

ST. PETERS ACADEMY COVID- 19 REOPENING PROTOCOLS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2020- 2021

FACTS ABOUT COVID-19

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. 'CO' stands for corona, 'VI' for virus, and 'D' for disease. Formerly, this disease was referred to as '2019 novel coronavirus' or '2019-nCoV.' The COVID-19 virus is a new virus linked to the same family of viruses as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and some types of common cold.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia or breathing difficulties. More rarely, the disease can be fatal. These symptoms are similar to the flu (influenza) or the common cold, which are a lot more common than COVID-19. This is why testing is required to confirm if someone has COVID-19.

How does COVID-19 spread?

The virus is transmitted through direct contact with respiratory droplets of an infected person (generated through coughing and sneezing). Individuals can also be infected from and touching surfaces contaminated with the virus and touching their face (e.g., eyes, nose, mouth). The COVID-19 virus may survive on surfaces for several hours, but simple disinfectants can kill it.

How can the spread of COVID-19 be slowed down or prevented?

As with other respiratory infections like the flu or the common cold, public health measures are critical to slow the spread of illnesses. Public health measures are everyday preventive actions that include: \checkmark staying

home when sick; \checkmark covering mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of used tissue immediately; \checkmark washing hands often with soap and water; and \checkmark cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects. As we learn more about COVID-19 public health officials may recommend additional actions.

CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

- 1. Monitor your child's health and keep them home from school if they are ill
- 2. Teach and model good hygiene practices for your children
 - Wash your hands with soap and safe water frequently. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water, if hands are visibly dirty
 - Ensure that safe drinking water is available and toilets or latrines are clean and available at home
 - Ensure waste is safely collected, stored and disposed of
 - Cough and sneeze into a tissue or your elbow and avoid touching your face, eyes, mouth, nose

- 3. Encourage your children to ask questions and express their feelings with you and their teachers. Remember that your child may have different reactions to stress; be patient and understanding.
- 4. Prevent stigma by using facts and reminding students to be considerate of one another
- 5. Parents should give their child/ children a sample sized bottles with 70% Alcohol based sanitizing solution for personal use.
- 6. Parents should ensure that their child/children have all the necessary supplies for class each day as sharing will not be allowed.

-PROTOCOLS -

Protocol 1: School Hours

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- Preschool 8:00am to 1:30pm, Monday to Friday.
- ◆ Daycare 7:00am to 4:00pm Monday to Thursday (7am −2pm Fridays)
- Primary School 8:45am—3:00pm Monday to Thursday (8:45am—2pm Fridays)

Students should be collected **on time** daily. Half hour grace period will be given for collection. Any student remaining at school after the grace period will be dropped off at the Police Headquarters.

Protocol 2 : Arrival (Screening)

- All staff, students and visitors who arrive at the school compound are required to wear a visibly clean mask that covers both their nose and mouth.
- All staff, students and visitors will have temperature checked upon entry of the school plant.
- All staff, students and visitors who arrive at the school compound are required to wash hands after passing temperature check.

Protocol 3: Signs of illness

- Staff and visitors whose temperature remains elevated will not be permitted unto the compound and will be advised to seek medical attention.
- Students whose temperature remains elevated (more than 99.5°F) will be taken to the isolation room until their parents/guardians collect

them. The parents/guardians will be notified to collect their children within **30-45mins** and take them to the nearest health facility. The Ministry of Health will be notified of the matter.

- If a student is found to have an elevated temperature (more than 99.5°F) and/or displays other signs or symptoms of the common cold or flu while at the school, parents will be called to pick up the student and advised to either take the child home for further observation or seek immediate medical care. The student will be placed in the isolation area for initial isolation of students. Parents/Guardians are expected to collect or arrange for the child to be collected within the hour of notification. The Ministry of Health will be notified of the matter.
- Students must stay at home when they are sick (showing any signs of the common flu or has an elevated fever). Any student absent from class due to suspected COVID-19 symptoms shall not return to school without medical clearance.

Protocol 4: Lunch and Snacks

• Parents are encouraged to ensure that once they provide meals for their children that all necessary utensils are supplied so that students can consume their meals. The sharing of utensils and food will not be allowed. It is strongly recommended that students are adequately supplied with a daily supply of water, along with nutritious food, fruits and vegetables.

• School's cafeteria will still be operation daily providing breakfast and lunch. All safety protocols will be observed.

Protocol 5 : Visitors

- Visitation to the school compound by non-education personnel will not be allowed at this time. Where there are exceptions, the individuals will be interviewed and their query passed on to the administration of the school. All visitors who do not have urgent concerns are encouraged to call or email the school.
- In light of the NO VISITORS policy, parents are encouraged to communicate with the school, staff and administration during normal hours of operation.

Protocol 6: Extra-curricular and physical activities

• Any physical activity on the school's compound will follow the physical distancing protocol and the sanitization regimens for hands and sporting equipment.

Protocol 7: Social distancing protocol

- Social distancing must be maintained during screening, in the general assembly, classrooms, staff rooms, administrative offices, laboratories, when standing anywhere on the school compound at all times during the school day.
- All persons on the school plant must adhere to the physical distancing protocol when moving in and out of buildings on the school compound.

Coronavirus COVID-19



Help prevent coronavirus



Wash your hands



Cover mouth if coughing or sneezing



Avoid touching your face



Keep surfaces clean



Stop shaking hands and hugging



Keep a safe distance

The virus spreads in sneeze and cough droplets, so regularly taking the above measures helps reduce the chance of it spreading.