

PANDEMIC PLAN

PURPOSE

The purpose of the St. Albert the Great Catholic School Pandemic Response Plan is to provide a framework for identifying, preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a pandemic outbreak. However, this plan may be adapted and used to address various outbreaks as they occur.

GOALS

During a pandemic event, St. Albert's School will implement this pandemic plan, in collaboration with the Washoe County Health Department (WCHD), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and other federal, state, and local agencies, as applicable, to achieve the following goals:

- Limit the number of illnesses
- Preserve continuity of essential school functions
- Minimize educational and social disruption
- Minimize academic losses

EDUCATION AND PREVENTION:

Educating staff, students, and parents about good hygiene practices is a significantly important component of illness prevention and control.

- Stay home when you are sick (Faculty, Staff & Students)
 - Consult with your family physician.
 - Remain at home until fever has been gone for at least 24 hours (this time period may change with severity of outbreak) without the use of fever reducing medicines.
 - Seek immediate medical care if symptoms become more severe, e.g., high fever or difficulty breathing.
- Stop the spread of germs –
 - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash or cough into your elbow.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- Increase surface cleaning measures in classrooms that remove germs from frequently touched surfaces and objects by custodial staff.

INCIDENT COMMAND:

- The Principal, in consultation with the pastor, along with the WCHD, will be responsible for declaring a pandemic emergency and activating the Pandemic Plan.
- Principal and Executive Assistant will execute the Pandemic Plan
 1. Principal will communicate to the Diocese, faculty and staff.
 2. Executive Assistant will communicate to families.

We will work in conjunction with, and at the recommendation of, the WCHD.

COMMUNICATION:

- The school will use all forms of communication to families and staff – email, School Messenger, website, and the Facebook page.
- During an outbreak, such as, Norovirus or COVID19, we will post all available information and will diligently communicate current information.

STUDENT AND STAFF ATTENDANCE:

- In the case of any outbreak, all staff will monitor students' health. If they show symptoms of the virus, they will be sent to the office to be checked and possibly sent home due to their symptoms. The same will apply to all staff members and volunteers.
- Students and staff exhibiting symptoms associated with the outbreak will not be allowed to return to school until:
 1. They have a doctor's note clearing them to return or,
 2. They no longer have any symptoms and have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours.

Depending on the outbreak, this information may change with any recommendations by the WCHD.

ALTERNATIVES TO CLOSING SCHOOL:

- Implement social distancing.
- Eliminate field trips, as necessary.
- Reduce or postpone extracurricular activities.
- Screen students before entering the school to prevent spread of virus.

SCHOOL CLOSURES AND EDUCATIONAL CONTINUITY:

- Faculty and staff will remain in constant contact via Zoom, Google, or email.
- If required, the pre-scheduled contingency days will be utilized. Depending on the circumstances, the state may not require this.
- Pending approval from the State of Nevada Department of Education Office of Student and School Support – Private Schools: For school closures of two weeks or less students will be emailed lessons and assignments by their teachers. Work will be returned by email as well.
- Pending approval from the State of Nevada Department of Education Office of Student and School Support – Private Schools: For school closures of more than two weeks, teachers will create video lessons, as needed, and students will respond through email.
- If we have students who need to bring home a computer, we will supply them with one along with a permission/liability form.
- Lessons will be mailed to students who do not have internet access, if necessary. Student must also mail back assignments or turn in when school resumes.

We will always follow the recommendations from the WCHD and CDC. The Washoe County Health Department will give guidelines and rules if a confirmed case develops in our school or community and we will follow them.