

ST. ALBAN ROE

COVID-19 Guidelines

Revised August 2021

The following guidelines are compiled from the CDC, STL County Health Department, DESE and The Archdiocese of STL recommendations and requirements. They are intended to keep students, families, staff and faculty safe as well as reduce the chance of significant educational disruptions.

What to look for:

If a student or staff member has any of the following symptoms or an exposure to COVID-19 and are symptomatic they should not attend school.

- Fever (over 100.4) or chills
- Cough
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
- New runny nose or congestion
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Close contact with a person with COVID-19 in the last 14 days

What is the definition of close contact? People closer than 6 feet apart, for longer than 15 minutes.

What will social distancing look like?:

- Student desks will be placed 3- 6 feet apart. All student desks facing the same direction. No pods or neighborhoods.
- Seating charts will be used. Those charts will be saved by the teacher in the event there is a positive case/exposure as they will assist with contact tracing and identify close contacts.
- Non-essential visitors will not be allowed in school to start the year.
- Lockers will be used but every other one will remain unassigned.
- Restroom breaks will be scheduled within each level so as to not have more than one class/grade at the restroom at once. Restroom breaks will be supervised.

Will students and staff be wearing face coverings?:

- Everyone will wear a mask at school except for eating and drinking. Masks are not required outdoors for times such as recess, PE and class outside at one of the three outdoor learning areas.
- Everyone will wear a mask during arrival/dismissal procedures.
- There are face shields available for teachers to use while lecturing and socially distant from the students. They are not as protective alone as a mask, but from a distance they can be useful when teaching.

Will there be extra hand washing and cleaning?

- Hand washing is crucial to not getting sick. Soap and water is ideal but hand sanitizer works well as long as there is no physical dirt/grime. Wash hands before eating, after restrooms, after PE and after recess.
- There will be an abundance of hand sanitizers in the school, in hallways, in rooms and in the office. High touch surfaces will be a priority when cleaning.
- The Parish has purchased an electrostatic sprayer to be used mid-day and at the end of each day throughout the entire school.
- There will also be bottles of liquid sanitizer that will be used on the playground equipment after EACH class. That equipment can just be sprayed and then let air dry.
- The water fountains will be used ONLY to refill water bottles. There are new water bottle fillers installed in all the drinking fountains. Each student will be asked to bring a full water bottle every day (labeled with their name) instead of using the fountains for drinking.

How will ventilation be improved?

- Having class outdoors is always encouraged when the weather is cooperative.
- Air purifiers have been added to all classrooms to increase ventilation and improve air quality.
- Opening of windows will help air flow as well when weather allows.

What will encore classes look like?

- PE will be in the gym or outside. Students will sanitize their hands after equipment use. All encores may use the outdoor classroom areas when available.

Will students attend mass?

- Students will attend level mass as a class.
- All School Masses - will be held at church and masks will be in place.

What will lunch/recess look like?

- Students will eat in the cafe- three students per table. Outdoor lunch is encouraged (weather permitting) for intermediate and middle school students since they are able to manage their trays/hot lunches.
- Students will have recess outdoors without masks weather permitting.

We will continue to monitor COVID-19 in our community. We collaborate frequently (via zoom and email) with health officials from the CDC and STL County Health Dept, as well as DESE and the Archdiocese to make changes to our protocols as needed. We appreciate your cooperation in this unprecedented time.