



Faith • Knowledge • Service • Integrity



# Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School

## Re-Opening Plan

August 2021



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School is excited to welcome students, faculty, and staff back to school this August! While we hoped to be beyond COVID-19 plans and protocols, we have not yet reached this point. With the health, safety and well-being of our students and staff at the forefront, we continue to strive to meet the needs of our community.

Our re-opening plan considers guidance from health experts from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Fulton County Health Department, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the direction of the Archdiocesan Office of Catholic Schools. Protocols are reviewed consistently by the Archdiocese in consultation with these health experts, and changes may be made based on updated guidance. In the event of a change, new information will be communicated to families as quickly as possible.

Although we cannot predict with certainty how this virus will influence how we spend this school year, as always, we are prepared to provide the best educational experiences possible for our students and teachers as they continue the important work of learning while we balance addressing health concerns.

Certainly, the past year highlighted the importance of our family-school partnership and affirmed the critical importance of working together to protect each other's health. We could not be more thankful for the support of our families, as well as commitment of families, faculty, and staff in efforts to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and keep our campus safe. Your support and partnership is a blessing that made our school year successful. With a measured approach and ongoing evaluation of our plan and protocols, we will take steps to move forward. We value and look forward to the same understanding, respect, and support as we embark on the 2021-2022 school year. We begin school on August 11, 2021, with fully in-person learning.

Working together makes us successful!

## Our Guiding Principles in Re-Opening

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School is committed to:

- Protecting the health, safety and well-being of students and staff.
- Continuing to deliver the high-quality educational experience that our school is known for.
- Pivoting (protocols and attendance/instructional methods) when necessary to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of students and staff.
- Consistently monitoring and evaluating protocols to consider when to “lighten up” or “tighten up” periodically and/or as needed.
- Centering decisions on what is best for all students and staff using the protocols and medical guidance we’ve been given.
- Applying health protocols and guidelines.
- Being transparent. However, we will always protect the privacy of our employees, students and families. We will share what we can and be forthcoming when we don’t know the answers. We will be clear about what we can control and what is outside of our control.

Family commitment:

Here’s what families can do to help ensure the safety of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School community:

- Continue to practice proper hand washing.
- Review the importance of maintaining personal space. Practice maintaining personal space as well.
- Remind students that physical touching (e.g., holding hands, hugging, etc.) are not safe right now with people outside of your household.
- Follow school and Archdiocesan health protocols.
- Remind students to avoid touching their eyes, noses, and mouths.
- Keep children home when they or household members are ill (including when you suspect or have reason to suspect that your child or a household member is becoming ill).
- Ensure that students who have been ill are fever free for 48 hours without medication before returning to school.
- Ensure that students who have been ill are vomit and diarrhea-free for 48 hours without medication before coming to school.
- Keep the Clinic informed of any changes in medical condition.
- Be understanding if we need to make changes to our protocols because of changes to health and safety guidelines. Again, the nature of this pandemic is ever-changing. Health experts learn more as it unfolds, and recommendations change as a result. Any changes are always made with the health and safety of the students, faculty, and staff in mind.
- Be understanding if we need to make changes in scheduling because of government policy updates.
- As always, be patient and kind with us, each other, and yourself. We are all working to keep everyone healthy and safe, as we have done in the past. Please remember that protocols are created to keep our school community safe. **Assume positive intent!**

## Updated 2021-2022 School Procedures



### LEARNING OPTION FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

Consistent with CDC and AAP guidelines regarding best instructional methods for children, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School plans to begin school on August 11, 2021. Per Archdiocesan policy, home learning this year is only available in specific circumstances. These are evaluated through the school on a case-by-case basis (For more information, please click the following link: [https://ihmatlanta-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/lcichanski\\_ihmschool\\_org/ETYKLR0B80xNtBQ11WXGO24BtJwieMsg45FzxU85ALMXzw?e=OXZatz](https://ihmatlanta-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/lcichanski_ihmschool_org/ETYKLR0B80xNtBQ11WXGO24BtJwieMsg45FzxU85ALMXzw?e=OXZatz)).



### ILLNESS PROTOCOLS

- Any person who has tested positive, has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or has had close personal contact with someone who has COVID-19 (unless fully vaccinated) will be required to isolate/quarantine at home. The time away is generally 10 to 14 days. **Fully vaccinated students and staff do not need to quarantine if exposed to a positive case unless he/she begins to have symptoms.**
- Verification of vaccination status will be required to be released from quarantine directives.
- Students and employees must communicate with the school nurse (Clinic) if they or anyone in their household tests positive for COVID-19, experiences symptoms, or is exposed to someone who is positive (with symptoms or asymptomatic). Student(s) and staff in this scenario should not report to school but should immediately contact the Clinic and wait for further direction.
- Students who become sick or experience symptoms while on campus will be taken to the Clinic. Parents will be notified to pick up their student(s) immediately.

- Employees who become sick or experience symptoms while on campus will notify the Office and leave campus immediately.
- Local public health officials and the Archdiocesan Office of Catholic Schools will be notified of any positive cases. We will collaborate with these officials to determine the most appropriate response, depending on the situation. Each response to these situations will be individually based on the specifics of the case and driven by guidance and directives of the public health officials. IHM staff will complete contact tracing specific to our school to identify potential primary exposures and begin implementing necessary steps to mitigate the spread of illness. Instructions will be provided to the infected person(s) and all close contacts regarding isolation and/or quarantine. Sick students and staff may not return until they have met the criteria to discontinue home isolation and have been released to do so by their medical provider. Again, fully vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine if exposed to a positive case unless he/she begins to have symptoms. Verification of vaccination status will be required to be released from quarantine directives. Students and staff, who are ill, may not return until they have met the criteria to discontinue home isolation and symptoms have improved.
- School families and employees will be notified of confirmed illnesses occurring within the classroom. However, patient confidentiality will be maintained and respected.
- Students and staff who experience illnesses that are explained as non- COVID-19 (e.g., strep throat, seasonal allergies, chronic conditions, etc.) may return to school following clearance by their physician. Families should contact the Clinic once diagnosis is confirmed for return to school information/plan.
- Any person entering the Main Office is asked to wear a mask and maintain physical distancing regardless of vaccination status. The office is a common area of the school, and individuals from multiple groups and levels will congregate when visiting. This is consistent with Archdiocesan masking protocols

for PreK-8 schools.



## DAILY HEALTH MONITORING

Before coming to school, each family must complete a self-monitoring health checklist daily. This includes all members of carpools, the driver and anyone else in the car. Ask yourself these following questions:

- Is the student(s) fever free (without fever-reducing medication)?
- Is the student(s) free of the following symptoms:
  - Fever?
  - Cough?
  - Shortness of breath?
  - Difficulty breathing, other respiratory symptoms?
  - Chills?
  - Muscle pain?
  - Headache?
  - Sore throat?
  - Loss of sense of taste and smell?
  - Diarrhea, or vomiting?
- Has the student(s) been diagnosed with COVID-19 or undergoing evaluation/tested for COVID-19?
- Has a close contact (especially household member) of the student(s) been diagnosed with COVID-19 or undergoing evaluation for COVID-19? \*Close contact is defined as “Someone who was within six feet of an infected person for *a cumulative total* of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from two days before illness onset (or for asymptomatic patients, two days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.”

Students and staff who are unable to successfully complete the health screening questions must not come to school. Please contact the school for further guidance.

Please note: Health monitoring questions may be updated based upon evolving guidelines.

If you are carpooling with another family, please confirm that everyone can satisfactorily complete the health screening questions and is fever-free before getting into the car.

Students who are unable to successfully complete the health monitoring questions must not be brought to school, and families need to contact the school nurse for further guidance.

If the student has a condition for which similar symptoms may present themselves (i.e. allergies), the family should contact the school nurse as soon as possible to discuss.

At this time, we will not take temperatures in the carpool lines. As part of the Health Monitoring (done at home), consider taking your child's temperature, especially if they seem like they may be unwell, or they are expressing feeling unwell. This modification was made in consultation with the Department of Public Health, CDC, and AAP.



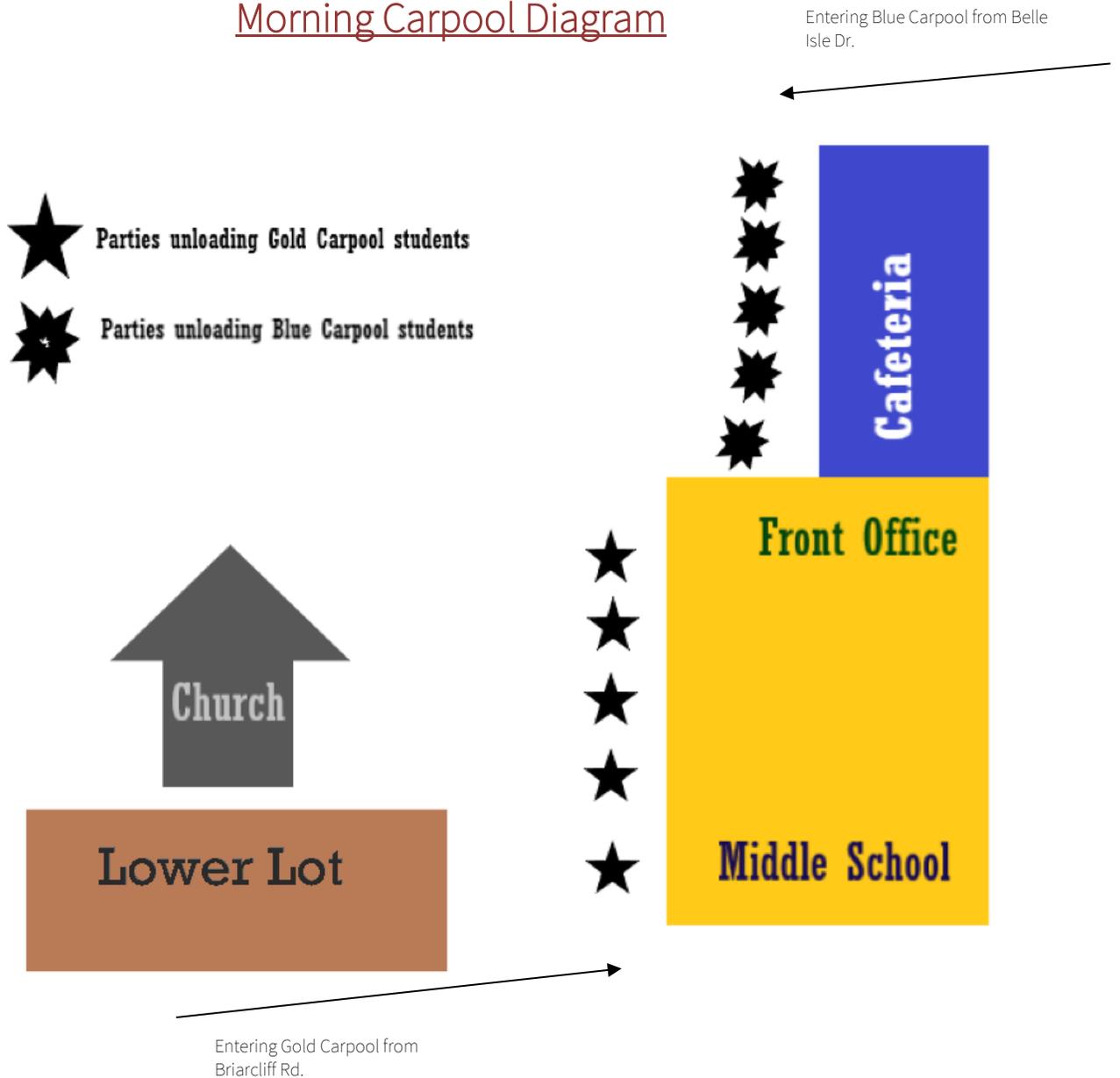
## ARRIVAL

Our Morning Arrival procedures will be conducted in a similar manner to last school year. Our Morning carpool will begin promptly at 7:40 AM. Staff members and patrols will be present in each carpool line to help children exit their vehicles as they arrive. After exiting their vehicles, students will proceed as follows:

- PreK- PreK students will enter the school through the blue cafeteria doors located beside the blue carpool lane. They will proceed into the cafeteria. PreK staff will welcome students as they enter, and they will walk groups of children to the PreK classrooms together.
- K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade- Kindergarten- Fifth Grade students will enter the school through the glass doors located beside the cafeteria. They proceed directly to their classrooms. Teachers will welcome them as they enter their rooms.

- Middle School- Middle School students will enter the school through the glass doors in front of the Middle School wing. They will proceed to their lockers to prepare for morning classes. After gathering their materials from their lockers, they will proceed to their homeroom classes.

## Morning Carpool Diagram





## AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

Our afternoon carpool will be conducted in a similar fashion as last school year. For afternoon carpool, students will remain in their homeroom until their name is called. They will be packed up and ready to go at 3:20 PM, when carpool begins (2:20 PM on Wednesdays). This year, we will utilize a QR code system to communicate families waiting in carpool. QR codes will be placed on family name tag signs. Each code is unique to its corresponding family. Upon entering the carpool, staff helping will utilize devices to read your code. Codes will automatically communicate your students' name to special carpool lists that are visible in each homeroom. Teachers will then direct your students to begin walking to their designated area with guidance from non-homeroom teachers and assistants. Once you reach the pick-up area, your student will be ready to enter the car. A teacher or patrol will help students to their cars. We will practice this procedure with students when they begin school.

**It is imperative that carpool signs with QR codes are visible as soon as you enter the campus. Carpool signs should remain on dash until your student is in your car. This will help ensure the carpool process runs efficiently.**



## PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Physical distancing will be practiced throughout the campus whenever possible. In classrooms, desks will be spaced in accordance with CDC guidelines as feasible. Current guidelines call for at least three feet of distancing. Clear desk shields will remain in use on individual desks and on reading tables in primary classrooms. The school has purchased a desk shield barrier for each child. Shields are portable, so students may utilize them when moving to different areas of the classroom.

We will continue to reduce the number of students on the playground at one time and traffic flow in hallways will again be directional.

Seating charts will be established to ensure proper contact tracing but allowing students to travel to Specials and move to other classrooms for content classes

(grades 4-8).



## SPECIALS

This year, students will travel to Specials classes (Spanish will take place in homerooms as normal). Additionally, they will visit the Library and check out books as we've done during Pre-COVID. Archdiocesan data has shown that surface areas do not contribute to the spread of COVID19, thus making travel possible for students this year.

For PE, students in grades 3-5 will not change at school into their PE clothing. They should come to school dressed in their PE uniforms, including sneakers on their scheduled PE day. They will wear their PE uniform all day. In Middle School, students attending PE should come to school dressed in their PE uniforms. However, they will change into their regular school uniforms after attending PE. If students are attending Mass on their designated PE day, they should wear their Mass uniforms with sneakers.

More information about Specials rotations will be communicated by Specials teachers shortly.



## CATHOLIC TRADITIONS

We remain, first and foremost, a Catholic school upholding the principles and values of Catholic education. This year, grades Kindergarten- Eighth will attend weekly Mass in-person. Mass will take place Tuesdays at 8:30 AM. As discussed in Mr. Plummer's communication, students and faculty/staff should wear masks in indoor large group settings. As we will attend weekly Mass as a school, all students, faculty, and staff will wear their masks during the Liturgy. They will also sanitize hands before and after entering the church.

PreK students will celebrate their faith in a developmentally appropriate manner. They will participate in a special prayer service with Father Robbie each week.

On Holy Days of Obligation, students will attend Mass in a staggered fashion. Kindergarten- Fifth grade will attend at 8:30 AM, and Middle School will attend at 12:00 PM.



## MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Morning announcements will continue to be conducted live, with all crew observing safety protocols. A barrier will be provided to ensure safety. Mrs. Stevens will contact Morning Show anchors and crew with more information.



## MENTAL HEALTH

The mental health of our students and staff are a top priority. Mrs. B., our school counselor, will work with teachers to prioritize opportunities to talk about mental health and coping strategies. For more information or guidance, please contact Mrs. B.



## SANITATION AND CLEANING

Enhanced sanitation and cleaning procedures will continue to be implemented throughout the building and at all grade levels. Students and staff will wash and/or sanitize their hands as they enter classrooms in the morning, between classes, before eating, and after any movements around campus. Careful attention and instruction will be given to proper hand washing (at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use hand sanitizer with an alcohol content of more than 60%). Students will sanitize hands before and after leaving all areas, including classrooms, playground, computer lab, etc....

Touchless hand sanitizers remain installed in high traffic areas and classrooms. As

we did last school year, we will continue to conduct more frequent industrial cleaning in all areas of the school, including nightly electrostatic disinfecting of the entire building. High-traffic areas, such as our computer lab, art room, music classroom, and any other common areas where children will visit will be disinfected each morning and after each use. Water fountains remain disabled, but bottle filling stations are available for student use in the K-5 and Middle School hallways.

The school's air conditioning and heating system has been replaced with a newer and more effective model. It is equipped with high-quality ionization filters, greatly reducing small particles from spreading through the system. Additionally, our air handling system fully circulates the air in each classroom six times per hour (every ten minutes). Last school year, we installed a bipolar ionization air purification system to reduce potential airborne pathogens as well. The system remains in place.



## MASKS

As outlined in the superintendent's protocol communication shared on July 23, 2021, *all students and employees* will wear face coverings in a hybrid manner (Please click this link to review the communication: [https://ihmatlanta-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/lcichanski\\_ihmschool\\_org/EXkm-a51wKFPnlKIWVmpgGIB5DDESojf\\_8DyJa\\_b3qk-Jg?e=LWEOV3](https://ihmatlanta-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/lcichanski_ihmschool_org/EXkm-a51wKFPnlKIWVmpgGIB5DDESojf_8DyJa_b3qk-Jg?e=LWEOV3)).

As a reminder all archdiocesan protocols were created in consultation with public health official included members of the CDC and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Considering all factors (including health guidelines and Archdiocesan protocols), IHM Catholic School will determine appropriate times, locations, and durations of times for masking and unmasking. The physical space/floor plan/layout of our building and classrooms impacts the "when and where" for our students and staff. Every decision made is in every effort to provide for the health, safety, and well-being of all our students and staff.

*Please note: Masking protocols apply to all students and staff regardless of vaccination*

*status.*

- *When masking is required:*
  - Morning Arrival- As large groups and multiple cohorts will interact in common areas of the school, students should wear masks until they are seated safely at their homerooms.
  - School Masses and Assemblies
  - Middle School Locker Breaks – Locker breaks will occur after every two classes. As there will be multiple cohorts in the Middle School common hallway area at these times, students should wear masks.
  - Times of Less Proximity- Masking is required indoors when individuals are unable to maintain at least three (3) feet of proximity (i.e. reading groups, circle time, partner work, small group work).
  - Bus Service/ Field Trips- per federal law, masking is required on buses when we resume fieldtrips.
  
- *When masking is not required:*
  - Recess/ Outdoor Play
  - Outdoor PE Activities
  - Dismissal- As students will be dismissed continuously as their cars arrive and will leave the building by the closest exit, masks will not be required.
  - Times of Greater Proximity- Masking is *not* required when sustained contact is not a concern, as distancing can be safely and *consistently* maintained. Please note that classrooms are being configured to provide adequate physical distance between seats. Desk configurations have been measured, and groupings which provide adequate spacing will be utilized in grades 1-8. Additionally, the school has provided portable desk shield barriers for each student. These barriers also add an extra layer of protection, and they are able to be utilized on PreK and Kindergarten tables. As they are portable, students are able to take them to other classrooms (such as Specials) as well.
  
- Parents may choose to always have their student(s) wear masks. Please send an email to your teacher(s), the Clinic, and to Mrs. Cichanski, so that we may support your student(s) throughout the day. Faculty and staff may choose to mask up for the duration of the day as well.

- The Archdiocesan Task Force will monitor and collect data regarding the hybrid masking policy, and it will continue to consult with public health officials to identify and implement safe protocols. If school, community, or state data illustrates the need for a change, policies will be modified.
- Current Archdiocesan data collected during school summer camps illustrates that this approach to masking, along with established seating charts, may reduce the need to quarantine entire classes in the event of a positive exposure.
- Students are asked to bring two masks to school. Patterned masks are encouraged to decrease the possibility of any mix-ups when students come to school. Please ensure that all masks are appropriate in a Catholic educational environment and washed daily. Please also mark your child's initials on their masks (e.g., with a marker).



## LUNCH

Lunch service will continue to be provided at the school. Students in grades K-8 will have the option to purchase a “hot lunch” (including a drink) on a daily basis. Lunch purchases will be debited from family FACTS accounts each month. Students may also bring a bagged lunch from home.

We hoped to give our students the opportunity to enjoy lunch in the cafeteria, and in consultation with the Department of Public Health, we have taken steps to provide this option. To ensure safety, we have implemented the following cafeteria protocols:

- Students will be seated no more than four to a table for lunch.
- Seats will be located at each end of a table, ensuring at least five feet of space in between and across from each child.
- Students will sanitize hands before entering the cafeteria. They will sanitize upon leaving as well. Sanitizing stations have been placed outside of the cafeteria for their use.
- For health and safety purposes, we will reduce the number of students eating in the cafeteria at one time. Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria on a level-based, weekly rotational basis. Our lunch rotation will be as follows:

- Week One
  - Kindergarten will eat in the cafeteria during the K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade lunch period.
  - Third grade will eat in the cafeteria during the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade lunch period.
  - Sixth grade will eat in the cafeteria during the Middle School lunch period.
- Week Two
  - First grade will eat in the cafeteria during the K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade lunch period.
  - Fourth grade will eat in the cafeteria during the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade lunch period.
  - Seventh grade will eat in the cafeteria during the Middle School lunch period.
- Week Three
  - Second grade will eat in the cafeteria during the K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade lunch period.
  - Fifth grade will eat in the cafeteria during the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade lunch period.
  - Eighth grade will eat in the cafeteria during the Middle School lunch period.
- When a grade level is not eating in the cafeteria, these students will enjoy lunch in their classrooms or outside.
- Students not eating in the cafeteria will still have the opportunity to purchase a “hot lunch.” They will travel to the cafeteria to collect their meal, and they will bring it to their designated eating area for the week. All lunches will be packed in take-out style containers to allow for more efficient travel.
- Weekly lunch rotations will begin the week of August 16, 2021.
- PreK will enjoy lunch in their classrooms. 😊



## WATER

Students are asked to bring their own supply of water for the day (disposable or reusable bottles.) Filling stations will be available in the event students need to refill their water bottles.



## RESTROOMS

We will continue to limit the number of students in the restroom at the same time. Hand washing protocol posters for students will be placed in all restrooms. Please remind and encourage your students to wash their hands thoroughly. Restrooms will continue to be sanitized throughout the day.



## SCHOOL EVENTS AND FIELD TRIPS

Programs and events will be modified as necessary in accordance with crowd size and physical distancing expectations. All families are expected to mask when attending functions inside the school. Some functions may need to be virtual if modifications cannot be made.

Daytime field trips to venues that allow for safe distancing may be scheduled beginning in the second quarter. For safety purposes, no overnight field trips will take place this fall. Middle School retreats will be re-scheduled for the spring.



## OUTSIDE LEARNING

When appropriate, teachers will have the opportunity to conduct classes outside. Additionally, “lap desks” are available to students if they are needed to complete assignments. These will be sanitized before and after students use them. A portable access point was installed last year to allow for the use of technology while learning outside. Any outdoor lessons will be conducted in accordance with teachers’ lesson plans and content.



## RECESS

Recess schedules will be modified to reduce the number of students on the playground at one time. Grade-level cohorts may play together at recess (both homerooms in the same grade). Playground equipment will be cleaned and disinfected each morning with our industrial cleaning equipment, and students will sanitize hands before entering the playground and immediately after. Each grade level and class will have its own supply of equipment for use outdoors. Masks may be removed during recess. This is in accordance with CDC guidelines.

We encourage students to be as active as possible during recess. Outdoor play improves children’s overall health and aids in their physical, mental, and socio-emotional development.



## VOLUNTEERING

We appreciate the work of our volunteers, and we hope to have you back in our building soon! However, per CDC guidelines, we are limiting the number of adults on campus. During the first quarter, volunteers will not be asked to participate in

on-campus events or activities in classrooms. Limited numbers of volunteers may be asked to support on-campus needs as directed by the administration, and teachers may ask volunteers to support classroom efforts from home.

We will revisit this policy at the beginning of the second quarter. When we are able to do so, we will welcome back our awesome volunteers with open arms!



## VISITOR POLICY

Per CDC guidelines, the school will restrict access to visitors. Families may come to school for individual meetings with teachers or school-wide events (i.e. Meet & Greet). We ask families to follow the safety protocols and Archdiocesan masking policies outlined in our re-opening plan and letter from the superintendent.



## AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Students registered in the After-School Care program will remain in their classrooms through the dismissal period. Following carpool dismissal, After School students will be walked to the cafeteria. They will remain in cohorts while in the cafeteria. After School Care will observe our school-wide protocols, including safe physical distancing and hybrid masking policies. Additionally, we will implement the following protocols:

- Students will use hand sanitizer when entering and leaving the Cafeteria.
- Pre-packaged snacks, juice boxes and bottled water will be offered.
- Playground time will be scheduled on a rotating schedule to maintain cohorts. Sanitation will take place in-between uses.

We do plan to implement extracurricular activities during After Care, including Dance, Art Club, and STEM Club. These activities will be offered using our same safety protocols. As a result, the number of participants may be reduced. Please note families will receive more information about these activities after school begins. Extra curriculums will begin after Labor Day in September.



## BEFORE-SCHOOL CARE

Like last year, students attending our Before-School Care program will be welcomed into the building at 7:00 AM. Families must drop off students in front of the main doors. There, students will be walked to the cafeteria. They will sanitize hands before entering, and they will remain with their cohorts until it is time to begin heading to their homerooms for the day. Pre-packaged breakfast items and drinks will be available for students attending the Morning-Care program.



## LATE ARRIVALS

Students who arrive after morning carpool should report to the school office for check-in. As a reminder, you must complete your verbal self-monitoring health screening with your student before they enter the school- even if they are late. This is for the health and safety of our school community.



## SHARED ITEMS

As public health data has shown, surface areas are not an area of high Covid-transmission. Thus, shared items will be utilized in the classroom. This includes

guided reading books, math manipulatives, science tools, school supplies, blocks (for our little guys), etc... Items will be sanitized daily. Students in Middle School are still expected to sanitize their assigned Chromebooks nightly.



## CLASS LIBRARIES AND MEDIA CENTER BOOKS

Per CDC guidance, all books from classroom libraries and the media center will no longer need to enter quarantine when students have returned them. They will be sanitized upon their return, before being re-shelved for future use.



## ITEMS FROM HOME

Like last school year, personal items, especially those that cannot be cleaned and sanitized, should not be brought to school.



## BAND

This school year, Ms. Grosch, our Music teacher, will offer band classes to our Middle School students. She will partner with the Music department at St. Pius X High School to offer beginning and intermediate classes. These classes will take place after school. Ms. Grosch will communicate more information at the beginning of the school year.



## CHORUS

At this time, we are exploring methods to offer Chorus to our students. Please stay tuned. As soon as we are able to offer this safely, we will do so.



## VIRTUAL LEARNING

Archdiocesan policy states that virtual learning will be offered in limited capacity this school year. Families may qualify solely for a documented medical purpose. If you feel your family may qualify, you must submit your request in writing to school administration by August 9. Please include documentation of the medical need. These requests are for students whose medical condition will require them to be out for the entire quarter. This is not intended for normal sick days. For more information, please contact the school.

In the event that your family qualifies, the school will work with you to create a virtual learning plan for your student. The plan would entail meeting virtually with Instructional Support teachers daily to review lessons and assignments as well as meeting virtually with content/ homeroom teachers individually.



## FULL CLASS/SCHOOL VIRTUAL LEARNING

In extreme circumstances, such as a shelter-in-place order, cluster(s) of cases, or insufficient teaching staff, we may need to shift to at-home learning for a period. The school is required to report all positive cases to the local public health department. Quarantines and/or closures are at their directives.



## BUDDIES

We love the relationships established between our Fifth Grade and Kindergarten buddies, and we had hoped to begin meeting with our buddies at the beginning of the school year. Unfortunately, to maintain health and safety, we will not be able to physically meet as buddies during the first quarter. We will revisit this policy after the first quarter.



## TECHNOLOGY

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School will be using the following resources within the classroom to provide the best educational experience possible. Teachers will explain their plan to use these and others as well as online textbooks when they communicate with parents at the beginning of school.



## FACTS Student Information System (SIS)

FACTS SIS is a simple integrated all-in-one communication solution. This system allows students to access classroom content (such as links to live instruction) effectively. We encourage families to access FACTS SIS daily to get updates from the school as well.



Swivl™

Swivl is a camera system we have installed in all classrooms that has the ability to track the teacher or speaker as they move throughout the class. This will be utilized during full class virtual instruction.



Google Meet

Google Meet is a video conferencing/communication service that can be utilized for both small and large groups as needed. In the event of virtual instruction, lessons will be live streamed via Google Meet.



Google Classroom

Google Classroom aims to simplify creating, distributing, and grading assignments. The primary purpose of Google Classroom is to streamline the process of sharing files between teachers and students. This system syncs automatically with our FACTS SIS system.



KAMI

Kami is an online platform that allows teachers and students to turn any document into an interactive learning experience. It allows students to physically complete documents while viewing them on their devices.



IXL is a subscription-based learning site that provides personalized learning in Mathematics. All students will utilize the program throughout the school year.



Padlet is an online platform that allows students to post questions and share assignments with the teacher and classmates during lessons.



Quizlet & Quizlet Live makes simple learning tools that let students study anything! This learning tool will create flashcards and games that are fun and educational.



Pear Deck was founded by educators on a mission to help teachers engage every student, every day. With solutions rooted in active learning and formative assessment, the program allows teachers to connect with learners of every age and ability.



Savvas Realize (formerly Pearson)

Savvas draws upon 120+ years of experience and innovation to provide learning solutions across all pre-K-12 disciplines around the globe. We use their products in mathematics (grades K-5) and science (grades 2-8). This program serves as a platform for online textbooks in these content areas.



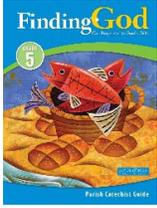
BrainPOP offers curriculum based animated movies, learning games, interactive quizzes, primary source activities, and a breadth of additional resources for students. Its topics span Science, Social Studies, English, Math, Engineering & Tech, Health, and Arts & Music.



Osmo is an application and IOS-based system that merges tactile exploration with technology, allowing young children to learn in a hands-on approach.



Raz-Kids is an online guided reading program with interactive eBooks and reading assessments.



## Finding God

Finding God, through Loyola Press, provides blended learning (in person and online) religious education resources for our students in PreK through 8.

*We pray, through the intercession of St. Thomas Aquinas, for a successful school year. We are in this together, and through continued partnership, we are confident our year will be filled with many blessings. Thank you again for your support, and we look forward to seeing you soon!*



How can we live in harmony?  
First we need to know we are all  
madly in love with the same  
God.

~ Thomas Aquinas