

DUCHESNE HIGH SCHOOL

2020 COVID-19 Guidelines



The mission of Duchesne High School is to shape leaders in mind, body, and spirit. We feel that the best way to do this is to have students in school as much as possible for their education. We are staying flexible with different options and scenarios, but as of this writing, we will be going back to school full time.

The health of the students is our first priority. We have been working with different health agencies and the Archdiocese of St. Louis to develop a plan that will allow students to be physically present at school. Though virtual learning is always a fallback option, it is not ideal and the importance of in-person learning is widely documented. The American Academy of Pediatrics has issued strong statements about student well-being and the importance of returning to school.

There will be changes on how school is organized with additional protocols and procedures, but we are going to work hard to keep things as normal and traditional as possible. According to the A.A.P. "Evidence suggests that spacing as close as 3 feet may approach the benefits of 6 feet of space, particularly if students are wearing face coverings and asymptomatic."

The best way for the school to stay in session is for everyone to do their part and take the precautions necessary to help mitigate the spread of disease.

We know students have a history of coming to school sick so they do not have to worry about doing the make-up work or missing something from class. While that says a lot about the type of students we have at Duchesne, we are asking that families act with the utmost care and conservative attitude this year. Families need to keep their students home who might not be feeling well. There is no perfect attendance prize and teachers will work with any student who is staying home in order to keep everyone else safe. If a student is suspected of coming to school ill, they will be sent home.

The following policies and procedures are designed to mitigate the risk to students and staff since there is no way to eliminate all risk.

Heathy Students

Masks/Face Coverings

- Masks or a face covering must be worn while in the building and within six feet of anyone else.
- Masks must cover both the nose and mouth.
- Any covering worn must be of simple design and not be disruptive to school environment. They should not have commercial logos, sayings, or be distracting.
 - Coverings will be assessed on a case by case basis by the administration.
 - Any student who is not allowed to wear the mask that they brought to school will be provided a disposable one for the day.

Health Screening

- There will be an online questionnaire that will need to be completed each day prior to entering the school.
- The questions will need to be answered by the student as a way to self-check and become more self-aware of what their body is doing and if they are at any risk of being sick.
- If any of the questions is answered in the negative, the student needs to stay home.
- Questions:
 - Today or in the past 24 hours have you had any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever (temperature greater than 100.4°F)
 - New or worsening cough?
 - Shortness of breath or trouble breathing?
 - Sore throat that is different from your seasonal allergies?
 - New loss of smell or taste, or both?
 - Diarrhea or vomiting?
 - Do you have a household member or close contact who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 2 weeks?

Temperature Check

- Students will have their temperature checked each morning as they enter the school.
 - Students who test above 100.4°F will be moved to another area and re-tested after a few minutes.
 - If they continue to test above 100.4°F, they will be told to go home. If they cannot drive themselves, they will be in the quarantine room until someone arrives to take them home.
- Students may be tested at anytime during the day.

Entrance Into School

- Everyone will have to wear masks when entering the building.
- Due to the fact that we are testing everyone entering the building, there will be separate entrances for each grade level and faculty member.
- Entrance doors
 - Freshmen – Enter into the Main Lobby and go directly into the PAC.
 - Sophomores – Use the PAC outside doors that face the parking lot into PAC.
 - Juniors – Enter through the Music Hall doors and test in the PAC.
 - Seniors – Use the Gym Lobby door and test in the lobby.
 - Faculty/Staff – Enter the Main Lobby and go into the Main Office.
- Once students have been tested, they will be able to enter the rest of the building.
- Outside visitors will not be allowed into the building.
 - If something needs to be dropped off, please use the mail drop on the outside of the school by the front entrance.
 - If it is a package, it can be left between the two sets of doors and a staff member will bring it into the school.
 - If a student has forgotten a lunch – we ask that they purchase that day. If they do not have the funds on their card they can still purchase, it will just be seen as a debt.
- Students who are tardy or come to school late will have their temperature taken before they enter the school in the space between the two main entrance doors.

Classes

- Some classes (Choir, band, P.E., etc.) will be modified to help mitigate the spread of viruses.
 - These classes may have substantial changes from what has been traditionally taught or what is listed in the Course Description Guide.
- Lab classes will be adapted to help with social distancing.
- Group and collaborative work will be adapted to help mitigate the spread of germs.

Transportation

- Students riding the morning bus service will have assigned seats and wear masks.
- Busses to games will be evaluated on a case by case basis.
- Busses will be sanitized before each use.

Healthy Environment

Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Ventilation

- Staff will follow established protocols for cleaning and disinfecting.
- Special products and cleaning equipment have been purchased for cleaning and sanitizing the school.
- High touch surfaces will be routinely disinfected throughout the day.
- Classrooms will be aired out as often as possible, weather permitting.
- Bathrooms and public spaces will be cleaned throughout the day.
- Air conditioners will be set to use outside air versus recycled.
- Teachers and staff will clean shared spaces and classrooms throughout the day when necessary.

Classrooms

- Student seating will be arranged to provide reasonable social distancing and will all face the same direction when possible.
 - There will be mandatory assigned seats in all classes.
- Group work will be limited. Teachers will try to assign work that can be done collaboratively online.
- There will be sanitizer available on entry and exit of every classroom.
- Doors will be propped open to minimize doorknob contact.
- Windows will be opened for airing, weather permitting.
- We will minimize the sharing of equipment and learning materials, but if items are shared there are measures being taken to ensure they are clean.
 - Science lab equipment will be sanitized after each use.
 - Computers will be sanitized after each class.
 - Sports equipment will be sanitized after each class.
 - Art equipment (brushes, clay tools, etc.) will be assigned to students if they are not able to provide their own.

Visitors

- Non-essential visitors will not be allowed in the building.
- If a parent needs to drop something off at the school:
 - Use the mail drop slot by the front doors under the intercom.
 - Will be allowed to leave items in the area between the two sets of front doors.
- If a parent would like to purchase something from the Trading Post, they will have to look online for available products. They will not be allowed into the school.
- During games or events, people will be restricted to the non-classroom areas.

Cafeteria

- Food Service Consultants has worked to provide a safe environment for all students.
 - Food will be served by the workers instead of any type of self-serve.
 - A la carte items will be individually wrapped.
 - Salads will be pre-made.
- Students will be encouraged to social distance as best as possible.
 - The round tables will be used with no more than four at a table.
- Students will need to sit with the classmates they came to lunch with.
- We will utilize the Senior Courtyard, PAC, other outside areas to spread students out when necessary.
- There will be sanitizer available on entry and exit.
- Tables will be wiped down between each lunch shift.

General

- If a student starts to not feel well during the school day, there are designated areas to quarantine them until they can be picked up if they cannot drive themselves.
- Hallway traffic will move in a one-way direction when possible.
- Doors before and after school will be propped open to minimize contact.
- Sanitizer is available throughout the school.
- Multiple points of entry will be used to enter the building.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles or tumblers with secure lids and only use the drinking fountains to refill them.

Returning to School

These are the current procedures for a student or staff member to return to school after they have been sick. These guidelines will change as we go through the school year and learn more about the virus.

Person thinks or knows they had COVID-19, and had symptoms

- They may return to school after:
 - Three (3) days with no fever.
- AND
- Symptoms improved.
- AND
- Approved by local health department, typically 10 – 14 days since symptoms first appeared.
- OR
- Case decided on an individual basis.

Person tested positive for COVID-19, but had no symptoms

- They may return to school:
 - If they continue to have no symptoms.
- AND
- Ten (10) days have passed since test.
- OR
- They are approved to do so, in writing, by the person's health care provider.
 - Depending on your healthcare provider's advice and availability of testing, you might get tested to see if you still have COVID-19. If you are tested, you can be around others after you receive two negative test results in a row, at least 24 hours apart.
- OR
- Case decided on an individual basis.

Person who has a household member with COVID-19 symptoms or positive test

- Must not attend school and self-quarantine
 - Watch for symptoms of COVID-19.
 - May return to school after:
 - Fourteen (14) days from the last time the positive household member exhibits symptoms.
- OR
- Case decided on an individual basis.