

In the first stages of the COVID-19 mitigations, social distancing was difficult to achieve in a classroom setting. When a case emerged, entire classes were sent home as a mitigation strategy. The data no longer suggests this to be an effective strategy. Based on our own data from last year, no students contracted COVID-19 while in quarantine from a case that was at school. Families in quarantine did experience a COVID-19 spread within the family unit.

In the 2020-21 school year, St. John's in Little Chute had 0.7% of 142 students in quarantine get COVID-19. Little Chute Public Schools and Kaukauna Area School District had data at 0.5% with much larger sample sizes. Quarantining healthy close contacts is contributing significantly to learning loss and creates a large demand of time on the staff of St. Ignatius.

Other area schools are changing their quarantine processes as a result of this data.

If student or staff exposure to a positive case of COVID-19 occurs, St. Ignatius will no longer perform contact tracing and will not require close contacts to quarantine when exposed within our school. In the event that we do have a positive case of COVID-19 at St. Ignatius, a school specific letter will be sent notifying families of the case and encouraging them to take additional precautions.

ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL WILL FOLLOW THESE PROCEDURES:

- **Asymptomatic individuals** will no longer need to quarantine from school or school activities as long as the close contact does not live in the same household with the positive COVID-19 case.
- **Symptomatic individuals** should stay home until they meet the following criteria:
 - Asymptomatic for 24 hours. (If under 10 days from symptom onset, prefer with negative Covid test.)
 - If a student is symptomatic with a positive Covid test, the following criteria should be met prior to return:
 - 10 days from the onset of symptoms
 - 24 hours free of fever
 - Improving symptoms
- Parents, please check with students each morning and do not send ill children to school.
- Optional masking will continue on school grounds.

To simplify: if you have symptoms, stay home.

GUIDELINES FOR FAMILIES WHEN SOMEONE TESTS POSITIVE:

- **The person with a positive COVID-19 test** should quarantine for 10 days beginning with the first day of symptoms.
- **Other family members** should quarantine for 10 days unless they start experiencing symptoms, at which point they are presumed positive and will need to follow the 10 day rule starting from the first day of their symptoms.
- **People who have previously had laboratory confirmed COVID-19** and are asymptomatic do not have to quarantine.

Parents will be notified of any cases in school. If parents choose to quarantine their own children based on their needs, we will support those choices.
