



Donovan Catholic
Health and Safety Plan
2021-2022

Together We Move Forward

Dear Donovan Catholic Families,

As we look to start the school year it is important that we maintain our tradition of excellence for the 2021-2022 school year. Our commitment to our families is to offer an excellent educational experience deeply rooted in our Catholic faith.

Last year, we came together as a school community and went to extreme lengths to educate, develop, and support our students, faculty, and staff through a year that was unlike any other year in the history of Donovan Catholic. Our Health and Safety Team had to adapt and change in the ever-changing landscape of COVID-19.

Together we faced and overcame many challenges as one community with support and prayers. We adapted to the necessary changes, and we felt great joy and sorrow, but we did this together. All of this could not have been possible if it was not for the willingness and courage of our faculty and staff, the cooperation and support of our parents, and most importantly, the perseverance of our amazing students. By the grace of God,

Together We Did!

Parents, teachers, faculty, and students demonstrated extraordinary resilience, faith, and courage as we navigated through many obstacles. This required flexibility, patience, and the need to monitor and adjust protocols based on recommendations from our local health department. While many schools in our area are discussing how to make up for learning loss, we saw growth in students' achievement. We did amazing work in very challenging times!

We assure you that we will continue to make decisions that will put the health and safety of ALL at the forefront. Our decision will always reflect our school mission and the core value of our school which is our Catholic Identity. We, the faculty and staff, are entering a partnership with you and your child to help maintain our community to be healthy. Our goal is to keep our faculty, staff, and students safe. This requires commitment and honesty from our families.

We are asking that all families continue to implement a health check on your child before your child arrives to school. Relying on the NJ Health Department, State of New Jersey Department of Education, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Ocean County Health Department we will implement the following as we begin the new school year:

- **ALL entering our school building must wear a mask. This includes all vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.**
- Masks can be removed in the cafeteria to eat lunch and outside.
- Students, faculty, and staff will have an opportunity for mask breaks.
- All bus regulations must be followed as set forth by each district. Masks are required on busses.
- ALL entering our school building will enter through the main entry doors.
- Configuration of classrooms will allow for physical distancing strategies.
- School employees and students will continue to focus on hand hygiene.
 - Hand sanitizer will be stationed throughout the building.
- We will continue to adhere to cleaning and disinfecting procedures.
- ALL classrooms will be properly ventilated and will conduct as many activities as possible outside. Weather permitted.
- We will continue to follow the guidance on quarantine and isolation.
 - Please refer to the resources below.
- All faculty, staff, and students must submit a return to school after a quarantine/isolation document to the school nurses.

We will continue to provide-

- 5 full days of instruction
 - Please refer to our school calendar for special events
- Grade Level Orientations for the first week of school
- School-Wide Mass, Retreats, and Day of Community Engagement
- Offer the opportunity for our students to be involved in co-curricular activities.
 - Performing Arts
 - Band
 - Choir
 - Athletics

- Our Cafeteria is fully open and students will eat lunch in our cafeteria.

We appreciate and thank you for your collaboration and patience as we work together to ensure that we will have a successful and healthy school year!

God bless,

The Donovan Catholic Reopening Leadership Team

Resources

[New Jersey Health Department](#)

- COVID 19 illness, Exposure, and Test Result Scenarios
 - Refer to pages 15-19
- We held to follow the Exclusions Criteria Matrix Chart
 - The regional matrix color (green, yellow, orange, red) dictates the exclusion criteria. This is set forth by the NJ state health department refer to page 4.

[NJ DOE The Road Forward](#)

Contact Tracing & Mask Wearing

- Refer to page 14
- Contact tracing is a strategy used to determine the source of an infection and how it is spreading. Finding people who are close contacts of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, and therefore at higher risk of becoming infected themselves, can help prevent further spread of the virus.
- Per the CDC, close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone with suspected or known COVID-19 for 15 or more minutes during a 24-hour period.
- In certain situations, it may be difficult to determine whether individuals have met this criterion and an entire cohort, classroom, or other group may need to be considered exposed.
- **Exception: In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) where both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.** This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting. (updated 8/21)