counters, table/chairs, shared toys, cots, program equipment and other items are regularly cleaned and disinfected.
- Teachers will minimize the use of shared supplies such as crayons, markers, glue sticks, art & crafts, etc.) that cannot be sanitized. Bins will be used to designate clean and used items.
- We will use our mouthed toy-bucket.
- Classrooms/bathrooms will be cleaned daily.
- Custodians will use EPA-registered disinfectants recommended by CDC. The rooms will be cleaned in the evening when no children are present.

Arrival and Departure

- Pick up and drop off will occur outside our main school door inside the vestibule. We want to limit the extent to which parents enter the building and interact with each other. Families are encouraged to social distance, with one family in the vestibule at a time.
- Before the child enters the school, we will screen children for symptoms, including taking each child's temperature with a no-touch thermometer. Persons who have a fever of 100.0 F. or above or show other signs of illness will not be admitted inside the school.
- We will provide parents with information on the importance of monitoring symptoms and children staying home while ill along with written protocols from the MN Dept. of Health.
- Children will only be allowed to bring one backpack to school, no other bags allowed. Personal toys will need to stay at home. We will do show and tell using a program called Flipgrid.

Plans for sick children, staff, and volunteers

- Teachers and staff will conduct daily health checks. We want to make sure that anyone that exhibits any symptoms of illness are not present in the program.
- Symptoms: Fever of 100.0F or higher, chills, body aches, shortness of breath, fatigue, sore throat, loss of taste and smell, diarrhea, headache.
- If a staff member or child gets sick, the person will go to an area isolated from the rest of the class. They will wait there until they are able to be picked up. A plan will be made with parents prior to school stating the expectations if their child becomes ill while at the program.
- Any identified positive cases of COVID-19 will be reported to MDH.
- The school will communicate with families when a someone in the program has tested positive for COVID-19, is exhibiting symptoms, and or exposed. The school will follow guidance given to us from MDH.

Social Distancing throughout the Day

- Our teachers will limit group sizes as much as possible and create consistent groups of children. The class and teachers will stay together throughout the day. Children will have limited travel in the school during the day. Most specialists will come to the classroom.
- When dropping off or picking up children, families are encouraged to social distance from others and required to wear a face covering.
- We will focus on small group or individual activities, rather than whole group whenever possible.
- We will hold some activities outdoors so children can spread out, such as physical education. Daily recess will be held each day, pending weather.
- We will use visual cues to direct traffic flow and distancing for children, such as putting X's on the floor, etc.
- During 4/5 year old rest time, the cots will be spaced out as much as possible and sanitized after use. Children will be assigned the same cot each day.

Cloth face coverings

- Cloth face coverings are an important piece of mitigating the spread of the virus, but are only effective if it can stay in place without being pulled on or touched by the person wearing it or others. Staff members will wear cloth face coverings/face shields during the work day as much as possible.
- Families (adults) will be required to wear face coverings/masks when entering our building at drop off and pick up.
- Children should not wear face coverings unless they can reliably wear, remove and handle the cloth face covering throughout the day. MDH does not recommend that children attending Pre-K programs wear cloth coverings, however we strongly encourage children to wear them.

Outdoor Activities

- We have a designated playground for PreK only. We will stagger recess times on Tuesdays and Thursdays when both 3 and 4 year olds share the playground.
- Children will wash hands before and after playing outside.
- High touch areas of the playground will be sanitized after recess.

Meals and Snacks

- Snack will be served in the classroom and lunch served in the lunchroom. If your child brings a cold lunch, make sure to send plastic silverware if needed and pack easy to open containers/packages that your child can manage. We want students to be as self-sufficient as possible to eliminate contact on surfaces their mouth will come in contact with.
- Children will wash hands before and after eating.

Ventilation

- We will encourage the use of our outdoor space each day.
- We will ensure ventilation systems are being properly used and maintained.

Drills

- Fire and tornado drills will be verbally discussed and practiced with children in their classrooms.
- In the event of an actual emergency, the normal procedures will be followed.

Training and Communication

- The COVID-19 Preparedness Plan will be given to staff via hard copy and electronically.
- Additional training will be provided to staff as needed.
- All staff will work together to follow this plan and any changes that may occur.
- This plan is fluid and changes may need to be made. If changes are made, staff will be notified in a timely manner.
- The plan will be posted in a prominent place and readily accessible to staff and families.
- Signs will be posted throughout the school.

