

St. Mary's Catholic School
Little Echoes Preschool

225 6th Street
Tracy, Minnesota 56175



CoVid-19 Preparedness Plan
August, 2020

St. Mary's School
Tracy, Minnesota
Little Echoes Preschool
Child Care Covid-19 Preparedness Plan

1. Hygiene: frequent handwashing

All staff and children will regularly wash their hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds after and before the following activities:

- Arrival
- Outdoor play
- Coughing, sneezing, or blowing nose
- Using the restroom
- Meals and snacks

Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

Remember to supervise young children when they use hand sanitizer to prevent swallowing alcohol.

If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol will be used.

2. Cleaning and Disinfecting:

High-touch surfaces such as doorknobs, light switches, counter tops, tables, chairs, shared toys, pencils, writing utensils, and other items are regularly cleaned and disinfected.

Toys and equipment that cannot be properly disinfected will be put away for the time being. Shared supplies will be disinfected between uses.

Cleaning and disinfecting solutions may include but are not limited to bleach wipes, a mixture of Dawn dishwashing liquid and warm water.

3. Arrival and Departure procedures:

- As children arrive to St. Mary's School, they will enter the school through the south doors (the designated entering doors).
- Children will have their temperature taken with a touchless thermometer.
- Children will then use the restroom to toilet themselves and wash their hands thoroughly.
- Children will enter the gym and will be socially distanced by standing/sitting on designated spots on the gym floor that are 6' apart.
- After morning announcements and prayers, children will be dismissed from the gym to walk to their classroom abiding by social distancing rules.
- As children depart St. Mary's School, they will wash their hands thoroughly and depart the building through the north doors (the designated exit doors).

4. Social distancing throughout the day:

- Children will abide by the 6' social distancing rule as much as possible.
- Children will be separated at lunch time and lunch times will be on a staggered schedule.
- Children will play at recess as separate "age groups". Preschool will only interact with preschool.
- Students will not be allowed to "high 5" other students in the hallway if other students are present.
- Nap cots will be spaced as far apart as possible.

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5. Plans for identifying and excluding sick staff, volunteers, and children:

- Communicate to parents the importance of keeping children home when they are sick.
- Communicate to staff the importance of being vigilant for symptoms and staying in touch with facility management if or when they start to feel sick.
- You can be around others after having CoVid:
 - 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
 - 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
 - COVID-19 symptoms have improved (for example, cough, shortness of breath)
- Health and Wellness checks will be mandatory at arrival.
- Children's temperatures will be taken upon entrance to the school.
- Staff will be required to self-screen prior to entering the school.

Screening Protocols:

- † Cough
- † Fever (100° F)
- † Chills
- † Muscle Pain
- † Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- † Sore throat
- † New loss of taste or smell

Seek medical care immediately if someone has emergency warning sign of Covid-19 as follows:

- † Trouble Breathing
 - † Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
 - † New confusion
 - † Inability to wake or stay awake
 - † Bluish lips or face
- If a child has any of the above symptoms, they will be moved to the school office and will be quarantined in the sick room until their parent arrives.

Parents should contact St. Mary's School office at 629-3270 if their child or anyone in their household should test positive for Covid-19.

6. Source control and cloth face coverings:

- No extra items are allowed into the preschool classroom.
- Clean laundered blankets may be brought in each Monday.
- The blankets will go home every Friday.
- Face coverings are recommended for all adults as much as possible.

7. Workplace ventilation:

- Encourage outdoor activity as much as possible.
- Open windows and use fans to circulate indoor air, as possible.

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8. Playground Use:

- Students will stay in one group with their classmates.
- Preschool students will experience recess by themselves separate from the rest of the school.

9. Meals and Snacks:

- Meals will be dished and served by providers only.
- There will be no family style meals.
- Children will be seated spaced every other chair to avoid contamination when seating allows.

10. Field trips and events:

- No field trips will be planned during this time.
- Outside presenters will be screened prior to entering the building.
- Outside presenters will wear masks.

11. Communication and training about the Plan:

- All teachers/providers are trained at no cost on Covid-19 policies, procedures, practices, and protocols.
- Child Care Covid-19 Preparedness Plan is posted and readily accessible to staff and parents.
- Any protective equipment required will be supplied and available for staff/subs.

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz Emergency Executive Order 20-81

Mandatory Mask Wearing

. . . . Item #12, paragraph #2: **Children 5 and under are exempt.**

Children five years old and under are not required to wear a face shield or face covering, and children under two should never wear a face covering due to the risk of suffocation. A child between the ages of two and five who can reliably wear a face covering or face shield in compliance with the CDC guidance on How to Wear a Cloth Face Covering without frequently touching or removing the covering may do so, except that children who are sleeping, unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering or face shield without assistance or who cannot tolerate a shield or covering due to a developmental, medical or behavioral health condition should not wear a face covering.