



Sts. Simon & Jude Catholic School

It's a New Day at SSJ!

To our entire Sts. Simon & Jude Community, friends, and neighbors:

Over the past several weeks, we have been developing a comprehensive **Health and Safety Plan** that we believe will protect and defend our SSJ School community – not only to meet the unique demands in the face of a global pandemic, but to ensure that our entire learning environment is vital, vibrant, and healthy both now and for the future.

Our plan is to open our doors for in-person instruction as soon as government and local safety guidelines allow. To prepare for all eventualities, we have implemented a series of robust and comprehensive health and safety measures. This plan is based on guidance from local health and government authorities and is designed to add **multiple layers of protection upon our entire SSJ School community**. The following is an overview of our **Phase One Framework for Health and Safety at SSJ**:

Phase One – School-Wide Measures, Modifications and Procedures:

- Installation of a **safety fence and gate system** to fully secure our campus.
- Introducing **Learning Zones**: our campus will be compartmentalized into multiple zones - zones will not interact - zones have separate entrances and exits and will have defined patterns and traffic flows.
- Active Screening for students and visitors: **temperatures taken twice daily** (arrival and before lunch).
- Activities will take place outside as much as possible and communal spaces including Colman Hall and our Community Center will be repurposed as "learning spaces" as needed including full access and use of SSJ's grass field.
- Mandatory PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for teachers/staff.
- Guidelines on Face Coverings which reflect the new California state recommendations issued on 7/17/20:
 - TYKE - Kindergarten: Face coverings encouraged
 - 1st - 2nd grade: Face coverings - strongly encouraged.
 - 3rd grade – 8th grade: Face coverings - required, unless exempt.
- Installation of water filling stations to replace drinking fountains.
- Installation of touchless faucets, toilets, foot pulls for the bathroom doors.
- Sanitation stations: at every exit/entrance to each zone.

- Classroom sanitation spots: each room will have hand sanitizer bottles and students will be required to sanitize their hands upon entry (at the minimum).
- Cleaning of high traffic touch areas multiple times throughout the day.
- Nightly deep cleaning with an industrial fogger that will safely disinfect all surfaces using CDC-approved products designated as safe to use in school settings.
- Physical distancing between desks as much as is feasible and practical.
- Installation of **clear desk shields** for each student to better support physical distancing while allowing for social interaction.
- For this academic year, **we are capping our student population to no more than 50 students total in each grade level.** We believe that it is in our entire community's best interest to maintain a student population which we can safely accommodate.
- Isolation room for any person exhibiting signs of COVID-19.
- Limited visitors and volunteers.
- Staggered lunch/recess times.
- Modified drop off and pick up procedures.
- Hot lunch program will be contact-free.
- Modifications to our before and after-school Stay Care following a zoned approach.

Phase One also includes intentional instruction on **healthy hygiene** and cleaning along with procedures for campus/classroom management to mitigate the spread of germs (all germs - not just COVID-19).

Phase Two – Hospital Grade Air Filtration

Phase Two includes the installation of a state-of-the-art air filtration system throughout the entire school, similar to what is widely used in hospital and medical settings. All of the actions of Phase One plus the addition of the Phase Two air filtration would create a truly healthy and clean learning environment that would prevent not only the spread of COVID-19, but would also significantly lessen the exposure from airborne particles associated with the common cold, seasonal flu, and allergic reactions. **Our aggressive goal is to have Phase 2 completed before students arrive on campus for the 2020-2021 academic school year.**