# The Diocese of Knoxville Catholic Schools Health & Wellness Policies and Procedures 2022-2023



Diocese of Knoxville Catholic Schools: Developing Scholars, Leaders, and Saints





















# **General Health & Well-Being Policies**

# **Health Examination & Vaccinations**

• To ensure that all students have up-to-date health exams and vaccinations, schools shall require health examinations and proof of immunization of each student in accordance with the regulations of the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee Department of Health. (Diocesan policy 1320).

# **Health Requirements: Employees & Students**

• To ensure that all students and employees in the Diocese of Knoxville conform to local county health department regulations, principals/presidents shall keep on file a copy of the local county health department regulations concerning students and employees. Student health information should be verified at least annually to ensure that the information is current. (*Diocesan policies 1330 & 3120*).

# **Notification of Communicable Diseases**

• Parents must notify the school if his/her child has a communicable disease at which time the school will notify the parents of children who may have been exposed to the disease. The student's anonymity will be maintained. Guidelines from the Tennessee Department of Health will be used in conjunction with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Health Insurance Portability, and Accountability Act (HIPAA). (Diocesan policy 3040).

### Attendance

• School attendance is required by state law; therefore, schools must keep accurate and complete attendance records (*Diocesan policy 1030*).

#### Absence due to Illness

• Persons are required to remain out of school until the following conditions are met:

- ➤ He/she has not had a fever for at least 24 hours without fever reducing medications
- ➤ He/she has not vomited for at least 24 hours

# **Extended Absence due to Illness**

• If students are not able to be physically at school, the school will work with families to create an education plan to ensure the students are progressing in their education.

# **Notification of Contagious Illness**

• While protecting the privacy of individuals, the school will notify parents of a particular grade or class that there has been a student with a contagious illness. Guidance about this illness will be provided from the health department.

# **Infection Prevention Education**

 Faculty and staff will implement infection prevention education including hand hygiene, physical distancing, facial coverings, and spending time outdoors for students and families in a developmentally appropriate manner. (Health and Wellness Curriculum, Policy 1350)

# **Hygiene and Sanitation**

- The school will adhere to safe cleaning and disinfecting protocols with EPA-approved products for use against viruses, including the virus that causes COVID-19 throughout the school according to the CDC recommendations.
- Hand sanitizers containing at least 60% alcohol will be readily available for use by students and staff.
- Students and faculty will be reminded to frequently wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Young children will be appropriately supervised when using hand sanitizers and other cleaning products.

# Facial Coverings/Masks

• The diocese strongly supports the personal decisions of families and individuals regarding COVID-19 vaccinations and other protective measures such as appropriately

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