



# St. Paul's LUTHERAN SCHOOL

## COVID PREVENTION STRATEGY 2021-2022

### OUR APPROACH

St. Paul's successfully provided in-person learning throughout the 2020-2021 school year amidst COVID-19. Heading into the 2021-2022 school year - the virus remains present in our communities causing us to continue with preventative strategies which ensure that students, staff and families experience another successful school year. St. Paul's has clearly been resilient and flexible. As we head into another school year - we are excited to announce that we will open our campus with fewer restrictions than the previous year.

Our prevention approach has been guided by recommendations from the CDC, American Academy of Pediatrics, Baltimore County Health Department, Maryland Department of Health, State Department of Education, and local schools and districts. Certainly we want to continuously strive for a full return to school with no restrictions. We will adjust our practices as recommendations and the situation changes. To keep our St. Paul's community safe and informed, we will post any updates through Constant Contact emails and our webpage @ [stpaulseagles.org](http://stpaulseagles.org).

### LAYERED PREVENTION STRATEGIES

<b>Masks and Face Coverings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Starting <b>February 22, 2022</b> - We will move to a mask-optional policy. Regardless of vaccination status - face coverings will be a family decision. The management of face coverings will not be the responsibility of St. Paul's administration, teachers or staff.</li></ul>
<b>Physical Distancing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>St. Paul's Lutheran Staff and Parent Volunteers will be allowed in the building during the school day. Parents may enter the office to conduct regular school business.</li><li>Our teachers will develop activities and lessons that consider appropriate spacing within the classroom when necessary.</li></ul>
<b>Screening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We expect that all persons entering St. Paul's are healthy and displaying no symptoms of COVID-19 or any other illness. We ask that all persons refrain from</li></ul>

	<p>entering the building if they are ill or have symptoms of COVID-19 - have been exposed - or are awaiting a test result.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We ask parents to keep their child home if they are experiencing any of the following symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fever of 100 degrees or higher,</li> <li>○ sore throat,</li> <li>○ cough,</li> <li>○ difficulty breathing,</li> <li>○ diarrhea or vomiting,</li> <li>○ new onset of severe headache(especially with fever),</li> <li>○ new loss of taste or smell</li> <li>○ other signs of a viral illness such as runny nose or nasal congestion.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>When Someone is Sick</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Notify the school (<a href="mailto:nurse@stpaulskingsville.org">nurse@stpaulskingsville.org</a>, <a href="mailto:cehatt@stpaulskingsville.org">cehatt@stpaulskingsville.org</a>) if your child is absent for any reason. Please be specific when your child is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. Our nurse will follow up regarding next steps and return to school clearance.</li> <li>● If a student becomes ill at school, we will provide an isolated space, monitor, contact parent or guardian and disinfect. Our nurse will follow up with you regarding return to school guidance.</li> </ul>
<b>Exposure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Please notify St. Paul's office (emails listed above) if your child has been exposed to COVID-19. Our nurse will provide guidance to help you take next steps.</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Tracing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● St. Paul's will continue to collaborate with state and local health departments to report and provide information about COVID-19 cases per local laws. We do recognize the close contact exception to the CDC's close contact definition for K-12 schools.</li> </ul>
<b>Handwashing and Hygiene</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● St. Paul's will continue to implement frequent handwashing and hygiene opportunities for students. We will target recess, snack, lunch, and bathroom breaks to ensure students have several opportunities to wash hands. We will continue to post signs and reinforce proper practices through hand hygiene education.</li> </ul>
<b>Cleaning, Disinfection and Ventilation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● St. Paul's will continue to take steps to ensure high touch areas are properly disinfected and ventilation systems operate efficiently.</li> </ul>
<b>Isolation &amp; Quarantine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● St. Paul's works with Maryland Health Department,</li> </ul>

<b>Recommendations</b>	and Baltimore County Health Department when cases arise. Currently, SPLS follows the recommended 5 day quarantine for individuals who test positive. Return to school date will be guided by our school nurse.
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## FAQ

Will you have in-person Chapel Services this year?	Yes. Our plan is to maximize the use of space in the sanctuary to hold in-person chapel this school year. All school events such as chapel will be reconsidered when transmission rates are high.
Can families enter the building for a scheduled orientation?	Yes. We are inviting families into our building for regular orientations and certain events such as Geography and Spelling Bees. We ask that families follow any current mandate during these events.
Will my child have to wear a mask on the playground?	No. Students will be allowed to participate in outdoor physical activity unmasked.
Will my child have to wear a mask during P.E.?	No. SPLS is following our mask-optional policy in all school settings.
Will you be conducting Temperature Checks this year?	No. We will not be conducting temperature checks at drop off. We expect all families to personally screen students before drop off and keep all students who are ill home from school. Per our Handbook - students can enter the building at 8:15 a.m. Class will start promptly at 8:30 a.m.
Will Middle School students be able to switch classes?	Yes. We have been able to create a schedule that supports the use of lockers and changing of classes between periods.
Will there be a return to sports?	Our AD, Stephen Mikros, is working with area schools on a safe return to sports plan. It is our hope to safely compete in sports this year.  Students have been able to safely return to sports during the 2021-2022 season. When transmission rates are high, extra precautions will be implemented to ensure the safety of our student athletes.
Will we have student	Outdoor events will continue. We will start our year without

programs and events?	hosting any large indoor events, but our plan is to find ways to host school events as the year progresses.  School events are being planned throughout the school year. Events will be reconsidered when transmission rates are high.
What if I or my child traveled out of state. Do I need to quarantine?	No. As long as you travel within the US, students do not need to quarantine for travel. Please contact our school nurse if you anticipate any international travel plans.
Where will you hold lunch?	We will continue to eat lunch in classrooms.

*Updated February 2022*