

2021-2022 School Year

# REOPENING PLAN

July 2021



St. Theresa  
Catholic School

*in Memorial Park*

# CONTENTS

---

Philosophy on Reopening	1
On-Campus & Distance Learning	2
COVID Guidelines	3
Safety Guideline	5
The Campus	7
The School Day	8
Before & After School Activities & Athletics	11

*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

# PHILOSOPHY on REOPENING

---

At St. Theresa Catholic School, we firmly believe that the foundation of education must be rooted in relationships, exercised with expertise and high expectations, and infused with passion and commitment.

Our teachers understand that providing intentional and meaningful opportunities for students to work together to create, plan, align and design as collaborators creates the climate to dramatically improve learning. They understand how engaging students in collaborative learning fosters positive social-emotional development, leadership, conflict resolution skills and a myriad of vital life skills that students need in order to be successful global citizens.

Our teachers set high expectations that are clearly defined and communicated, to help challenge each student to reach their full potential. By intentionally seeking to develop these unique gifts, our teachers give intrinsic value and purpose to being at school. As educators it is incumbent upon us to recognize the unique needs and talents of our students and strive to always find ways to support them.

Passion is one of the greatest qualities a teacher can possess. Passion drives teachers to create differentiated lessons which target each student's individual needs and allows all students to feel successful. Passionate teachers build relationships with their students and parents. This is the hallmark of teachers at St. Theresa.

In March 2020, we saw all this completely disrupted when COVID-19 brought in-person learning to a screeching halt. Schools across the globe had to re-imagine a whole new way of teaching and learning. Distance Learning through virtual instruction became the new norm as school campuses sat empty. Once again our teachers exceeded expectations, as they instantaneously flipped their classrooms into virtual learning environments. They continued to engage students through Zoom lessons and on-line activities. As schools were gradually allowed to re-open and in-person learning could resume on campus, we once again saw the dedication of our teachers as they quickly learned how to implement a hybrid instructional program...teaching live lessons to both in-person and virtual students. Despite the tremendous obstacles they faced, our teachers continued to seek out new ways to keep our students on track and engaged in high quality instruction.

By January of 2021, most students had returned to campus full time for in-person learning. However, widespread COVID quarantine mandates still kept our community in flux and kept many students away from the stable structure of the classroom learning environment. As educators, we were witnesses to the many negative effects that COVID-19 has had on our students and families: educational gaps widened, socio-emotional needs heightened, parental job losses, effects of school closures on family dynamics and general trauma for the entire family from extended isolation.

At St. Theresa, we have always known how wonderful our community is, but after witnessing the educational crisis that followed the COVID-19 pandemic we are even greater witnesses to the value and critical importance of in-person learning at St. Theresa Catholic School.

We now understand that it is more important than ever, that all planning and decision making focus on ***“the goal of keeping students safe and physically present in school.”*** -[American Academy of Pediatrics](#)

# ON-CAMPUS LEARNING

---

St. Theresa administration is preparing for on-campus instruction to resume as scheduled on August 12th. The campus will follow health precautions in accordance with local, state and federal guidelines. Students will return for normal, in-person learning with updated 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 (due to Quarantine)

---

Students who must quarantine due to COVID-19 will automatically be switched to Distance Learning, but only for the duration of their quarantine. Only students who are required to quarantine due to exposure or a positive Covid-19 test are eligible to participate in Distance Learning through virtual instruction.

In the event of a mandated shut down due to state or local officials, all students shift to Distance Learning. The use of Google Classroom throughout all grade levels, allows for a seamless transition into and out of on-campus learning and offers both synchronous (live) and asynchronous (accessible anytime) learning.

For tech support during Distance Learning, please contact Mr. Wilson at [zach.wilson@sttheresa.cc](mailto:zach.wilson@sttheresa.cc)

# COVID-19 GUIDELINES



## 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 24 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. The identity of the COVID positive person will be kept confidential. St. Theresa will work with the Health Department to determine any individuals who must quarantine due to close contact.

Positives cases within the school community should be reported to 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).



## COVID-19 Symptoms On Campus

Individuals with any of the following COVID-19 symptoms should immediately self-isolate:

- 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

Per the CDC recommendations, any person exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms will be assumed to have COVID-19 and may not return to campus until they:

1. Obtain a negative PCR test and are symptom free for at least 24 hrs
2. Obtain a doctor's release with an alternative diagnosis and are symptom free for at least 24 hrs
3. Completed the 10-day Quarantine protocol (returning day 11) and are symptom free for at least 24 hrs

# ON-CAMPUS REQUIREMENTS FOR...



## POSITIVE COVID-19 INDIVIDUAL

### ALL 3 CRITERIA MUST BE MET:

1. At least 24 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

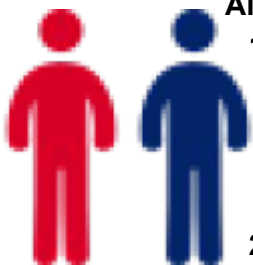
1. Obtain a negative PCR test and are symptom free for at least 24 hrs
2. Obtain a doctor's release with an alternative diagnosis and are symptom free for at least 24 hrs
3. Completed the 10-day Quarantine protocol (returning day 11) and are symptom free for at least 24 hrs

## UPDATED QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS for "CLOSE CONTACT"

### NO Quarantine Required, IF:

1. Individual has tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and recovered do not have to quarantine or get tested again as long as they do not develop new symptoms.
  - a. Individual must show positive COVID-19 test result with date of specimen.**OR**
2. Individual has been fully vaccinated against the disease and show no symptoms.
  - a. Individual must show vaccine record to document full vaccination.

### All Others have TWO options for Quarantine:



1. **7-day quarantine- may return to school on day 8, IF:**
  - a. Individual completes a PCR test on day 5 after exposure, receives a negative PCR test and has no symptoms.
  - b. Individual is then monitored until the 14th day at school for symptoms.
2. **10-day quarantine- may return to school on day 11, IF:**
  - a. Individual has NO test and NO symptoms
  - b. Individual is then monitored until the 14th day at school for symptoms.

\*Quarantine period begins after last date of exposure

# SAFETY GUIDELINES



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. Per the [CDC](#):

Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (e.g., using multiple prevention strategies together consistently) to protect people who are not fully vaccinated, including students, teachers, staff, and other members of their households.



## Masks

- All staff and students will be required to wear masks while indoors.
- Students will not be required to wear masks outside.

Due to the rising threat level of COVID-19 in our county and the rapidly increasing spread of the Delta variant, masks will be required for the beginning of the school year.

Our STCS School Board will review this decision at each board meeting to determine if the number of cases in our area diminishes or the threat level decreases, so that this decision can be updated. The first Board meeting will be August 24th.

*\*Per recommendations from the [Centers for Disease Control](#) and [American Academy of Pediatrics](#): All students older than 2 years and all school staff should wear face masks at school.*



## Temperature Checks & Health Screening

Families will need to complete a health screening as required by the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston via the Cleared4School app before 7:00 AM daily.

***\*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

---



## Cleaning & Sanitation

### Day Porter

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.

### Electrostatic Disinfectant Sprayers

Teachers will have aerosol spray guns available to disinfect the classrooms throughout the day and will be used every night in all classrooms, restrooms, offices, and other common spaces.

### Air Filtration Systems

HVAC units have been adjusted to increase outdoor air flow and exchange rates. They have also had upgraded filters installed. Classrooms without this capacity, have been fitted with air purifiers. Air filters will be changed monthly throughout the campus.



## Hygiene

### Hand Washing

St. Theresa Catholic School will require frequent hand washing. Teachers will give lessons on how to properly wash hands and proper disposal of tissues, etc.

### Touchless Hand Sanitizing Stations

Touchless sanitizing stations will be available in each classroom and common space around campus. Hand sanitizing will be required their use in various scenarios, such as upon entering and leaving all classrooms.

### Outdoor Hand Washing Station

We will also be installing outdoor hand washing stations near the field, playground, and basketball courts.



# THE CAMPUS



## Nurse's Clinic & Quarantine Room

St. Theresa will continue to use an isolated room on campus to serve as a Quarantine Room for any student exhibiting potential COVID-19 symptoms.

Students who exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms will be removed from the classroom and treated in the Quarantine Room.

Parents will be called to come pick up their child immediately and must follow all the protocols outlined in this document regarding COVID-19 Symptoms on Campus.

The nurse's office is housed in a separate area and will only 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, are invited back on campus following Covid protocols. All those who enter campus will be asked to complete a COVID Health Screener Questionnaire and have their temperature checked upon entry.



## Lockers & Cubbies

5th - 8th grade students will resume the use of lockers. Teachers will work to ensure that limited visits are made to the lockers to reduce crowds in the hallway and encourage social distancing. 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

Contactless water bottle filling stations will be installed throughout the school. Students may refill their personal water bottles as needed throughout the day.

# THE SCHOOL DAY

---



## Carpool

---

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

Please see the [2021-2022 CARPOOL](#) for important changes to morning arrival and dismissal.

Additionally, all families will be required to complete a Health Screening as required by the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston for each student by 7:00 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 24 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 Updates

---

As we continue adjusting to our “new normal” we are updating our classrooms with space-saving furniture and layouts to allow for optimal social distancing between students. Middle School students will return to rotating between classrooms throughout the day. Students will not be restricted to cohort groups as they were the previous year, which allows grade levels/classes to combine for activities throughout the day while still respecting the restriction of gathering in larger groups.

# THE SCHOOL DAY

---



## Mass

---

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 on a rotating schedule. We will be working on a plan to invite families back to in-person mass with a specified parent section. We will refrain from whole school assemblies at this time. 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

---

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 resume rotations with students visiting each classroom. Teachers will use the aerosol spray guns to disinfect classrooms between each rotation. All manipulatives will be disinfected between groups.



## Recess & P.E.

---

Movement and sunshine are very necessary for all of us. 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. We are working to add outdoor hand washing stations to help encourage appropriate hygiene.



## Lunch & Breakfast

---

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. We are currently in the process of securing a new modular building for a cafeteria. This will replace the old temporary buildings. We hope to have this completed by January 2022.

# THE SCHOOL DAY

---



## Classroom Materials

---

Students will use their individual school supplies. Classroom materials that will be used by multiple students will be sanitized between users. School supplies can be dropped off during Meet the Teacher on August 9th and 10th.



## Technology

---

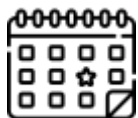
Students in grades 1-5 will have assigned 1:1 devices to use at school while grades 6-8 are permitted to bring their own devices from home to use for instruction. All grade levels will be utilizing Google Classroom as their main online learning platform. Classlink will be used as a hub for students to access all of their online learning accounts tied to the curriculum and supplemental programs.



## Uniforms

---

The use of student uniforms will remain in effect for all grades. Mass uniforms will still be required on Wednesdays for all students whether they are attending mass in person or virtually in their classrooms. Locker rooms will be available for students this year and will be sanitized between classroom rotations. Therefore, middle school students will need to bring their P.E. uniforms to switch into before their designated class period. The guidelines that students will be expected to follow in regards to uniforms can be found [here](#).



## School Schedule & Calendar

---

The first day of school will be August 12th. Please see the [2021-2022 calendar](#) by clicking the button below.



# BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE, ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

---



## Before and After School Care

---

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. Strict mask, social distancing and health & safety protocols will be followed.

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

---

All Middle School Athletics and Youth Sports will resume for the fall of 2021!

Masks will not be required for outdoor activities. Protocols for indoor sports will be communicated by the athletic director, Scott Sugalski. You may contact him directly at [s.sugalski@sttheresa.cc](mailto:s.sugalski@sttheresa.cc) for continued updates regarding sports and athletics at STCS.