

## SY 2021-22 LEA Health and Safety Plans

**School Name: Gonzaga High School**  
**School Contact: Tom Every**  
**School Type: Private, Parochial or Independent School**  
**Date Generated: 08/10/2021**

### **Background and Purpose**

[OSSE's Health and Safety Guidance for Schools](#) is issued for LEAs and private, parochial and independent schools (schools). LEAs and schools must develop and submit to OSSE comprehensive health and safety plans. This plan is intended to provide the public with information on how the School will support the safe reopening and operation of school buildings, including guidelines on masking, social distancing, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, and appropriate response to a positive COVID-19 case.

OSSE reviewed each School's responses to the questions for clarity, completeness, and compliance with the DC Health and OSSE health and safety guidance for schools and provided feedback to the School. Before publication, School's were given the opportunity to revise their responses based on OSSE's feedback. LEAs and schools are responsible for incorporating additional or updated public health guidance into their policies and procedures throughout the school year as such guidance is released.

## Face Masks

### 1. Provide the School's plan to comply with the requirements to:

- **a. except for specific circumstances (e.g., while eating) articulated in OSSE's guidance, all students, staff and visitors, including those who are fully vaccinated, must wear non-medical face coverings or face masks at all times while on school grounds, on school buses and while participating in any school-related activities, including physical education and sports; and**
- **b. masks must be worn correctly.**

We intend to require masks of students, faculty/staff, and essential visitors/contractors at all times when on campus or participating in school related activities, in accordance with current guidance. Signage has been placed at entry ways and around campus as reminders that we are a masked facility. Additional disposable masks and other PPE has been purchased and will be available should someone forget or arrive without a proper mask. The Office of Student Services and Student Health, consisting of a Dean of Students, three Assistant Deans and School Nurses) is in charge of training students and faculty/staff on proper mask usage. Our rules state that face masks must be worn correctly and that masks should be two to three layers of tightly woven fabric, cover the nose and mouth, and fit snugly against the sides of the face. Faculty, staff and students will be trained during first day orientations/meetings and will be held to this standard until such time as a masking mandate has been dropped.

### 2. Provide the School's policies and procedures in the event that a student, staff member, or visitor is unable or unwilling to wear a face mask at all times.

Any person unwilling to abide by our school policies around masking or other health and safety measures may be asked to leave the community. A student may be withdrawn and a faculty/staff member terminated. Visitors will be escorted off campus by our armed Security Officers. These clauses exist in both our employment and enrollment contracts. Students who cannot safely wear a face mask, for example a student with a disability who is unable to remove the face mask without assistance if they have a breathing issue, will not be required to wear one and are entitled to education services.

### 3. Provide the School's policies and procedures to support physical distancing between individuals and within and across groups, including in classrooms, common spaces, during arrival and dismissal procedures, and during extracurricular activities.

Desks in classrooms are spaced at 3-foot distance, with a marked 6-foot teaching lane at the front of the classroom. Common spaces are marked with decals that read "We stand together by sitting apart." Individuals may only sit in marked and distanced areas. Chairs have been removed to lower the number of people in any given area and to increase distancing as necessary. In addition, we have purchased portable Adirondack chairs for students to spread out and utilize our outdoor areas. The chairs are distanced with signage around that reminds students not to move them.

### 4. Provide the School's policies and procedures regarding the use of cohorts for students and/or staff, including steps to minimize interactions between cohorts, as applicable.

We employ a three cohort system. Students are divided alphabetically. Our plan is scalable. While we intend to bring 100% of students back at the beginning of the year, we can easily scale that back to 1/3 or 2/3 of our population daily, rotating students days on campus as needed. If this becomes necessary due to a resurgence of COVID, we will reinstate our fully synchronous virtual program where students will learn from home alongside their in-person classmates. We have the classroom technology (Logitech Rally system) to make this happen and have used it for the 2020-21 school year.

### 5. Provide the School's policies and procedures to support handwashing and respiratory etiquette including

**frequent, proper handwashing strategies and encouraging covering coughs and sneezes.**

We have placed hand sanitizing stations throughout campus and at an every entryway. Bathrooms have been refurbished with working soap and paper goods dispensers, partitions between sinks and urinals and signage with reminders of good hygiene etiquette. We will also continue to address this verbally with students and faculty/staff at regular meetings. At opening day orientation and subsequent student and faculty meetings, the School Nurse will encourage all staff and students to sneeze into a tissue when unmasked and to dispose of tissues in properly labeled trash receptacles which have been placed around campus and in every classroom/office. All community members will also be encouraged to wash hands frequently and for a 20 second duration, using available soap and water, OR to sanitize hands by using stations which are placed throughout the school. Signage on proper hand washing from the CDC has been placed in all bathrooms and around the school in strategic locations.

**6. Provide the School's plan to make available adequate supplies (e.g., soap, paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissues) to support healthy hygiene practices including, as relevant, in classrooms, bathrooms, offices and common spaces.**

A more than adequate supply of cleaning supplies has been purchased and stored and, in cooperation with our janitorial service, is replaced in each space on campus daily as needed. All rooms have been equipped with "Sanitizing kits." These kits include hand sanitizer, spray on sanitizer for surfaces, towels, gloves, and disinfecting wipes. Tissue and paper towel dispensers have also been added to all rooms and are refilled daily as needed.

**7. Provide the School's policies and procedures to acquire, distribute and support the appropriate use of PPE including gowns/coveralls, gloves, surgical masks, eye protection (face shield or goggles) and N95 masks, as relevant and necessary.**

Again, a more than adequate supply of PPE has been purchased and stored. PPE such as masks, face shields, gloves and sanitizer is available at all entrances to the school and in all main offices and faculty workspaces around campus. The Student Services Office and Health Office also store a large supply of PPE to provide to students who find themselves without their own at any time. We have relationships with multiple vendors who can supply any additional PPE supplies as needed. However, our current supply is robust.

**Maintain Clean and Healthy Facilities**

**8. Provide the School's schedule for routine cleaning of rooms, surfaces and objects, including high touch objects and surfaces (e.g., pens, keyboards, elevator buttons, light switches, handles, stair rails, faucets, phones, doorknobs, grab bars on playgrounds).**

All rooms on campus are fogged each evening after use with a sanitizing fogger. In between uses, faculty/staff spray student desks with a leave-on sanitizer that dries quickly. They also wipe down keyboards, mouses, white board markers, remotes, and any other small items before turning over a classroom to another teacher, if necessary. Most teachers are in one classroom all day. Students are able to sanitize their hands when entering each classroom and before/after using any classroom items, such as white board markers. Students are required to maintain their own supplies of pens, pencils, paper, and laptop. Common areas around campus and high touch areas (doorknobs, railings, etc) are cleaned and sanitized multiple times throughout the school day by our janitorial staff.

**9. Provide the School's cleaning and disinfecting protocols in the event that (1) a student, staff member, or visitor develops symptoms of possible COVID-19 while in the school; or (2) if the school is notified that a student, staff member or visitor who tested positive has been in the school.**

In any case of potential COVID exposure, symptoms or with notification of a positive test, regardless of timeframe, we clear the room(s) where the infected individual was and complete a thorough fogging and sanitation before anyone can return to the space. We feel that erring on the side of caution and fully sanitizing spaces daily has helped us keep a very clean environment.

**10. Provide the School's plan to make available sufficient and appropriate cleaning and disinfection supplies.**

As part of the aforementioned "Sanitation Kits," gloves are provided in all classrooms and common areas of campus. These are replenished daily as needed by the janitorial staff.

**11. Provide the School's plan to perform necessary maintenance to ventilation and water systems and features (e.g., sink faucets, drinking fountains, decorative fountains) so that they are ready for use and occupancy and are adequately maintained throughout the operating period.**

With assistance from CARES Act funding, our entire campus ventilation system is being converted to ionization purifier units at present and will be in place and in use for the 2021-22 academic year. Water fountains have been equipped with water filling stations and the individual drinking faucets have been disabled. All sinks have been refurbished and are in working condition. Our maintenance staff monitors all school facilities daily and responds to any needed repairs in a timely fashion.

**Response to a Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 Case**

**12. Describe the School's policies and procedures to:**

- **a. Comply with the requirement to not admit or to dismiss any student, staff member or visitor who is COVID-19 positive or otherwise meets criteria for exclusion, per OSSE's guidance; and**
- **b. Dismiss any individual or cohort that is potentially exposed to COVID-19 within the school setting.**

Through use of the AUXS app, the school monitors all persons on campus (faculty, staff, students and visitors). The AUXS app screen for the following:

- Temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Covid-related symptoms such as runny nose, cough, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, etc
- Anyone confirmed to have COVID-19.
- Anyone who has been in close contact in the last 10 days with an individual confirmed to have COVID-19.
- Anyone awaiting a COVID-19 test results or who has a household member who is awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Anyone who has travelled domestically in the last 10 days to any place outside the DMV (exempting those who waited 5 days after return and received a negative Covid PCR test)
- Anyone who has traveled internationally in the last 10 days, (exempting those who waited 5 days after return and received a negative Covid PCR test, and have been out of school for 7 days from return)

Any person who cannot pass the screening is not permitted to enter campus and the School Nurse follows up later in the day and provides a "return to campus" date based on symptoms, Covid test results, etc.

Anyone presenting covid symptoms after passing screening is isolated in one of two holding rooms until they can be removed from campus where they must remain masked. These rooms are monitored by the Office of Student Services and Student Health. Upon confirmation of any potential or actual COVID exposure, students and faculty who have come into contact with the individual are dismissed for the day and told to stay home until further notice. In the case of students, parent/guardians are notified immediately. The incident is reported to DC DOH

and we follow any additional quarantine guidance/directives that are provided by them.

**13. Provide the School's plan to comply with the requirements to:**

- **a. Identify a staff member as the COVID-19 point of contact (POC) to whom families, staff, contractors and vendors should report a positive case of COVID-19 and who is responsible for reporting positive cases of COVID-19 to DC Health;**
- **b. Report any applicable positive COVID-19 case in a student, staff member or essential visitor to DC Health on the same day the school is notified;**
- **c. Not exclude students or staff with pre-existing health conditions that present with specific COVID-19-like symptoms on the basis of those specific symptoms, if a healthcare provider has provided written or verbal documentation that those specific symptoms are not due to COVID-19.**

Our School Nurse, Mrs. Amy Harper, is our COVID point-person coordinating all above actions as directed by this guidance. We have and will report any COVID cases to the DC Department of Health immediately upon finding out. DC DOH has been an excellent partner and has always given timely feedback and directives, which we are happy to follow. Students or staff with pre-existing health conditions that present with specific COVID-19 – like symptoms are not excluded from entering the school building on the basis of those specific symptoms once a healthcare provider has provided written or verbal documentation to our School Nurse that the specific symptoms are not due to COVID-19.

**14. Provide the School's procedures to support DC Health with contact tracing in the event of a positive case of COVID-19.**

We have and will continue to provide all relevant health screenings, rosters, schedules and details (location, duration, etc) to the DC DOH as requested for any positive case in our community, whether a person has been on campus or not. Again, our posture is to report everything and err on this side of caution, follow guidance from DC DOH.

**15. Describe how the School will notify the school community, as appropriate, of the positive case and corresponding actions taken by the School.**

We have developed a series of email communications to notify our community members of different levels of exposure: a positive case on campus, a positive case in a shared room/classroom, and a positive case where you/your son is a close contact. In the case of close contacts, we also follow up with a phone call from our school nurse to ensure that the close contact is tested appropriately and does not return to campus until cleared from quarantine. For all instances of positive Covid cases on campus, we notify the entire school population with a secondary and more specific note to affected classroom(s) that there was a COVID-19 positive case and that they or their son may have been exposed. They are told they must not attend school until further notice, and all steps that will be taken- including cleaning, disinfecting, quarantining of individuals, etc.

In addition, Gonzaga maintains a Community Covid Dashboard on our website, which tracks and reports data on positive cases, quarantine due to exposure, and pending tests.

**COVID-19 Testing and Vaccines**

**16. If applicable, describe the School's current or planned COVID-19 testing protocol for symptomatic and/or asymptomatic students and/or staff, including steps the School will take to encourage participation in the**

**testing program. Please include the School's plan to ensure that results of such testing programs are reported to DC Health per DC Health's COVID-19 reporting requirements: [dhealth.dc.gov/page/covid-19-reporting-requirements](https://dhealth.dc.gov/page/covid-19-reporting-requirements).**

We do not have an on campus testing program. However, we require proof of a negative test in the appropriate time frame after travel and/or exposure before a student/staff member is permitted back on campus. This is tracked by the School Nurse.

**17. Provide the School's plans to support COVID-19 vaccination of staff and students, as eligible, including efforts to encourage participation in public and community-based vaccination opportunities.**

Our entire staff has been vaccinated. We are requiring vaccinations for all staff, per employment contract, and all students, per enrollment contract, for the 2021-22 school year, excepting only those with legitimate medical and/or religious exemptions as required by law.

### **Students with Disabilities**

**18. Provide the School's plans to provide appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities with respect to its health and safety policies and procedures.**

Gonzaga always has and will accommodate all disabled students to the full extent of applicable law and health guidance. Accommodations include, but are not limited to: facility access, appropriate course scheduling to ease mobility around campus, learning difference accommodations, additional support personnel as needed to assist with hygiene and PPE, and regular coordination with parents to ensure a safe environment for all.

### **Training, Technical Assistance, and Monitoring**

**19. Please provide the School's plan to provide training and technical assistance on its policies and procedures to safely reopen schools in accordance with the DC Health Guidance for Schools and the OSSE Health and Safety Guidance for Schools, including:**

- **a. who will receive training and technical assistance; while on school grounds, on school buses and while participating in any school-related activities, including physical education and sports; and**
- **b. the topics that the training and technical assistance will address; and**
- **c. how and by whom the training and technical assistance will be delivered.**

All faculty and staff will receive training at orientation from the School Nurse (Covid point person) and school administration (Headmaster and Assistant Headmaster). Topics will include, but not be limited to: proper masking and monitoring, classroom/office sanitation, reporting of symptom onset in students and proper communication with families for delivery of content if quarantine is necessary.

**20. Provide the School's plan to monitor the implementation of the health and safety plans at each campus, including how, when and by whom the implementation will be monitored, and how the School will respond if a given campus is not adhering to the plan.**

Gonzaga is a one-campus school. Our school nurse and covid point person will monitor all areas of compliance, and report any areas of non-compliance to our COVID Task Force and to the Headmaster. The Headmaster will address any areas of non-compliance and ensure that the school is operating consistent with applicable law and current health guidance from the Mayor's office, DC DOH, and OSSE.

**21. Describe the School's plans to communicate key health and safety policies and procedures to students, families, staff and visitors.**

We have created a landing page on our website that contains all pertinent

information: <https://www.gonzaga.org/return-to-eye-street-plan>. We utilized this for the past academic year and will update it as the summer progresses and use it throughout AT 2021-22. Regular email correspondence points families back to this page.