



Christ King Parish School Updated COVID-19 Protocols
Revised to reflect CDC updates from 12/27/21
January 2022

December 31, 2021

Dear Christ King Families,

The CDC updated their COVID-19 guidance on December 27, 2021. These changes affect our updated plan sent on December 20. [Here is the link to the CDC updates](#) if you wish to read them in full. The COVID-19 Task Force has integrated the updates into this document.

Overview

This is what school will look like when we return next week:

- Your children will continue to receive an excellent Catholic education!
- Any child or adult with symptoms of illness must not come to school
- In-person school will remain in session as long as we have a full complement of faculty and staff
- Masks are joyfully accepted and respected, but must fit snugly against the face
 - Masks are strongly encouraged for all unvaccinated individuals
 - Masks are required of all individuals for 10 days after a close contact exposure
- Quarantines will be imposed only for individuals in these circumstances:
 - The individual is symptomatic
 - The individual has tested positive for COVID-19
 - The individual—who has been exposed as a close contact—cannot (or will not) wear a snug-fitting mask correctly at all times for 10 days
- Free, on-site testing will be available to all students, employees, and their families from 7:30am-2:00pm, Monday through Friday; families who wish to have testing available to their students must fill out and submit the form on the last page of this document
- Students who exhibit symptoms during the school day will move to the Comfort Care room, and the student's family will be contacted:
 - If a testing agreement form is on file, we will notify the family of the need to administer a test
 - If no form is on file or the family does not want a test, the family must pick up the student within 30 minutes
- Lunches will continue to be enjoyed in smaller cohorts until further notice

Praise

We have had more COVID-19 cases this school year than last, but the Christ King community has managed the pandemic excellently. We owe a debt of gratitude to the parish, which has

financed the heavy costs of cleaning, disinfecting, and installing state-of-the-art air purification systems in the school. We must also celebrate, with great rejoicing, the tremendous care each CK family has shown in monitoring their children's symptoms and communicating effectively with the school office. We never take for granted how difficult it can be to keep children at home while waiting out long periods of illness or quarantine. The excellent cooperation between the parish, school, and families fulfills the school mission to "accept and respect Jesus in everyone." Thank you.

Resilience

We fully appreciate the significance of school culture in the lives of children. School is fundamental to child development through academic, social, emotional, and relational experiences. Safety has been a primary focus for students in the last two years; resilience must be an equally important focus. Resilience is the ability to identify challenges and overcome adversities in order to promote healthy emotional functioning and academic outcomes. Throughout the stages of the pandemic, Christ King has served as a buffer to mitigate developmental risks throughout the prolonged cumulative stressors of the pandemic. During the onset of the pandemic, Christ King fostered resilience through relational engagement during virtual learning and teacher connection and outreach. Christ King has been a leader in the return to in-person learning, with structured safety protocols and an intentional focus on resilience: providing social and emotional engagement while allowing students to rely on routines, structure, and a predictable academic environment filled with faith, nurture, and play. Christ King has focused on providing warm, relational experiences to offset some of the challenges that the pandemic has provided with regard to isolation, stress tolerance, and the limitations on observing facial expressions, tone, and touch.

Optional Masks

Christ King continues to focus on safety and resilience but also recognizes that the time has come for us to move to an in-person learning environment that accounts for the increased levels of immunization and the addition of a new in-school testing program (see below). Increased immunization within the school community allows for expanded parental choice with respect to masking in the school environment. The COVID-19 vaccine is widely available for those five years of age and older, and many have elected to add the vaccine to the available layers of protection for their children and themselves. We also believe that a mask-optional environment provides increased opportunities to read facial expressions, communicate, and understand verbal and nonverbal messages more effectively. This progression to more natural academic and social/emotional interactions will foster increased resilience in our children during this time of prolonged adversities related to the pandemic. While continually accepting the inherent risks of in-person pandemic learning, Christ King staff, students, and families have joined together to create a community of faith, friendship, and care.

Thus, **we will move to a mask-optional in-person learning environment on the day we return from Christmas break (January 3, 2022)**. As ever, all masking choices are joyfully accepted and respected. Unvaccinated students are strongly encouraged to wear masks, and CK will enforce the updated (12/27/21) [CDC isolation/quarantine protocols](#) for individuals who have been exposed as close contacts. The following guidelines come directly from the CDC:

- People who test positive should isolate for 5 days and, if asymptomatic at that time, they may leave isolation if they can continue to mask for 5 days to minimize the risk of infecting others.
- Alternatively, if a 5-day quarantine is not feasible, it is imperative that an exposed person wear a well-fitting mask at all times when around others for 10 days after exposure.
- Individuals who have received their booster shot do not need to quarantine following an exposure, but should wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure.
- For all those exposed, best practice would also include a test for SARS-CoV-2 at day 5 after exposure. If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.

Vaccines

The timing of our decision follows the availability of vaccines for children. The vaccine was approved on November 2, 2021. With two doses (three weeks apart) and a two-week waiting period, children can be fully vaccinated in five weeks. By the time we return from Christmas break, far more than five weeks will have passed. Children younger than five are not eligible for the vaccine, so masking in those grades is strongly encouraged, though not strictly required.

Our children need to be in school, and vaccination allows children to stay in school even in the event of an exposure (close contact) as long as they remain asymptomatic. All individuals aged five years and up are eligible to receive the vaccine, which we believe is of benefit to the school community. Some parents are naturally concerned about the safety of the vaccine, which is being scrutinized and studied more than any other vaccine ever. Robust safety trials have been completed and vaccine safety monitored (VAERS and V-SAFE).

[Mayoclinichealthsystem.org](https://www.mayoclinichealthsystem.org) has excellent information on COVID-19 vaccines.

The COVID-19 Task Force believes relying on vaccines as our primary layer of protection is prudent and responsible. We will continue to meet and reevaluate if future circumstances suggest that other protective measures should be reestablished.

In-School Testing

Christ King has arranged with Summit Labs to have a clinician in our Comfort Care room on school days. Families who wish to allow their children to be tested during the school day should fill out and submit the release form (see page six).

Family members of CK students are also eligible to be tested at school. Please call the school office at 414-258-4160 to let us know you will be coming for a test. Both rapid antigen and PCR tests are available free of charge.

Make-Up Policies: Please observe the following make-up policies for missed school days:

- Vacation/Elective Absences: When planning a family vacation or period of absence, families must inform the office and the child(ren)'s homeroom teacher of their intentions. Arrangements should be made with the respective teacher(s) regarding assignments. Teachers are not required to provide assignments and assessments ahead of time. No

virtual learning will be offered. **All missed assignments and assessments must be completed in full 1-2 school days after returning.** Please remember that classroom interactions can never be made up; we encourage families to try and plan vacations around the school calendar.

- Illness: Students will be given the same number of days to complete and submit work as the number of days missed due to illness.
- Asymptomatic Quarantine: Students who must remain at home due to illness or exposure, but who are asymptomatic, must keep up with the pace of class work and assignments. If assessments cannot be taken at home, students must complete those assessments on the first or second day of their return.

Christ King Parish School nurtures our children's growth in the Catholic faith by teaching them to accept and respect Jesus in everyone they meet within an environment that cultivates academic excellence, encourages service to others, fosters leadership, and allows all students to develop their God-given talents. Thank you for joining us in our mission. The Lord is King; let the earth rejoice!

Any of the members of our COVID-19 Task Force may be contacted with questions:

Chairperson:

Matt Hodges

Members:

Rebecca Bark
Diana Barkow
Dan Dorrington
Ken Kloser
Katie Konieczny
Elizabeth Matola
Theran Motl
Tom Peterson
Grace M. Urbanski

Layers of protection in place CK Parish School, effective January 3, 2022:

Vaccinations: all students, CK teachers and staff ages 5+ are [eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine](#). Many eligible family members of CK students and staff have also been fully vaccinated. As more CK community members become immunized it will enhance *this new layer of protection for our school*.

Air Decontamination: We have been blessed to be able to purchase and install state-of-the-art air purification (needlepoint bipolar ionization, or NPBI) systems in the school. NPBI pulls large and small particulates (which can contain viruses and other pathogens) out of the air in the school without the need for filter replacements. This technology *adds a new layer of protection for our school this year*.

Hand Hygiene: The school will continue to reinforce appropriate practices for [hand hygiene](#). Hand sanitizer stations will be available throughout the school.

Comfort Care Room/Testing: Identifying illness in the school setting is another layer of protection in our school. The school will continue to staff the Comfort Care Room this year for students exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19. Students who meet the illness criteria will be tested, and sent home if necessary. We expect that those responsible for picking up ill students respond within 30 minutes. All families who wish to take advantage of in-school testing must submit a release form that approves in-school testing (see page six).

Daily Health Screening: Keeping children home when sick is another layer of protection in our school. We will not require student temperatures and symptoms to be recorded daily in PowerSchool this year. However, we require that each student be screened for any illness at home prior to school, and any children that exhibit signs of illness remain home. Children should remain home if they have one of the symptoms marked with an asterisk (*) or two of the other symptoms above baseline for them:

- Fever (temperature $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$)*
 - New or worsening cough*
 - New or worsening shortness of breath or difficulty breathing*
 - New loss of taste or smell*
-
- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| ● Sore throat | ● Diarrhea |
| ● Congestion or runny nose | ● Headache |
| ● Chills | ● Fatigue |
| ● Nausea or vomiting | ● Muscle or body aches |

Surface Disinfection: We will continue to provide surface cleaning and sanitization in school classrooms.

Quarantine/Self-Isolation: We will follow the [quarantine and self-isolation protocols](#) as recommended by the CDC on December 27, 2021. Close contacts are defined by the CDC

and include [special exceptions for the K-12 school environment](#). Families and Healthcare providers will be responsible for reporting positive test results to the school.

Masks: Masks will be optional for all students and staff, though strongly recommended for K3 and K4. Snug-fitting masks will be required for individuals who have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last 10 days. All students must have a clean mask at school to wear in case of exposure. Teachers will track seating assignments in order to identify close contacts of known positive cases.

Visitors/Gatherings: Non-personnel visitors and volunteers will be limited, permitted on a case-by-case basis. Large group gatherings are subject to change pending current trends at the time of the event.

School Sports: All participants in school sports on campus will follow the current school safety protocols. All players, coaches, spectators, and gym staff may follow the mask-optional guidelines.

Adult Release and Indemnity Agreement
and
Parent/Legal Guardian Release and Indemnity Agreement

ADULT/PARENT NAME: _____

CHILD/WARD NAME: _____

PARISH/SCHOOL: Christ King Parish School

ACTIVITY: COVID-19 Testing

DATE(S) OF ACTIVITY: 2021/2022 School Year

In consideration of the PARISH/SCHOOL supplying the Covid test, and the PARISH/SCHOOL or other entity administering the test and processing the results at no cost to me, I, for myself and/or as parent or legal guardian of my child/ward, acknowledge that I/we are voluntarily receiving COVID-19 Testing and do hereby forever release and discharge Christ King Parish School, the entity/individual administering the test and processing the results, and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee (hereafter referred to as *Released Parties*) from any and all claims and causes of action, in any way arising out of or related to the above named ACTIVITY.

This Release is also made for and binding upon my/our heirs, successors, and assigns. By this agreement any liability of subsidiaries, parent corporations, insurers, predecessors, successors, officers, directors, volunteers, agents, and employees of the Released Parties are also released and discharged.

This Release fully extinguishes all claims and causes of action, including but not limited to those for: bodily or personal injury; compensatory damages; contribution; indemnity; loss of society, companionship and consortium; punitive damages; costs and fees; attorneys' fees; and statutory damage awards.

I/we agree to defend and fully indemnify the above-named *Released Parties* against any claim which results from my intentional or negligent actions and/or the intentional or negligent actions of my CHILD/WARD during the above-named ACTIVITY.

I/we further agree to fully indemnify and hold harmless the *Released Parties* against any claim or cause of action whatsoever brought by myself and/or my CHILD/WARD against the *Released Parties* which arises out of the above-identified ACTIVITY, regardless of whether such claim results from the negligence of the *Released Parties*, their employees or volunteers or the negligence of individuals, municipalities, and organizations not a party to this agreement. I/we understand that pursuant to this paragraph, I/we are required to indemnify the *Released Parties* for the *Released Parties'* own negligence.

I/we certify that I/we have an understanding of this agreement and the risks and hazards associated with the ACTIVITY described above that I and/or my CHILD/WARD will be participating in.

I/we acknowledge that by signing this agreement, I/we may be giving up significant legal rights of mine and/or my CHILD/WARD.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date