



Saint Joseph School

Fall 2020

**Reopening Plan
Draft**

Reopening Scenarios

We are planning for three different scenarios for the opening of school on September 2, 2020.

Full In-Person Learning

Students return to their classrooms for in-person instruction. There will be new health and safety protocols in place. Those will be in compliance with the RI Department of Health guidelines.

Hybrid Learning

Some students will be learning from home and others will be in the classroom.

Distance Learning

All students will be learning from home.

Guiding Principles for Reopening

- We will make health and safety a priority.
- We will remain true to our Catholic Identity.
- We will provide a robust educational experience.
- We will be equitable.
- We will communicate clearly and often.
- We will request feedback from students, staff, and families.

Health and Safety

Face Coverings

- Face masks will be required of faculty, staff, and students (K-8).
- Parents are asked to provide 2 masks each day in case of loss or damage. Those must be washed nightly.
- The school will maintain a supply of masks in case they are forgotten at home.
- Face masks are **recommended** for preschool students in the classroom, but are **required** in the halls and restrooms.

Classroom Assignments

- Students will be assigned to stable classroom groups.
- All students will remain in designated classrooms throughout the day.
- Itinerant teachers will visit classrooms to provide their instruction and will maintain 6 feet of social distance between themselves and students.
- Classroom surfaces will be cleaned on a regular schedule throughout the day.

Health and Safety

Classroom Layout

- Extra furniture and rugs will be removed from classrooms to maximize space.
- Desks will be placed as far apart as possible.
- Student desks will all face the same direction.
- All student materials will be placed in individual desks or containers. Children will not share materials.
- Lockers will not be available to middle school students; all materials will be housed in assigned classrooms.

Before and After School

- Before and After school care services will be provided in the Gymnasium. Students who attend will be placed in groups with their regular classmates and 14 feet of distance will be observed between groups.
- Parents will drop off and pick up from the Gymnasium doors.
- Tables and surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected after both sessions.
- Children will not share materials.
- Students and staff will remain masked during Before and After School Care with the exception of snack time.

Restrooms and Common Areas

Restrooms

- Each stable class group will be assigned to a specific bathroom.
- Bathroom schedules will be developed to ensure time for cleaning in between stable groups.
- Bathroom capacity is limited to three students at a time.
- Hand washing is required after using the bathroom.
- Bathrooms will be disinfected every hour throughout the day, more often if necessary.
- Masks are required in the bathrooms.

Hallways

- Classes will pass together in the hallways with appropriate distance between students.
- Classes will maintain 14 feet of distance between each other while in the hallway.
- Masks must be worn by all persons in the hall or other common areas.

Health Screenings

Daily Screenings

- Parents are required to certify that they will screen their children daily for illness and for symptoms of COVID-19. Students with symptoms may not come to school.
- Upon arrival at school, students, faculty and staff will have their temperature taken. Any person whose temperature is 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater may not enter the building.
- Parents whose children are ill must call the school to report the reason for the absence.
- The school nurse will follow up with families as necessary.

Visitor Policy

- All visitors must make an appointment before coming to the school.
- Visitors will be screened using the COVID-19 screening form and will have their temperature checked before entering.
- A 30-day log of visitors will be maintained.
- All visitors must wear a face covering.
- Visitors will enter and exit via the front door only.
- Parents dropping off late students or picking up students early will be asked to call from the parking lot. School personnel will escort the student to their classroom or to the parking lot for pickup.

Illness Policies

The school nurse will help coordinate the school's response to illness in the building.

Any person experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 before school should stay home. Parents are required to call the school to report the reason for the absence.

Students in school who present with symptoms of illness will be escorted to the nurse's office for evaluation.

The school will follow the guidance released by the RIDOH if a closure or quarantine is necessary.

Arrival and Dismissal

Arrival

- Arrival time is 8:00 AM to 8:20 AM.
- Parents will drop off as usual, Preschool and Kindergarten students **must** use the right traffic lane
- After a negative temperature screening, students will use the hand sanitizing station and walk to their designated classroom.
- Face coverings **MUST** be worn during arrival.

Dismissal

- Dismissal for **Preschool** and **Kindergarten** students will begin at **2:45PM**. Early Childhood students who have siblings in grades 1-8 will be dismissed with those students beginning at **3:05PM**.
- Students will be called via intercom when their ride has arrived, will sanitize their hands when leaving the room, and proceed to the exit out the Gymnasium or Early Childhood doors.
- After all riders are dismissed, teachers will accompany After School Care students to the Gymnasium.

Lunch, Snacks, and Recess

- Students will eat lunch in their classrooms as long as they are seated 6 feet apart. If six feet of distance is not possible, some students will eat in a designated area where that distance can be maintained.
- Masks do not need to be worn during lunch or when outside at recess as long as social distancing is observed.
- Children should bring water to school every day. They will be allowed to lower their mask to sip as needed.
- Students should bring a snack every day. Snacks will be eaten outside during morning break/recess.
- All full day students will have a 15 minute morning and afternoon break/recess scheduled.
- In times of inclement weather, break/recess will take place at a designated place indoors.

Teaching and Learning

- SJS is instituting a *Bring Your Own Device* policy for all students in grades 1-8 to enable us to utilize digital tools in our instructional practices.
- Distance Learning will be available for families who wish it, and will be required in cases of quarantine, as determined by RIDOH.
- In order to fulfil our Mission of providing a high-quality education for our students, we will ensure that academic rigor is not sacrificed with a transition to Distance Learning. We will accomplish this by defining and utilizing best practices for virtual instruction. We will validate the effectiveness of programs by student grades, test results, and feedback from students and families.

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- Please be advised that all plans for the upcoming school year are subject to revision at any time.
- We will continue to follow the guidance of the Department of Health and consult with them as necessary.
- Please contact the Office with any questions or concerns at 401-821-3450.