



St. Gregory the Great School COVID-19 Plan 2021-2022

Our primary goal is to maintain in person instruction 5 days a week. We will review these guidelines and keep up to date on any changes to these protocols as mandated by NYS and the ECDOH. This plan is subject to change based on the most current guidance from NYS and ECDOH.

SCHOOL CAMPUS

St. Gregory the Great School is a large school building situated on a large Parish campus with multiple buildings and a lot of green space. We will offer outdoor education through the use of the front fields located next to the ministry center, green space in the front of the school building and behind the school where the track is located. Some classes may walk to Bassett Park to utilize that space as well. We believe in offering in-person instruction 5 days a week for our students and our green space is essential to achieving this goal.

CLASSROOM DESIGN

Safety has been the priority in classroom design while still maintaining a loving, welcoming environment in which our students will feel comfortable. Square footage requirements were utilized when determining class size. Student desks will be at least 3 ft. apart in the classrooms.

VENTILATION

- Doors and windows will be open when the temperature is 50 degrees or above to improve air circulation.
- The school has the required HVAC systems in place.

CAFETERIA/DINING HALL

- Students in PK4 will eat in their classrooms.
- Students in grades EK-8 will eat in the cafeteria. Grades 5 and 8, our largest cohorts, will rotate eating lunch in the cafeteria and in the classroom due to capacity.
- Teachers and staff will have students use hand sanitizer before entering the cafeteria and then once they return to the classroom will use hand sanitizer or go to the bathroom to wash their hands.
- Face coverings will be worn when not at their seats. There will be no food sharing and moving in the cafeteria once seated. Students will sit with their homerooms for the beginning of the year and this will be revisited for grades 4-8 throughout the year.

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Updated 9/13/21 based on release of ECDOH 9/4/21 plan.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

- All high touch surfaces will be cleaned nightly by the cleaning company.
- Teachers will clean high touch areas throughout the school day.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be located at all entrances.

DISTANCE LEARNING

- Distance learning will only be available to students who qualify based on a medical need or immediate family member medical need. Parents would need to contact the 504 Coordinator and complete the application process. This would be for the whole school year if the student qualifies.
- If a student is required to be quarantined by the ECDOH or NYSDOH distance learning will be offered. Official paperwork will be required to qualify for distance learning. An email or text screen shot from the ECDOH or NYSDOH would meet the requirement for paperwork. In addition, if the school submitted your child's name to be contacted by the tracing team would also meet the requirement for paperwork.

NOTIFICATION

- The school will notify all staff and parents of any positive cases reported on campus via the school COVID email (covid19@stgregsschool.org).
- All positive cases and close contacts will be reported to the ECDOH.
- The ECDOH will contact any individuals reported and determine quarantine requirements.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- Desks will be at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms combined with mask wearing, to reduce transmission risk, regardless of vaccination status.
- Exercise mats will be used for outdoor education and physical distancing will be encouraged.

FACE COVERINGS/MASKS

- Indoors: ECDOH requires indoor masking for all individuals aged 2 years and older, including: students, teachers, staff, bus drivers, bus aides, vendors, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status.
 - Appropriate masks must be worn at all times in all classroom and non-classroom settings, including but not limited to hallways, school offices, restrooms, gym, auditoriums, etc.
 - Students may remove their mask during meals as they will be seated more than 3 ft. apart.
 - Bandanas, gators, and clear face shields are not considered acceptable face coverings.
 - Mask breaks will be given every hour and when needed. Teachers will be reminded and encouraged to give frequent mask breaks and take students outside where no masks are required.
- Outdoors: Masks will not be required outdoors.
- Exceptions: Persons who cannot safely wear a mask because of a disability or medical condition should work with the school for reasonable accommodation. Schools may require written

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documentation of a medical or physical condition from a physician or licensed medical provider before providing an exception. Exceptions can be made for the following categories of people:

FACE COVERINGS/MASKS, continued

- A person who cannot wear a mask, or cannot safely wear a mask, because of a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).
- A person for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace health, safety, or job duty as determined by the relevant workplace safety guidelines or federal regulations.

BAND, CHORUS, and ORCHESTRA

- Practice and Lessons: Individuals participating in activities which involve projecting the voice (e.g., singing) or playing a wind instrument must be 6 feet apart during practice and lessons and must wear a mask when not singing or playing.
- Performances: ECDOH requires, to the extent practicable, that individuals participating in activities that involve projecting the voice (e.g., singing) or playing a wind instrument must be 6 feet apart during all performances and must wear a mask when not singing or playing. ECDOH further requires, without exception, at least 6 feet of distance between the performers and the audience during all performances.

COHORTS

- Students will stay in their grade level cohorts throughout the day.
- Students will switch classes and attend specials in the special area classrooms.

SCHOOL ENTRY

- Parents will complete the required daily screening questions using Pick Up Patrol for each child before entering the school.
- Teachers and staff will complete the daily screening questions upon entry of the school.
- All visitors must report to the main office, ring the bell, state the purpose of visit, wear a face covering, have their temperature taken and complete screening questions.
- Parents who require meetings with the Business/Parish Office, teachers, office, Advancement, Guidance, and Administration will need to make an appointment.
- Visitors will only be allowed to go to the location of their appointment.

SICK PROCEDURES

- Teachers will send any student who develops an illness at school to the wellness room. The school nurse will call the parents to have the child picked up and give instructions for the next steps.
- The ECDOH requires that in order for students or staff to return to school following a COVID-19-like illness, regardless of vaccination status, one of the two of the following criteria must be met:
 - a. A negative COVID-19 test is provided.

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- b. A note from the student/staff's medical care provider with an alternative diagnosis is provided.

SICK PROCEDURES, continued

ECDOH offers free COVID-19 PCR testing to symptomatic Erie County residents and close contacts of confirmed cases. Other local testing sites are listed at www.erie.gov/covidtestsites. COVID-19 diagnostic testing is fully covered by all health insurance plans per federal mandates.

A negative at-home COVID-19 test result will NOT be accepted to return a student to school or school staff to work.

SCHOOL MASS

- School mass will be held every Thursday at 1:00 PM.
- When physical distancing is required K-4 will be in the church at a time and 5-8 will remain in their classrooms and stream mass. They will rotate weekly to which grade levels are in the church or their classrooms.
- At this time no other visitors and parents will be allowed to attend Thursday mass until further notice.
- Students will be masked and physically distanced in the church.