

Guiding principles for reopening

- Parents will send healthy students to school
 - Temperature scanning and screening upon arrival
 - Mask wearing will be a key element
 - Hand sanitizing at the entrance and throughout the day
 - Physical distancing will be maximized
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Preventative Procedures: It is important for the school and home communities to be proactive as we plan to return to school. With this in mind, we will take all precautions to ensure a safe and healthy environment. The following information is an overview. Our comprehensive Reopen 2020 Manual will be available on the school website on Wednesday, August 5, 2020.

Arrival

- Staggered arrivals will be established to allow more time for screening
- Temperatures will be taken and students and staff will be screened. Any individual with a temperature of 100.4 or greater will be sent home immediately.
- Hand sanitizer is available at each entrance for student use.
- Pedestrian flow patterns are established for optimized directional traffic flow
- Students and staff will maintain physical distance with 6ft being the target range
- Masks will be worn anytime a student is standing, moving or seated while engaged in dialogue.

Lunches

- All lunches will be bagged/boxed. Our lunch provider, Morrissey's, will adhere to this update and provide ordered lunches individually packaged. Pizza on Fridays will also be boxed by the slice.
- Small groups (fewer than 50) will have a rotating cafeteria schedule during the week to provide a physically distanced dining environment. Additionally, classes will make use of outdoor spaces to eat lunches for the same reason. In most circumstances, lunches will be eaten in the classroom.
- Hand cleaning/sanitizing will bookend lunches.

Recess

- Recess will be an important part of our students' days. Schedules are being developed to -- lessen the number of students outside at one time, provide additional outdoor time, use new spaces to allow for distancing measures.

Shared Supplies

- Students will not share supplies. Each student will maintain their own space with their own supplies. Resource classes such as art will have individually labeled supply kits. iPads and chromebooks will be cleaned before shared with another student.

Face Coverings

- Teachers and staff members are to wear face coverings when they are not able to maintain a 6ft. distance or when in communal spaces such hallways, restrooms, school Masses, etc.
- All students, faculty and visitors will wear face coverings when arriving at school, moving throughout hallways and as a general rule, standing. Breaks from the mask will take place when a student is seated and properly distanced.
- Face coverings may be challenging for students (especially younger students) to wear in all-day settings such as school. Students in the ECDC (grades JK-1) will wear masks when moving about the classroom and will follow teacher's instructions for mask wearing during other times as means of extended practice.

Signage

- Taped floors, directionally labeled hallways and stairwells, educational signs on proper hand washing, mask wearing, hand sanitizing etc.

Gatherings, Visitors and Field Trips

- Gatherings such as lunch, assemblies, morning gathering, etc will be suspended. Streamed video will be used to disseminate information that needs to be delivered en masse.
- Visitors will be limited. When arriving at school, visitors will use our buzzer system to communicate with the main office.
- Until further notice, traveling field trips will not be scheduled.
- If parents/visitors are required to enter the building, they will adhere to the same temperature scans and screening questions as faculty, staff and students.

Cohorting of students

- Student and staff groupings will remain as static as possible by having the same group of children stay together and with the same staff (all day for young children, and as much as possible for older children).
- Resource teachers will travel to the elementary classrooms to reduce the amount of movement
- Middle school students will stay with the same cohort of students when possible. When able, teachers will move to a different classroom to teach.
- Assigned seating in all areas to assist in the event there is a need for contact tracing.

Isolating the symptomatic

- Students who become ill or present symptoms of a fever, shortness of breath, dry cough or other COVID-like symptoms will be isolated.
 - Those at home with symptoms -- will stay home
 - Those who arrive with symptoms -- will be sent home
 - Those at school with symptoms -- will be isolated in our 'sick clinic' and then sent home to be seen by a physician
- Any room where a symptomatic student was present will be closed off and not used until cleaned and given the ok by the health department.
- Any student/family member who becomes ill with COVID (not at school) will inform the Principal, Mr. Hess of the situation.

Notifying Health Officials and Close Contacts

- In accordance with state and local laws and regulations, school administration will notify local health officials, the Office of Preparation, the Superintendent, staff, and families immediately of any case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with the current privacy laws.
- Inform those who have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms and follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.
- Mr. Hess has worked with a school based team, Henrico Health Department and Diocesan members to create our plan to reopen and to complete our Health Mitigation Plan. If a student or staff member develops symptoms or comes into contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, Saint Mary's Catholic School will follow the CDC guidelines directly and the Henrico Health Department will direct us in adhering to these protocols.