

Little Saints Christian School **COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan**

Prepared on August 7, 2020

This document has been developed as required and in conjunction with The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and The Michigan Department of Education. Little Saints Christian School will abide by the following standards and protocols, and will follow the Governor's Executive Orders. All Staff, Parents, and Students are expected to follow the standards listed and described in this document, and to work together to keep Little Saints Christian School as safe as possible.

Monitoring Symptoms of COVID-19

Little Saints is required to check for COVID-19 symptoms EVERY DAY when children and staff arrive. Two procedures must be accomplished for each child and staff member:

1. Little Saints will conduct temperature checks at the entrance. A no-contact thermometer will be used. Students and staff will not be admitted to the school if they have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher.
2. Parents (also refers to and includes designated adults per Emergency Form, for the duration of this document) and staff must honestly answer "NO" to all of the following questions in order to be admitted. Parents will answer these questions, in person, as part of the daily check-in process and via the Brightwheel app that Little Saints will be utilizing this year. Daily records will be kept for students and staff.
 1. *Have you or your child been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19? If "yes", then the staff person or student, and their families should self-quarantine for 14 days.*
 2. *Staff: Have you felt unwell in the last 3 days? Parents: Has your child felt unwell in the last 3 days? (fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, rash, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea). Little Saints staff will also be visually checking for these symptoms upon entry, and throughout the school day.*

Protocols and Procedures For Maintaining Healthy Students and Staff

To minimize the potential spread of COVID-19, Little Saints (LS) will limit the number of individuals in our facility at drop off, pick up, and throughout the day. LS will allow ONE

PARENT to accompany their child to the entrance for check in. **Parents, staff and students must be wearing masks during drop off and pick up.** A hygiene station will be located at the entrance for use by everyone. LS will stagger arrival and drop off times by class. A schedule is located in the handbook and our website. **Parents, children, and staff must try to maintain 6 foot apart social distancing, as much as possible, during these times.** Parents are asked to leave immediately after dropping off or picking up their child. Please do not congregate in any area inside or outside of the school.

Masks will be worn by all staff at all times. Students will wear masks upon entering and leaving the building. Due to their young age, they are not required to wear them while in their own classroom. Students may wear masks at all times, if they wish. Parents should prepare students for wearing masks before school begins. Masks will be available at our entrance if needed.

LS will limit class sizes to 12 students and 2 teachers. We will limit the number of spaces a child is in during the school day. We will adhere to social distancing as much as possible, at all times. We will maintain consistent class and teacher groupings, and limit contact with any other adults or children. LS will be unable to allow visitors during this phase of the quarantine. Large gatherings for events will only be allowed if conditions make it safe to do so.

When in larger areas or the playground, staggered times of use and social distancing will be practiced. Common areas, classrooms, toys, bathrooms, etc, will be properly cleaned and disinfected several times per day, as per LARA standards.

Protocols for Children and Staff Showing Signs of Illness

Little Saints will send a child or staff member home immediately, if they become symptomatic during the school day. Students will be isolated in a separate room, with a (masked) staff member, until they can be picked up by their parent. Staff who are ill will leave immediately and will be replaced by another staff member (a plan to do so is in place).

If a child, staff member, or family member (of students or staff) becomes ill with COVID-19 symptoms, LS will contact The Livingston County Health Department and LARA for consultation of our next steps. Staff and families of children in care are also required to report to Little Saints if they become symptomatic or receive positive COVID-19 test results. LS will determine whether to close the classroom, or our entire facility based on guidance from the health department. Most likely, if an individual from a classroom is identified with a positive test, the classroom will be closed, cleaned and everyone in that classroom will be quarantined for 14 days, initially. Our health department may also ask us to participate in contact tracing to limit the spread of the virus.

LS will immediately make parents aware if a case of COVID-19 occurs, and what steps will be taken. This will be done via our Brightwheel app, email alerts, or possibly in person upon pick up.

Guidelines for Returning to School

Staff members and students should stay home and self-isolate if they show symptoms of COVID-19 (as described earlier). If a fever or cough is present in anyone, LS will follow our child and staff illness policy, which is that the person must be fever free for 72 hours before returning to school (even if other symptoms are not present).

If a staff member or child exhibits multiple symptoms of COVID-19, possible exposure is suspected, or an individual tests positive for COVID-19, the individual must stay home until:

- *Fever free for at least 72 hours without the use of medicine that reduces fevers,
AND
- *Other symptoms have improved, AND
- *At least 10 days have passed since the symptoms first appeared.

Most children and staff members can return to school based on improved symptoms, and the passage of time. Local health departments recommend that some individuals (for example, immunocompromised individuals) receive two negative tests in a row, 24 hours apart.

After reading this document in full, the Compliance Form must be signed by staff members and parents, and returned to the Little Saints Christian School Director before the first day of school. No one will be allowed to participate at Little Saints Christian School without reading, understanding, and abiding by this document.

Together, we can make our school year successful and enriching for our students, staff and parents, even during these very trying times. We look forward to a fabulous school year!