

Yuma Catholic High School's Health and Safety Plan 2021-2022

Planning Process: Yuma Catholic's plan for the 2021-2022 school year prioritizes and promotes the health and safety of our students and staff while continuing to provide high-quality education in a Christian environment. It is important for our students to be in a healthy learning environment with the familiar routines, structure and positive interactions that help students thrive. Our plan is built upon layers of safeguards to mitigate the risk of the spread of COVID-19. This plan is dynamic and fluid; therefore, it is subject to changes depending on the current health situation within the school and/or broader community.

HEALTH & SAFETY PREVENTION STRATEGIES

1. **Stay home when sick. Students, teachers, and staff must stay home if showing symptoms of an infectious illness. Staying home when sick with COVID-19 is essential to reduce or prevent the spread of COVID-19.**
 - **Stay at home if exhibiting any symptoms or signs of an infectious illness.**
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or problem breathing
 - Chills
 - Fever
 - Sore throat
 - Body aches
 - Students' presence at school implies that the student is symptom free.
 - Students and staff members are to stay home if ill and follow the return to school protocol.
2. **Protocol for student/ staff showing signs of COVID or infectious illness while on campus. (YC does not diagnose.)**
 - a. Immediately isolate the student/staff and monitor symptoms.
 - b. Student/staff who are exhibiting a fever, cough, chills, or other symptoms will be sent home. The student will be provided with a mask and will be required to wear it until they are picked up.
 - c. Isolate area(s) that the student was in for longer than 15 minutes and prepare the area for cleaning/disinfecting. The class will be moved to allow for thorough cleaning/disinfecting.
3. **Return to School Policy:** Student/ staff may not return to school until he/she is fever-free for 24 hours, without the aid of medication; if diagnosed with COVID or having COVID symptoms, he/she may not return until:
 - i. -24 hours with no fever and
 - ii. -Symptoms improved and
 - iii. -10 days since symptoms first appeared

- b. Yuma Catholic will follow CDC guidelines, notify Yuma County Health Department of any COVID-positive cases, utilize the COVID-19 Matrix, and follow the [ADHS Release from Isolation](#) protocol.
 - c. Contact tracing: YCHS will conduct contact tracing and notify parents and students regarding close contact and the need to quarantine. Reports from staff, parents/guardians, and students about exposure will be documented on YCHS's COVID-19 Matrix.
4. **Mask Guideline: Mask wearing on campus is optional.** The CDC recommends that masks should be worn indoors by all individuals who are not fully vaccinated. For parents/guardians of students who are not fully vaccinated, it is recommended that such parents/guardians make the determination whether their child will wear masks while indoors at school.
5. **Promoting of Healthy Hygiene Practices and Respiratory Etiquette**
- **Hand Washing** All students, staff, and volunteers should engage in frequent hand washing.
 - Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol can be used if soap and water are not readily available. Signage to remind staff and students on proper hand washing will be posted in restrooms.
 - Hand sanitizer will be available in every classroom, the front desk, the cafeteria, and in all offices and common areas throughout the campus.
 - **Respiratory Etiquette** Coughing/Sneezing: Cover mouth with a tissue or inside of elbow when coughing and sneezing, throw tissue in trash, and wash hands as soon as possible afterward.
6. **Physical Distancing Plan**
- Classrooms:** Small class sizes, removal of extra classroom furniture, and classroom layouts will allow for social distancing.
- Students will have assigned seating in each classroom. Teachers will require students to adhere to the seating chart.
- Hallways:** Students will remain socially distanced in the hallway or outside in the quad until the classroom doors are opened. Students will be required to get their supplies and move through the hallways to their classroom.
- Faculty and staff will monitor and enforce this protocol and the administration will utilize a disciplinary matrix for noncompliance to the safety protocols.
- Food Service and Cafeteria:**
- All cafeteria employees will be wearing masks and gloves and complying with standard operating procedures that ensure safe and effective handling of all food and service related equipment.
 - Students will enter the cafeteria and form two lines complying with the 3 feet protocol. Faculty and staff will monitor for compliance.
 - Self-serve salad bar is unavailable at this time.
 - Extra seating will be provided for students on the patio. Fans and/ or coolers will provide for cooling of outdoor seating.
 - Tables and chairs will be spaced apart to maximize distancing.

Drinking Fountains: Drinking fountains will not be available for use at this time. Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle or purchase one from the cafeteria. A no-touch water refill station is available.

Restrooms: No-touch water faucets have been installed in all restrooms. A trash can will be placed outside of the restroom door enabling the students to exit the restroom by covering the door handle with a paper towel and then disposing of the paper towel afterward.

7. **Cleaning & Disinfecting Plan**

- Custodial personnel will be present throughout the day to wipe down common areas and sanitize the restrooms. A list of duties has been created and custodians have been trained on their new duties.
- The school will be sanitized daily.
- All bathrooms in main building will be sanitized 2 times daily.
- Following each lunch period, the tables will be washed and then sprayed with disinfectant.
- HVAC serviced/checked and air filters are replaced at regular intervals to ensure optimal air quality.
- Yuma Catholic custodial staff will be employing the use of various technologies to facilitate sanitation and disinfection of the school such as; sprayers, foggers, and UV light disinfection.

** Protocols are guided by what is feasible, practical, acceptable, and tailored to the needs of the Yuma community.

Resources

Arizona Department of Health [Release from Isolation Flow Chart](#), May 2021