



ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI
Office of the Superintendent of Schools

January 1, 2022

Dear Catholic School Parents and Guardians,

May God's blessings be with you as we begin the new year.

The Archdiocese of Miami continues to closely monitor the progression of the COVID-19 pandemic throughout South Florida. Recent weeks have seen a significant increase in COVID rates, with local infection rates now reaching record-breaking levels. As a result of these trends, please see the attached revisions to our COVID policies. These changes will be in effect when school resumes on Monday, January 3. Perhaps most significantly, *we are temporarily suspending all opt-outs of wearing masks, both for fully vaccinated individuals and students who parents have submitted an opt-out consent form.* Thus, all students and employees will be required to wear masks while indoors when school resumes on Monday.

Our policy changes will remain in place for a three-week period, until Monday, January 24. We will continue to monitor COVID trends throughout this three-week period and will make any further modifications accordingly. This may include a continuation of the suspension of mask opt-outs should COVID rates continue to be high.

In addition to the attached changes, there may be additional modifications to local school events and gatherings. Your school's principal will communicate any further changes that are unique to your school.

I know that you share our commitment to prioritize the health and wellbeing of our students and employees. I am grateful for your partnership and trust as we continue the 2021/22 school year.

Yours in Christ,

Jim Rigg, Ph.D.
Secretary of Education
Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Archdiocese of Miami