



**Special Health & Wellness Protocol  
2021-2022  
Pre-Kindergarten Program**



# Saint James School Pre-Kindergarten

## 2021-2022 Special Health & Wellness Protocol



All information contained in this document is subject to change.

**Face Coverings:** Upon return to school all students, faculty, staff, parents, and volunteers will be required to wear a cloth mask or face covering that covers their mouth and nose while in the building. There will be times when it will be safe and appropriate for masks to be lowered/removed while in the building. These times will be determined based on current health and safety regulations and communicated to teachers by school administration.



Students are encouraged to arrive at school each day with their mask attached to a lanyard to reduce the risk of being lost or getting dirty during mask breaks. Opportunities for scheduled mask breaks will take place daily. Each class will have outdoor time without masks, weather permitting.

Masks need to cover students' noses and mouths when in use. Masks may include pictures, but no writing or slogans. Gaiters, bandanas, and masks with air-valves are not permitted as they have been proven ineffective in preventing virus transmission.

**Morning Arrival:** Morning arrival will remain at 8:00a.m. Only students will be allowed to enter the building on school days. Pre-K3 students will enter through the front entrance and the Pre-K4 students will come up the back ramp entrance. All staff and students will utilize hand sanitizer upon entering the building. Temperature checks may be implemented at morning arrival time if a student is exhibiting symptoms of illness. **(Please ensure you have done a thorough health check before leaving the house every day - no student should be coming to school showing signs of illness or feeling unwell).**



**Dismissal:** Half-day students will be dismissed at 11:00a.m. Due to the procedure of dismissing students in a safe manner, dismissal time for full-day students not going to aftercare will begin at 1:50p.m. Students will be dismissed through the door in which they enter at morning arrival. Parents will wait outside until their student is dismissed to them.



**Snack/Lunch:** Students will be given a seat assignment for mealtimes. Students will be seated at tables and will need to bring items that they can open on their own. This will eliminate teachers handling your child's food. Parents may need to unpackage items and put them in baggies or containers that are easily opened by their child. It would be helpful if students start practicing now for this.



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### Cohorts:



The Connecticut State Department of Education recommends utilizing cohorts to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19. Each program (Pre-K3 and Pre-K4) will be considered a cohort in our Pre-Kindergarten program.

### Outdoors:



Given the importance of gross motor play and fresh air, students will be spending extended periods of time outdoors, weather permitting. Individual classes will use the playground at separate times.

### Protocols:



All absence calls will be taken by the Pre-Kindergarten Director, Mrs. Fitzgerald. *Please call in absences by no later than 7:45a.m.*

Parents/guardians must conduct a health screening with their child/ren prior to coming to school each morning. This includes daily temperature checks upon arising in the morning. It is required for students and staff members to remain at home if they exhibit any symptoms of illness including, but not limited to, fever, loss of taste/smell, cough/nasal congestion, fatigue, sore throat, or gastrointestinal complaints. If exhibiting any symptoms of illness, please contact a healthcare provider for further evaluation. A doctor's note may be required before returning to school.

Students & staff members who are unvaccinated are required to stay home if they have been exposed/in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid, or if travel has occurred and return-to-school guidelines have not been met. Regardless of vaccination status, students and staff members are required to stay home if they have tested positive for Covid or are experiencing Covid-like symptoms. Please consult the school nurse and reference our school's detailed Health & Wellness Procedures (which will be posted on our website) for specific and updated information.

If a student or staff member tests positive for Covid, or has been exposed and in contact with someone who has tested positive, the school nurse must be informed immediately with a phone call to the school and the student or staff member must not come to school. If the confirmation occurs after 2:45p.m., an email must be sent to the principal Mrs. Zorger ([bzorger@saintjamesschool.net](mailto:bzorger@saintjamesschool.net)) and school nurse, Mrs. Vignati ([jvignati@mpspride.org](mailto:jvignati@mpspride.org)). Due to the nature of the Pre-Kindergarten program, contact tracing and quarantining may need to be implemented.

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**Sanitation & Cleaning:** Our maintenance staff and cleaning contractors will clean and disinfect according to state and local guidelines in all areas of the school including, but not limited to, classrooms, common areas, door handles, stairwell banisters, etc. All bathroom and common area surfaces will be sanitized at least twice daily. Hand washing will be required several times a day for all classrooms, including before and after meals and recess. Hand sanitizer stations will be available at the entry of every room and all entrances into the building, and students will be required to sanitize their hands upon entering.



**Extended Day:** The Saint James School Extended Day will be available to all families who have completed and submitted the program registration paperwork. During their time in the program, students will remain in cohorts and observe appropriate distancing where possible, but due to limited spacing and an increase in enrollment this year, there may be times when distancing is not possible. Should this be the case and a student tests positive for Covid, contact tracing and quarantining may need to be implemented.

