

## Health and Safety Plan Summary: DuBois Central Catholic

**Initial Effective Date:** August 23, 2021

**Date of Last Review:** July 22, 2021 , July 30, 2021, August 2, 2021, August 5, 2021,  
August 18, 2021, August 20, 2021, September 28, 2021,  
**January 6, 2022**

### **Date of Last Revision:**

1. How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning? *DuBois Central Catholic will continue to follow many of the health and safety protocols that were implemented during the 2020-2021 school year. These protocols enabled the school to remain open with face-to-face instruction during the pandemic. The DCC administrative team will continue to collaborate with the Department of Health and the Diocese of Erie in monitoring local case counts and updating the Health and Safety Plan as needed. All state mandates will be followed to the fullest extent.*
2. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services? *With the exception of a few days of deep cleaning, DuBois Central Catholic remained open for face-to-face instruction during the 2020-2021 school year. Students received a quality faith-based education while meeting their medical and emotional needs. The school utilized our guidance counselor to address mental health concerns experienced by our students and staff. DCC will continue to monitor and evaluate any learning loss experienced by our students and implement programs to meet their social and emotional needs.*
3. Use the table below to explain how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.
  - a. Recommend the correct wearing of **masks** for those who are NOT vaccinated;
  - b. Modifying facilities to allow for **physical distancing** of 3 feet or more, when possible
  - c. **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;**
  - d. **Cleaning** and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving **ventilation;**
  - e. **Contact tracing** in combination with **isolation** and **quarantine** in collaboration with

State and local health departments;

f. [Diagnostic](#) and screening symptoms as needed in nurses' office

g. In effort to provide COVID-19 [vaccinations to our school community](#), information of local clinics will be provided to the students, faculty, and staff.

Return to School Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of <a href="#">masks</a>;</p>	<p>Students and staff will be <b>REQUIRED</b> to wear face coverings in the building if <b>either or both</b> Jefferson and/or Clearfield Counties are in the <a href="#">substantial or high</a> category according to the CDC COVID data tracker.</p> <p>Students and staff will be recommended to wear face coverings in the building when <b>both</b> Jefferson and Clearfield Counties are in the <a href="#">moderate or low</a> category according the CDC COVID data tracker.</p> <p>If, however, the Diocese of Erie, CDC, PDE, or DOH mandates masks to be worn, those orders will be enforced by DCC.</p> <p><b>The following are attributes of masks needed to fulfill the requirements of the Order.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A properly worn mask completely covers the nose and mouth.</li><li>• Cloth masks should be made with two or more layers of a breathable fabric that is tightly woven (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source).</li><li>• Mask should be secured to the head with ties, ear loops, or elastic bands that go behind the head. If gaiters are worn, they should have two layers of fabric or be folded to make two layers.</li><li>• Mask should fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face.</li></ul>

## Return to School Requirement

## Strategies, Policies, and Procedures

- **Mask should be a solid piece of material without slits, exhalation valves, or punctures.**

**The following attributes are additionally acceptable as long as masks meet the requirements above.**

- **Masks can be either manufactured or homemade.**
- **Masks can be reusable or disposable.**
- **Masks can have inner filter pockets.**
- **Clear masks or cloth masks with a clear plastic panel may be used to facilitate communication with people who are hearing impaired or others who need to see a speaker's mouth to understand speech.**

**The following do not fulfill the requirements of the Order.**

- **Masks worn in a way that does not cover both the mouth and nose**
- **Face shields or goggles (face shields or goggles may be worn to supplement a mask that meets above required attributes)**
- **Scarves, ski masks, balaclavas, or bandannas**
- **Shirt or sweater collars (e.g., turtleneck collars) pulled up over the mouth and nose.**
- **Masks made from loosely woven fabric or that are knitted, i.e., fabrics that let light pass through**
- **Masks made from materials that are hard to breathe through (such as vinyl, plastic or leather)**
- **Masks containing slits, exhalation valves, or punctures**
- **Masks that do not fit properly (large gaps, too loose or too tight)**

**In the event that COVID outbreaks cannot be controlled through temporary closure and deep cleaning, DCC will require the use of face coverings for students, faculty, and staff.**

Return to School Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>All students, faculty, and staff will be required to wear face coverings when on public transportation- this includes school buses operated by public and private school systems. Bus drivers do not need to wear a face covering when alone on the bus.</p> <p>Masks on school bus are a federal order <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/masks/mask-travel-guidance.html">https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/masks/mask-travel-guidance.html</a></p> <p>Masks are available to students, faculty, and staff upon their request.</p> <p>Face coverings will always be required to be worn in the nurses' office.</p> <p>Signs are posted throughout DCC demonstrating the proper way to wear a mask.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for <a href="#">physical distancing</a> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>DCC will operate a full in-person capacity.</p> <p>Learning spaces are organized to socially distance desks at a minimum of 3 feet to the greatest amount feasible.</p> <p>When possible, students will be seated facing the same direction.</p> <p>When possible, staggered or diagonal seating will be used at shared tables.</p> <p>The hallways and cafeteria are marked to help with the flow of traffic and create social distancing.</p> <p>Recess and Physical Education will limit physical contact. Sports equipment and other materials will be sanitized as frequently as possible.</p> <p>DCC will follow the guidelines and orders regarding occupancy at events and gatherings issued by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.</p>
<p>c. <a href="#">Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</a>;</p>	<p>Regular hand washing/ sanitizing as students enter, leave and transition during classes each day. It will also be required before and after meals, after recess, after bathroom use, using shared materials and equipment.</p>

Return to School Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>Encourage use of tissues for blowing nose, sneezes and coughs followed by hand washing or cleaning with hand sanitizer.</p> <p>All staff will be retrained in cleaning procedures, personal hygiene, and classroom level cleaning responsibilities at the in-service in August.</p> <p>Staff will have access to sanitizing liquid and paper towels for daily use on student desks, classroom door knobs, keyboards, mice and other high touch classroom areas. Teachers will model and explain handwashing/respiratory etiquette to students as needed.</p> <p>Signage including COVID mitigation strategies, handwashing, and respiratory etiquette are hung throughout the school including all restrooms.</p> <p>PPE items will be ordered as needed to support healthy hygiene.</p>
<p>d. <a href="#">Cleaning</a> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <a href="#">ventilation</a>;</p>	<p>Teachers and staff will clean and disinfect high touch surfaces and objects routinely throughout the school day using microfiber towels and cleaning/sanitizing chemicals (water fountains, door handles, desks, cafeteria tables, bathrooms, etc.)</p> <p>Adequate supplies are available to support healthy hygiene behaviors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water, soap, hand sanitizer</li> <li>• Paper towels, tissues</li> <li>• Gloves (non-latex), masks (PPE that prevents or minimizes viral transmission), face shields or goggles</li> <li>• EPA cleaning supplies that minimize asthmatic reactions</li> <li>• Open-faced trash cans or no-touch trash cans</li> <li>• Safe and correct storage of cleaning and disinfecting products.</li> </ul> <p>Drinking fountains are touchless and water bottles will be used by students and staff.</p> <p>Doors will remain open as much as possible to create air flow and ventilation.</p>

Return to School Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>During warmer weather when outdoor humidity, temperature and allergen levels allow, windows will be open to increase air circulation.</p> <p>The Maintenance Department will check the air-duct filters on a monthly basis and replace as needed to provide quality air flow and ventilation throughout the school.</p> <p>Wall mounted hand sanitizing stations are available in each classroom for students and staff.</p> <p>Portable sanitization stations are available at each front entrance and other high traffic areas.</p> <p>Janitorial staff will use the Victory Electrostatic System to deep clean areas that have been directly exposed and as needed to maintain the school.</p>
<p>e. <a href="#">Contact tracing</a> in combination with <a href="#">isolation</a> and <a href="#">quarantine</a>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>Any area of the school used by a student or staff member demonstrating multiple COVID symptoms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever (100 or higher)</li> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> <li>• Chills</li> <li>• Repeated shaking with chills</li> <li>• Muscle pain</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• New loss of taste or smell</li> </ul> <p>will need to be sent home to recover and will need to contact their health care provider for additional guidance. All exposed areas of the school will need to be disinfected prior to reuse.</p> <p>CDC and Department of Health guidelines will be followed for any person who has tested positive or been exposed to COVID and must quarantine.</p>

## Return to School Requirement

## Strategies, Policies, and Procedures

### Guidelines include:

Quarantine will be needed, if you have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a consecutive 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, and masks were not properly worn by both individuals.

**NO quarantine will be necessary for those students exposed to an infected student if both students have maintained at least 3 feet of physical distance and have correctly and consistently wore a mask the entire time.**

People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who has COVID-19 unless they have symptoms.

However, fully vaccinated people are required to:

- Wear a mask in the school for 10 days following the exposure or until their test result is negative.
- Isolation if testing is positive.

DCC students, faculty, and staff may return to school after quarantining following these guidelines:

If you choose **NOT** to test:

- Stay home for 5 days. Student and Staff may return on day 6 if there are NO symptoms. You will be required to wear a mask through day 10 and continue to monitor symptoms.

If you **choose testing**:

- Your test should occur on day 5 or later after exposure.
- If you have no symptoms and a negative test you may return to school on day 6.
- You must continue to monitor symptoms and wear a mask through day 10.

Return to School Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>A written note must be received from a health care provider for a student or staff member to re-enter school after having COVID or COVID symptoms.</p> <p>Individuals will be required to stay home and follow isolation or quarantine protocols if they have tested positive for COVID-19, have COVID-19 symptoms, or are a close contact.</p> <p>If COVID-19 positive individuals are in the building during their infectious period, a notification will be sent to DCC families and staff.</p>
<p>f. <a href="#">Diagnostic</a> and screening testing;</p>	<p>DCC recommends that all students and staff conduct daily health checks prior to leaving for school. These checks would include; temperature and symptom screening for chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or joint pains, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.</p> <p>If requested, DCC will provide wellness screenings for students and staff.</p> <p>Students and staff must remain home if ill with temperature above (100) or presenting signs or symptoms of COVID-19.</p> <p>Faculty, staff, and students <b>MUST</b> notify DCC if an absence is due to COVID-19 symptoms, close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual, or has received a positive COVID-19 test.</p> <p><b>All Visitors to DCC will be required to wear a face covering.</b></p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide <a href="#">vaccinations to school communities</a>;</p>	<p>DCC recommends that all students, faculty and staff get vaccinated.</p> <p>DCC will continue working with Penn Highlands of DuBois to host or provide information regarding vaccination clinics for students, staff and the community.</p>



Return to School Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p><b>Students and staff with special circumstances will be dealt with by administration on a case by case basis.</b></p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p><b>Administration and nursing staff will remain in contact with the Diocese of Erie and state and local officials to report positive cases of COVID and coordinate contact tracing and quarantines.</b></p> <p><b>During the 2021-2022 school year, DCC Administration will review the guidelines put forth by the CDC, PA DOH, PA DOE and the Catholic Schools Office and make policy decisions based upon their recommendations and mandates.</b></p> <p><b>Administration will review the weekly statistics regarding the rate of transmission in both Clearfield and Jefferson County, and the number of positive cases and exposures within our own school in making all decisions.</b></p>

## Mask and Social Distance Requirements for DuBois Central Catholic

Event/Location	Masks	Social Distancing Requirements
Classroom	<p>Masks are required for all students when <b>either</b> or <b>both</b> Clearfield and Jefferson Counties are in the substantial or high category.</p> <p>Masks are recommended for all students when <b>both</b> Clearfield and Jefferson County that are in the moderate or low category.</p>	<p>When not vaccinated:</p> <p>Student-to-student 3 feet or more</p> <p>Student-to-staff 6 feet</p> <p>Staff-to-staff 6 feet</p>
Cafeteria	<p>When not eating, masks are required for all students and staff in counties that are in the substantial or high category.</p> <p>When not eating, masks are recommended for all students and staff in counties that are in the moderate or low category.</p>	<p>Recommend a minimum of 3 feet social distancing at all times.</p>
Outdoor Recess	NO masks required	None
School bus	<p>Masks required per School District's Policies for all students.</p> <p>Please review the masks on school bus federal order:  <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/masks/mask-travel-guidance.html">https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/masks/mask-travel-guidance.html</a></p>	<p>To the greatest extent possible based on available seating.</p>

<p>DCC Administrative Staff</p>	<p>Masks are required for all staff in counties that are in the substantial or high category regardless of vaccination status.</p> <p>Masks are recommended for all staff in counties that are in the moderate or low category.</p> <p>In the event that COVID outbreaks cannot be controlled through temporary closure and deep cleaning, DCC will require the use of face coverings regardless of the transmission rate.</p>	<p>Recommend a minimum of 3 ft. social distancing at all times.</p>
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**Additional Resources:**

- [CDC COVID-19 Guidance for Schools](#)
- [PA DOH Updates – Webinar](#)
- [PA DOH Updates – PowerPoint](#)

**Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement**

The Board of Directors for **DuBois Central Catholic** has reviewed the Health and Safety Return to School Plan for the 2021-2022 school year.

By:

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*(Signature\* of Board President)*

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*(Print Name of Board President)*

