



COVID-19 Restart Policies and Guidelines
Subject to revisions as Local, State, and Federal Mandates dictate
Revised April 12, 2022
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for Solomon Lutheran School

Health and Safety

Daily Health Assessments: Students and personnel are required to take their own temperature before reporting to school and to stay home if above 100°F or are experiencing two or more symptoms such as new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste/smell, fatigue, headache, congestions, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, sore throat, and/or muscle weakness. Personnel and students who are ill must stay home from school and must be sent home if they become ill at school, particularly if they have COVID-19 symptoms as stated above. While waiting to go home, ill persons will wear a facemask and be placed in a separate isolation room overseen by school personnel who are also wearing a mask.

Showing Symptoms of COVID-19 at School: Students or employees who exhibit symptoms while physically attending school in-person will report to a quarantine room, be required to wear a face mask, and any adults interacting with them will be required to wear a face mask. Those showing symptoms will be required to go home as soon as possible.

Arrival and Dismissal

All students will be assigned an entry and exit point. All other visitors can only use the Cherry Street entrance. The two south marked doors will be one way entry doors, and the two north marked doors will be one way exit doors.

Visitors: Unvaccinated visitors are requested to wear facemasks when entering the building.

Good Hygiene Practices: Hand sanitizer (60-95% alcohol based) and sanitizing products will be available for personnel and students to use, especially in high traffic areas, including at each school entrance and in every classroom. Students will be required to either use the hand sanitizer station or soap and water in their classroom prior to going to their desk or transitioning from another activity or space. Students will be required to wash hands with soap and water prior to eating.

Clean and Sanitize: Frequent cleaning of surfaces using products designed for killing viruses and bacteria will be used while paying particular attention to high-touch areas (stair handrails, door handles, counters, desks, tables, chairs, lavatories, computers, etc.) and completed throughout and at the end of the school day. Additional cleaning and disinfection of the building facilities will be completed after students leave for the day.

Physical/Social Distancing: Students and personnel will maintain physical distancing (at least 3 feet apart) among all persons on school grounds when possible. Visual cues (i.e. floor markings) and other strategies to reinforce distancing will be used throughout the building. Transition schedules that minimize the number of students and staff in common spaces including hallways, cafeteria, etc. will be utilized.

Face Coverings:

The Solomon Lutheran Christian Day School Committee will determine which of the following Phases the school will operate. Guidelines and mandates by the local and state Departments of Health, CDC, Ohio Department of Education and Governor's office will be considered when determining the phase of operation.

Phase 1: All students and personnel in the school building are required to properly wear a face covering that does not distract from the learning environment.

Phase 2: Students and personnel are required to wear a face covering when social distancing is not possible and in common spaces such as the hallways, restrooms, lunch line or classroom when working closer than 3' from another unless they provide documentation of their vaccination.

Phase 3: Face coverings will not be required, but may continue to be worn by individuals.

All Phases: Those wearing inappropriate or distracting face coverings will be given a disposable mask for the day. Students and personnel may remove face coverings when outside, eating, or participating in a sports activity, but should continue to practice social distancing when possible. School nurses or personnel who care for sick persons will utilize appropriate PPE.

Those who are wearing a mask must follow proper use according to the CDC guidelines. Found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>. If a mask is unable to be worn by an individual, a physician's note must be supplied to the school administration.

Student Learning: It is important to note that expected health practices will require new learned behaviors. Parents/guardians are highly encouraged to practice mask wearing and hygiene practices at home before the upcoming school year in order to provide a smooth home to school transition. Age-appropriate learning about COVID-19 control strategies for students will be implemented by the teaching staff. This will be on-going to reinforce the importance of handwashing, physical distancing, appropriate use of face masks, cough and sneeze etiquette, and the importance of staying home when sick or displaying symptoms. Environmental print material promoting infection control strategies (i.e. cough/sneeze etiquette, proper handwashing, appropriate use of face masks, physical distancing, importance of staying home when sick, etc.) will be on display.

Employee Training: Education and training for all employees will be provided on how to properly put on, use, take off, and dispose of PPE. Adequate education will be provided for all school personnel to know and recognize the most likely symptoms of COVID-19 and how to protect employees and students from transmissions. All school personnel will be provided training about COVID-19 infection control strategies and related school policies and procedures. Instruction will include, but not limited to, appropriate handwashing, physical distancing, use of face masks, symptoms, staying home when sick, etc. and strategies to reinforce these concepts with students and parents/guardians.

Symptoms: Students and employees experiencing symptoms as outlined below should **not** attend school or work or be sent home if experiencing the symptoms from the below groups. If diagnosed with COVID-19, isolation protocol should be followed. Students and employees (diagnosed with COVID-19) may return to school or work per the current CDC guidance and after being 24 hours of fever free without medication and symptoms are improving. Personnel and students who exhibit symptoms similar to COVID-19 as listed in the groups below are required to seek the advice of health care professionals to negate the possibility of COVID-19. Documentation from the health care provider clearing the person to return or proof of a negative COVID test is required prior to returning.

Group A 1 or more symptoms	Group B 2 or more symptoms
<input type="checkbox"/> *Cough (new uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing, for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline) <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty Breathing <input type="checkbox"/> Fever (100.0 or higher)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat <input type="checkbox"/> Runny nose/congestion <input type="checkbox"/> Chills/shaking or exaggerated shivering <input type="checkbox"/> New lack of smell or taste <input type="checkbox"/> Muscle pain <input type="checkbox"/> Headache <input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue

Diagnosed or exposed to COVID-19: Students and employees should not report to Solomon if they believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 until discussing the situation with the School Principal. Families and staff must notify school within 24 hours if they have been exposed to COVID-19, have tested positive or presumed to have COVID-19 and are quarantined, or if a family member has been diagnosed with or presumed to have COVID-19 and/or is being isolated. Parents/guardians will be notified in writing within 24 hours of receiving notification regarding a student or staff member's positive COVID-19 test or clinically diagnosed case of COVID-19 and include as much information as possible without disclosing protected health information. Solomon will report confirmed cases to the Sandusky County Public Health Department within 24 hours of receiving information, which will then report new cases and cumulative case data for students and teachers to the Ohio Department of Health. This aggregate data will be published at coronavirus.ohio.gov each Wednesday.

The following applies to someone who **has COVID-19 regardless of vaccination status:**

- Stay at home for five days until fever is gone and other symptoms are better.
- Isolate from others including those in your home.
- Wear a face covering if you cannot isolate yourself.
- After day 6
 - if symptoms have improved and fever is gone, you may return to school and must wear a mask for 5 more days.
 - if symptoms have not improved, stay home until improvement and fever is gone, you may return to school after improvement and must wear a mask for 5 more days.

The following guidance applies for **contacts** who have **been exposed** to someone with COVID-19. (Mask to Stay/Test to Play Option) The person who tested positive for COVID-19 should follow standard isolation procedures.

Quarantine is not necessary provided they adhere to the following precautions:

- Wear a mask indoors for 10 days from the last exposure and test on day five. In addition:
- Self-monitor for symptoms; unless symptoms develop, individuals can continue attending in-person class and participating in sports and extra-curricular activities while wearing a mask.
- Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 should isolate away from others and be evaluated for COVID-19. Testing for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) may be recommended in coordination with the local health department, school, healthcare provider, or parents/guardians.
- If they test positive, they should isolate for at least 5 days from the date symptoms started (or the date of the positive test if they have no symptoms and wear a mask an additional 5 days).

Returning to School Following Quarantine: Personnel and students with confirmed or presumed COVID-19 must consult with the School Principal and meet these conditions prior to returning to school:

- at least 5 days have passed since symptom onset
- 24 hours after fever resolves without use of fever-reducing medication
- respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath) improve
- must wear a mask for 5 days

Students will not be penalized for this absence and will receive ample time to make-up the work.

Additional Precautions Required During Flare-Ups:

Through partnership with the Sandusky County Public Health Department, the following additional precautions required during COVID-19 flare-ups are outlined below.

- Increased cleaning procedures will be implemented for all objects shared by students or personnel.
- Take temperatures of personnel and students upon arrival and additional times during the day as deemed necessary and send them home if 100°F or above or if employee/student is experiencing other symptoms.
- Utilize remote learning (electronically or paper format).
- Provide take-home meals for students who participate in free/reduced lunch programs.

Communication Plan:

Communication with parents/guardians is a critical component to maintaining the health and safety of all. Solomon will utilize the phone messaging notification system, email, website, and/or Facebook page to convey important information to parents/guardians. Parents/Guardians are responsible for notifying the school of any change in contact information. Parents/guardians will be notified in writing within 24 hours of receiving notification regarding a positive COVID-19 test or clinically diagnosed case of COVID-19 and include as much information as possible without disclosing protected health information. Solomon will consult with and notify the Sandusky County Public Health Department, Ally Smith, within 24 hours of receiving a report of a positive COVID-19 case.

Educational Considerations

Focus on Equity:

Each Child, Our Future, Ohio's 5-year strategic plan for education identifies Equity as Ohio's greatest challenge. Equity in education means that each child has access to relevant and challenging academic experiences and educational resources necessary for success across race, gender, ethnicity, language, disability, family background and/or income.

Assessment of Student Educational Levels:

As students return to various school settings, Solomon will need to determine where students are in their acquisition and retention of knowledge. It will be important to gauge where they are in terms of standards. Solomon will use ODE provided guidance in analysis of progress monitoring data to determine where students are in their acquisition and retention of knowledge and will leverage the collaborative partnerships of Educational Service Centers and State Support Teams for this support.

High-Risk Population:

Solomon will develop and implement a plan for addressing needs for students and school personnel with special healthcare needs that place them at higher risk for medical difficulties related to exposure to COVID-19. This may include enhanced modifications such as remote learning for high-risk and quarantined students and employees.

Curriculum:

Solomon's curriculum will be available to students in both hard copy and electronic formats. In the event of a mandated school building closure curriculum will be accessible online.

Attendance:

In-person attendance is important and conducive to learning. However, in the current pandemic environment, a focus on student attendance must be balanced with a priority for keeping students and employees safe and healthy. Parents and educators will work collaboratively to meet the needs of each individual during a prolonged absence or closure due to COVID-19. Solomon will remain in person attendance each school day per the adopted school calendar unless COVID-19 circumstances mandates a closure or modified attendance schedule. Solomon will collaborate with local health officials to determine needed modifications.