

St. Francis Montessori COVID-19 Guidelines
UPDATED 1/5/2022

As Covid continues to circulate in our community, we ask you to continue to be conscientious.

1. Parents, please continue to be very vigilant about illness. Monitor your child in the morning before school and do not send your child to school if s/he has any symptom of illness, including a fresh cold.
2. Masks are welcomed but not required. We will be respectful of everyone's decisions in this matter.
3. If a student/faculty member is in close contact with a person (outside of one's home) who tests positive for Covid-19, the SFM student/faculty member is not required to quarantine until/ unless the person develops symptoms.
4. Positive Covid-19 Case in a Family—quarantine 10 days for the positive-test person as well as siblings/other household members. (10 days from the start of symptoms OR from the date of the test for an asymptomatic person).
5. If a SFM student/faculty/staff member tests positive for Covid, we ask that the parents/they notify the school as soon as possible. The person must stay home for 10 days, until symptoms improve, and he/she is fever free for 48 hours.
6. Also, when one is waiting on a test result, thus suspecting COVID-19, please stay at home. We appreciate your compliance with these practices at minimum.
7. If there is a positive Covid case in one of our classrooms, we will alert all families. We will not close the school, but parents can choose to keep their children home if they wish. We will alert those families who have children that had close contact with the person testing positive.
8. Finally, we will continue to practice good hygiene in the classrooms and utilize our wonderful outdoor spaces. We will also continue to monitor the situation and reassess as necessary.

Due to the easy spread of illness at doctors' offices or clinics, **children should not return to school within 48 hours of a visit.** This applies to well visits in addition to sick visits. This does not apply to dentists or chiropractors. Please schedule visits on Fridays when possible. Thank you for keeping our teachers and families healthier with this precautionary approach.

Please continue to keep our devoted teachers in your prayers for the work they do each day.

We understand that we still cannot prevent the spread of COVID-19 and that each family assumes the risk of sending their children to school. We have consulted practices at other schools and find our response to be cautious, prudent, and responsible while trying to remain open during sick season in a pandemic year. We will continue to practice all sanitation practices well.