



SLHS PANDEMIC FAMILY HANDBOOK

PREPARED BY

*Kristen Okabayashi,
Principal
Andie Merlino,
Vice Principal*

PRESENTED BY

*Seattle Lutheran
High School -
Updated Fall 2021*



Seattle Lutheran High School (SLHS) is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all its students, parents, employees, and community members. We have carefully updated our Pandemic Family Handbook (PFH) for the 2021-2022 school year, based on updated guidance and procedures from the Department of Health, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the recommendations from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). We recognize that through the implementation of the following coordinated and overlapping efforts, we can greatly reduce although not eliminate the risk of COVID-19 transmission in our community. We strive to balance mitigation policies with the known benefits of children experiencing in-person learning.

Seattle Lutheran High School may update this PFH as federal, state, and local guidelines and regulations change. It is also included as a temporary addendum to the Student Handbook. Unless communicated otherwise, the rules and guidance of this PFH are the most updated guidance, if there is any inconsistency between it and the existing Student Handbook. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's advisor or the school office.

The success of limiting transmission of the COVID-19 virus depends completely on the full cooperation and support of our community members, and everyone is responsible for implementing and complying with safety protocols. This PFH includes steps that Seattle Lutheran High School is specifically taking to mitigate contagion, along with steps families must take to support the school.

On-Campus Learning

SLHS plans to open on August 30, 2021 with full in person learning 5 days per week in all grades. Safeguarding the health of our community members is our top priority; if necessary, we are prepared to change to online learning throughout the school year if public health guidelines require us to do so.

Please note SLHS does not plan to utilize a hybrid or live streaming learning model during the coming school year.

Program Modifications

Changes from a typical day this year at SLHS include thoughtful planning of lunch groups, limited and carefully planned large group events, and carefully planned extra-curricular activities and clubs following current guidance from the Department of Health.

Mitigation Strategies

We recognize that through the implementation of coordinated efforts, we can greatly reduce, not eliminate, the risk of COVID-19 transmission in our community. We continue to implement basic infection prevention measures, including:

- Frequent handwashing
- Application of hand sanitizer at arrival and other times of the day
- Respiratory etiquette
- Face coverings
- Daily cleaning and disinfection of the school
- Effective ventilation including air purifiers, and open windows
- Limiting campus access
- Compliance with staff vaccination requirements
- Use of water bottles

Face Coverings

All students, staff, and visitors to campus must wear multi-layer face coverings on campus unless briefly eating or drinking. Students should bring at least one additional face mask in their backpack. The nose and mouth must be fully covered and the covering should fit snugly against the sides of the face so there are no gaps. Face coverings do not have to be worn by employees when they are alone in their classroom or office and students are not present. Students and staff will wear masks while inside or outside campus due to potential close contact with others, unless specific guidance says otherwise (such as athletics).

Limiting Campus Access

Visitors to campus will be limited to reduce the potential for virus spread. Families who drive their student must drop-off and pick-up their student from outside the building, preferably remaining in cars. Parents and guardians may be allowed in the building for specific and important events such as the back to school event. A limited number of vaccinated volunteers will be allowed inside the building and require verification of vaccination by office staff. **All volunteers at the school must be vaccinated.**

Water Bottles

All students should bring a water bottle daily to fill up with the bottle refilling stations or faucets. Water fountains are only available for refilling bottles.

Health Screening and Symptom Testing and Reporting

We will operate the campus with the following practices to care for the health and well-being of our community:

Health Screening

Parents/guardians must assess their child each day for the symptoms below. Students who have symptoms must remain home and away from school and others if experiencing any of the following possible symptoms of COVID-19:

- Fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher) or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Symptom Reporting and Testing

Parents/guardians should continue to report student absences, COVID-19 symptoms, close contacts, and confirmed cases to the school office via email at jdavis@seattlelutheran.org or phone (206) 937-7722.

Families will be responsible for screening their student each morning for the symptoms listed above. SLHS will not formally screen each student this year but students will be monitored throughout the day. Students with any COVID-19 symptoms will be isolated in the isolation room and parents/guardians will be called for pick-up or students who are driving will be sent home. Students with COVID-19 symptoms, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, will need a negative COVID-19 test prior to returning to school. In addition, students must be fever-free for at least 24 hours and symptoms must have improved. SLHS may implement rapid testing with parent approval.

Quarantining

Individuals who are absent due to a positive COVID-19 test may return to school 10 days after the positive test as long as symptoms have improved. Unvaccinated students who are quarantining after COVID-19 exposure may return to school after 7 days as long as they remain symptom-free. Vaccinated students and staff who are exposed to COVID-19 do not need to quarantine unless they demonstrate symptoms. SLHS will follow current guidance from the Department of Health. **Please note students and staff who are vaccinated must have their vaccinations verified with the school office. Please submit a copy or screenshot of the vaccination card to the school office at jdavis@seattlelutheran.org within the first two weeks of school.**

Communication with Families

In the event that a member of our community tests positive for COVID-19 who has been on campus and potentially exposed other members of the community to COVID-19, SLHS will communicate information about the date and any potentially exposed individuals to the community. In the event that a family member of a student or staff member reports a positive test, if there is relevance or an impact to the community, SLHS will share that information.

Final Thoughts

During the 2020-2021 school year, SLHS had zero transmissions of COVID-19 between community members. With overlapping mitigation protocols, we hope to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in the school this year but we can only do that with your cooperation. Thank you for your support of our school, staff, and students as we work together. Please continue to lift up our community in prayer as we navigate through another year of pandemic protocols.

Seattle Lutheran High School
4100 SW Genesee St
Seattle, WA 98116
206-937-7722

Seattle Lutheran
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