

**STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING for Parents and School Employees
REGARDING COVID19 PROTOCOLS
FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR**

School Name: _____

Student Name or Employee Name: _____

Legal Guardians (if applicable): _____

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic and is extremely contagious. As a result, in order to continue to have an environment that is safe for students and staff, school activities, social distancing and other essential safety measures at the Catholic School named above ("School") have been established. The School has put in place reasonable preventative measures and standards of behavior to reduce the spread of COVID-19 at the School and its associated activities. Even with implementation of safety protocols, the School cannot guarantee that you or your child will not become infected with COVID-19. Attendance at School and/or participation in associated activities could increase your risk and/or your child's risk of contracting COVID-19.

Students and Staff Wearing Face Coverings

1. Staff and students will be asked to wear masks when 3 feet of social distance is not available.
2. All students and staff who are vaccinated and unvaccinated are strongly encouraged to wear masks when indoors.

There may be times during the school year when masks may be required, such as during large group gatherings or when there is an elevated spread of COVID-19 in the school or local community. This will be at the discretion of the Principal in consultation with the Pastor and Advisory Councils. Therefore, all students and staff must have masks readily available.

All school constituents should take note that both DHEC and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have provided guidance stating that the wearing of face coverings slows the spread of COVID-19, and that a student or staff member's failure to wear a face covering may subject that student/staff member to an increased risk of contracting COVID-19 and spreading COVID-19 to others.

Vaccinations

All staff members and students are strongly encouraged, in consultation with their personal physicians, to receive the COVID-19 vaccination.

Students or Staff Who Are Sick Coming to School

By execution of this Statement, I affirm that I have read and understand that in order for a staff member or a student to be eligible to attend school on any given day, s/he/they should be able to reply "NO" to the following questions:

1. Have you had a fever as defined by the CDC (100.4 or higher) during the past 24 hours?
2. Have you had a new or unexpected cough during the past 7 days?
3. Have you been around anyone exhibiting these symptoms within the past 14 days?
4. Are you living with anyone who has been sick, has exhibited symptoms of COVID-19, or is currently under quarantine for exposure to COVID-19?

By execution of this Statement, I further affirm that I have read the foregoing questions and understand and affirm that an answer of "YES" to any of these questions on any given school day, is a clear indication that the staff member or student should NOT attend School that day.

As a parent, I understand that, in the event my child develops symptoms or suspected symptoms of COVID-19, I will be contacted by School staff, and I must make immediate preparations to have my child picked up from School.

Similarly, as a staff member (if applicable) experiencing any of the above, I understand that I will need to go home immediately.

In the event of a medical emergency, I authorize the School and School staff to call 911 and have my child or myself (if a school staff member) transported to a hospital or healthcare facility. I further understand and affirm that the School and School staff have discretion to determine whether a student or staff member is ill or potentially contagious, and whether it is in the best interests of the student or staff member, student body, all School staff to mandate that a child/student/staff member be picked up from school at the time of that determination.

Quarantine

In the event that my child or I (if a staff member), contracts COVID-19 or becomes exposed to someone with COVID-19, I further understand the need for my child or me (if a staff member) to be quarantined as directed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC").¹ (This information is available upon request.)

Additionally, I understand that staff members and students may not return to School until they have met the CDC's criteria to discontinue home isolation.

I (if a parent) understand and accept that the School will enforce such other reasonable measures and directives as may be deemed necessary by the Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, Robert E. Guglielmo, Superintendent William H. Ryan, or by the Principal of the School, and that, in the event that it becomes necessary that classes should be administered via distance learning, I will not be entitled to a refund of any of my tuition fees.

My signature below indicates that I understand and agree to the foregoing terms and conditions.

Staff Member Signature (if a school employee) _____

OR

Legal Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

¹ The following criteria and information are taken from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"). The following does not constitute medical or legal advice for any particular student or staff member, and for guidance on any individual case, a student or staff member is encouraged to contact their medical provider. See, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>.