

2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

# REOPENING PLAN

AUGUST 2020



St. Theresa  
Catholic School

*in Memorial Park*

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*This document is subject to change due to the changing environment and local health mandates regarding COVID-19. Addendums will be published with any changes if and when that becomes necessary.*

## Resources:



School Website



School Calendar



STCS Facebook

# MISSION STATEMENT

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St. Theresa School is a diverse educational community rooted in the Catholic faith and committed to providing students with a comprehensive, creative, and challenging program of studies. In a nurturing environment, students are encouraged to discover their full potential and to generously put their gifts at the service of God and others.

# PHILOSOPHY FOR DISTANCE LEARNING

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Keeping our mission in mind, it is our objective to provide students with high-quality instruction even if they change instructional settings. We are committed to keeping our children in-community, on track, and prepared for promotion, spiritually, and academically. Therefore, for the 2020-21 school year, Distance Learning will be very different from the Distance Learning provided during the COVID crisis in the spring. It is necessary that we re-engineer the school experience so students reach high academic outcomes, with the same or better proficiency in 2021 as they did pre-COVID. We seek to ensure rigor and coherence of instructional materials across all options. We are implementing progress-monitoring processes to ensure we accelerate learning to make up for any COVID slide. In addition, we have worked diligently to build and educate our understanding and capacity to offer your children a more structured and academic growth oriented learning experience. Therefore, students who opt-in to Distance Learning will be held to the same expectations as students who attend on campus.

# ON - CAMPUS LEARNING

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St. Theresa administration is preparing for on-campus instruction to resume in August. The campus will follow health precautions in accordance with local, state and federal guidelines. Students will return for normal, in-person education with new health protocols and adjustments as documented in this plan. On-campus learning will only be restricted if mandated by local health officials or the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

# DISTANCE LEARNING

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The virtual learning plan offers families who, despite the campus-wide safety measures, are not comfortable in sending students back to St. Theresa for in-person learning. Classroom instruction will most likely involve streaming lessons from classrooms both synchronously and asynchronously. We will utilize [Swivl](#) and Google Classroom to implement distance learning. Families that opt for distance learning will need to complete a [Distance Learning Agreement](#). For tech support during Distance Learning, please contact Mr. Wilson at [zach.wilson@sttheresa.cc](mailto:zach.wilson@sttheresa.cc)

In the event of a mandated shut down due to state or local officials, all students shift to distance learning. The distance learning plan allows for a simulated transition into and out of on-campus learning and offers both synchronous (live) and asynchronous (accessible anytime) learning.

# DISTANCE LEARNING

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The new Distance Learning Plan is very different from how we were forced to operate during the pandemic crisis in the Spring. Teachers will be using Swivl and Google Meets / Zoom to live stream instruction in the classroom, so students may participate in the full school day from home. The Distance Learning schedule will mirror the same schedule as on-campus learning. The live streaming technology will allow students to hear and see instruction, as well as participate in discussions and ask questions. Students will be required to virtually attend all whole group instruction lessons for core subjects. Students will also be assigned work on Google Classroom that they can complete on their own schedule. Students participating on-campus will also complete the same lessons online through Google Classroom. As teachers will be fully engaged in instruction throughout the school day, they will not be available to respond to parent emails during the day, as they were able to do during crisis learning. Teachers will respond to emails within 24 hours.

Families who opt-in to Distance Learning will be contacted to arrange for pick up of any necessary textbooks and instructional materials before the first day of school. Families who opt-in to Distance Learning may opt-in at any time during the school year, but must commit to continuing for the duration of the grading quarter. \*Distance learning agreements will not carry over from one quarter to the next. Students must opt in for distance learning every quarter.

Students who must quarantine due to COVID-19 will automatically be switched to Distance Learning, but only for the duration of their quarantine, unless they decide to opt-in for the remainder of the quarter.

Teachers will also be sending virtual video messages to welcome students before they start classes.

# THE CAMPUS



## Cleaning & Sanitation

A full-time day porter will disinfect commonly touched areas throughout the campus, multiple times per day. Twice a day the day porter will use an electrostatic disinfection of bathrooms and common areas. Teachers will have commercial grade cleanser available to disinfect the classrooms throughout the day and will be used every night in all classrooms, restrooms, offices, and other common spaces. Desk shields have been installed in classrooms and our HVAC units will be adjusted to increase outdoor air flow and exchange rates. Classrooms without this capacity will be fitted with air purifiers. Air filters will be changed monthly throughout the campus.



## Nurse's Clinic & Quarantine Room

We are creating an additional room on campus to serve as a quarantine room for any student exhibiting potential COVID-19 symptoms.. The nurse's office will be used to tend to minor cuts and bruises, etc.



## Hallways

Faculty will enforce social distancing practices in hallways, and signs will be posted throughout the building detailing social distancing expectations.



## Visitors

Campus visitors, including parents, will not be allowed on campus for the foreseeable future. Only St. Theresa employees, students, and essential services will be allowed onto the campus. All those who enter campus will be asked to follow the ["May I Enter the Campus?" guidelines](#) prior to entry. We will revise this policy as soon as it is safe to do so.



## Lockers & Cubbies

5th - 8th grade students will not utilize lockers. Instead, items will be stored in backpacks in the classroom. Teachers will actively seek to reduce the amount of materials that needs to come home with students each day, and students should only bring to school what is absolutely necessary.



## Water Fountains

Water fountains will be turned off. Students should bring a full water bottle to school each day. We will be installing contactless bottle filling stations around the school.

# THE SCHOOL DAY

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## Carpool

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A new arrival and dismissal procedure has been created with new safety measures to keep students and adults distanced and safe. We will now offer a staggered dismissal and two assigned Drop-off and Pick-up locations.

Please see the [attached documents](#) for important changes to morning arrival and dismissal.

Additionally, all families will be required to complete a Health Screening for each student by 7:15 everyday. Completion of students screeners will be verified at drop-off and a temperature check will be administered. ***\*Failure to complete the questionnaire will result in a delay for student drop-off. Parents will be asked to proceed to the end of the carpool line to complete the questionnaire.***

Students who have a temperature of 100.0°F or greater will be required to proceed to the end of the carpool line for a secondary temperature check. If the secondary temperature check confirms a temperature of 100.0 °F or greater, students will be sent home. Students must remain home until they are fever free for 72 hours if they are otherwise symptom free. If students have a fever and symptoms, they must quarantine for 10 days since onset of symptoms.



## Classroom Changes

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We are redesigning our classrooms to allow for social distance between students. Students will be placed and remain with a single cohort of students throughout the learning day. Middle School students will remain in one classroom for all courses instead of transitioning from room to room. Grade levels will not combine with other classmates during times like lunch and recess.

# THE SCHOOL DAY

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## Mass

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Students will continue to attend weekly all-school Mass via live streamed liturgies from St. Theresa, the Vatican, and other venues. Students will celebrate Mass in person in groups of one or two classes on a rotating schedule. Fr. Phil will be working with students on appropriate Mass participation. Mass uniforms are still required on Mass Days whether attending virtually or in person.



## Ancillary Classes

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We are dedicated to ensuring that our students continue to receive a well-rounded education, which includes exposure to new and different material, concepts, and subject matter. Ancillary classes will occur in the classroom with teachers rotating unless spaces can be disinfected between groups. Our approach to ancillary offerings might change to uphold new safety guidelines. All manipulatives will be disinfected between groups.



## Recess & P.E.

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Movement and sunshine are very necessary for all of us - especially so as we transition to a less-active school day. Students will get outside every day (weather permitting) to participate in organized activities, all while social-distancing. Masks will not be required during outside time. Additional gross motor and physical activity time is scheduled in the school day. The field will be divided into separate sections, to allow for multiple classes while social distancing.



## Lunch & Breakfast

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Students will eat lunch in their classrooms. The Little Flower Cafe will continue to serve lunch to those who order. Lunches will be pre-packaged and delivered to classrooms. Students are welcome to bring their own lunch to school, and we encourage students to bring easy to open lunch items. We will suspend breakfast service until further notice, however, students may bring breakfast to eat in their classrooms before 8 AM.

# THE SCHOOL DAY

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## Classroom Materials

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Students will use their individual school supplies. Classroom materials that will be used by multiple students will be sanitized between users. If you are unable to make the scheduled school supply drop off date, please make arrangements with your classroom teacher to pick up supplies. No bulk supplies will be accepted during carpool.



## Technology

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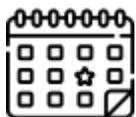
St. Theresa staff will provide a Technology Orientation prior to the start of school. Students in grades 2-8 will have assigned 1:1 devices to use at school.



## Uniforms

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The use of student uniforms will remain in effect for all grades for on campus or distance learning, however, students will be permitted to wear spirit tops everyday with uniform bottoms, with the exception of Mass days. Mass uniforms will still be required on Wednesdays for virtual learning and on-campus learning. Locker rooms will be unavailable for students due to social distancing, however, all middle school students will be permitted to wear their official P.E. uniforms all day, as it may be uncomfortable to participate in P.E. outside in a regular uniform.



## School Schedule & Calendar

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The first day of school will now be September 8. The school year has been extended and some breaks have changed. To see the updated calendar, click the button below.



# BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE, ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

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## Before and After School Care

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Due to social distancing restraints, we will no longer be able to gather for morning assembly or support before school care. Our earliest drop off time will now be 7:30 AM. Students will proceed directly to their classrooms. We will hold virtual morning assembly in the classrooms at 8 AM.

Masks and social distancing will be required in after-school care for all grade levels. Students will remain in cohorts as enrollment allows. After-school care can only be offered if minimum enrollment numbers are high enough to support staff coverage. Grade levels with low enrollment in after-school care may be combined with other small classes in order to continue to provide services. Strict mask, social distancing and health & safety protocols will be followed.

Due to increased health and safety measures, after-school Drop-In care can not be accommodated. In order to participate in the after-care school program through Kidventure, students **must** be registered. Students who are NOT registered with Kidventure, need to be picked up at their scheduled dismissal time.

A \$25 late fee will be assessed for students who are not picked up through carpool and who are not enrolled in Kidventure.

The Kidventure pick up location is the school gym this year. Pick up will begin at 4:00 p.m. Students may not be picked up from Kidventure before that time. All students will be escorted out by a Kidventure staff member. Parents and caregivers are to remain in their cars at all times.



## School Sports & After School Activities

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All school sports will be suspended until January.

We will communicate more on this as soon as we have additional information.

# SAFETY GUIDELINES

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It is important that we maintain a partnership with families to provide the optimal growth of each child. As we plan for a safe return to campus, please work alongside the St. Theresa faculty and staff in helping to prevent the spread of on-campus illness. At the first sign of sickness, please refrain from visiting campus and keep students at home. Together we have the power to create a safe environment for our St. Theresa community.

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## Masks

We are requiring all students to wear parent-supplied masks while moving about on campus (arrival, dismissal, traveling from classroom).

St. Theresa faculty and staff members will also be required to wear face coverings while on campus.

Throughout the school day, only students in grade 1-8 will be required to wear masks while in the classroom. EC teachers will gradually increase masks usage in the classroom as students become more comfortable at effectively wearing masks for longer periods of time. Teachers will provide safe mask breaks during the day when possible.



## Hygiene

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St. Theresa Catholic School will require frequent hand washing. Teachers will give lessons on how to properly wash hands.

We will be installing sanitizing stations around campus and will require their use in various scenarios, such as upon entering and leaving all classrooms.



## Temperature Checks & Health Screening

Families will need to complete a health screening via a healthcare app before 7:00 AM daily. More information on how to download and register for the app will be emailed to families through RenWeb.

***\*Failure to complete the questionnaire will result in a delay for student drop-off. Parents will be asked to proceed to the end of the carpool line to complete the questionnaire.***

Temperature checks will be conducted for all students, staff and visitors every day and each time upon entering campus. STCS staff/faculty will use an infrared forehead thermometer to take the temperature of each student during morning carpool prior to exiting the car every day.

# SAFETY GUIDELINES



## COVID-19 Symptoms On Campus

Should a student exhibit COVID-19 symptoms, parents will immediately be notified and required to pick up their student.

Per the CDC recommendations, any person exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms will be assumed to have COVID-19 unless a negative test or alternative diagnosis by a medical professional deems otherwise. COVID-19 symptoms currently included the following:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Students who have these symptoms must follow the Positive COVID-19 Case guidelines outlined here or test negative before returning to campus.



## Positive COVID-19 Case in the Community

If any student, faculty or staff person tests positive for COVID-19, the CDC recommends that the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:

- At least three days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (no fever without the use of fever reducing medications).
- The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath).
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

The entire community and those families whose child had direct exposure will be informed of a positive case and must quarantine for 2 weeks prior to returning to campus. The identity of the COVID positive person will be kept confidential. The Health Department will inform St. Theresa of any positive cases in our community. Community members also have the option to self-identify by contacting Nurse Horne at [karen.horne@sttheresa.cc](mailto:karen.horne@sttheresa.cc) or Principal Ilski at [melissa.ilski@sttheresa.cc](mailto:melissa.ilski@sttheresa.cc).

# ON-CAMPUS REQUIREMENTS FOR...

## LAB-CONFIRMED COVID-19 INDIVIDUAL



### ALL 3 CRITERIA MUST BE MET:

1. At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery of fever (without fever reducing medication) **AND**;
2. Improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) **AND**;
3. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

## COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

(Not evaluated by medical professional or tested for COVID)



### ALL 3 CRITERIA MUST BE MET:

1. At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery of fever (without fever reducing medication) **AND**;
2. Improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) **AND**;
3. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the stay at home period, the individual must either;

(a) Obtain a medical doctor, licensed in the state of Texas, note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis **OR**;

(b) Receive two separate confirmations at least 24 hours apart that they are free of COVID-19 via acute infection tests at an approved COVID-19 testing location.

## “CLOSE CONTACT” WITH SOMEONE WHO IS LAB-CONFIRMED COVID-19

1. Individuals who have had “**CLOSE CONTACT**” with someone who is lab-confirmed COVID-19 should stay home through the 14-day incubation period and are not allowed on campus.
2. Catholic schools should screen individuals after the 14-day incubation period has concluded, and if the individual did not experience COVID-19 symptoms during that period, the individual may be allowed back on campus. If the individual experienced COVID-19 symptoms during the incubation period, they must stay at home until the conditions outlined above [COVID-19 symptoms (not evaluated by medical professional or tested for COVID)] have been met.



### “CLOSE CONTACT” defined as :

(a) Being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield), **OR**

(b) Being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes, while not wearing a mask or face shield; if either occurred at any time in the last 14 days at the same time the infected individual was infectious.

(c) The period of time for close contact may be irrelevant if the individual with COVID-19 coughed on the other person.