

Health and Safety Plan Saint Albert the Great Catholic School

All decision-makers should be mindful that as long as there are cases of COVID-19 in the community, there are no strategies that can completely eliminate transmission risk within a school population. The goal is to keep transmission as low as possible to safely continue school activities.

Based on our county's current designation and local community needs, Saint Albert the Great Catholic School plans for total reopen for all students and staff (but some students/families opt for distance learning out of safety/health concern).

Anticipated launch date for in-person learning is Wednesday, September 9, 2020.

Pandemic Coordinator/Team

Sandra McDevitt	Pandemic Coordinator
Susan Forouzan	Student Health and Staff Wellness
Chuck Buretta	Building Operations
Helen Lydon	School Families
Laura Stark Stephanie Brunetti	Prospects / Visitors
Leigh Ann Tursi	Cares Program
Kathryn Vrato Carolyn Carradorini	Curriculum

Victoria Szysko Mary Kay Speese	Special Needs Coordinators
Laura Mulligan Karen Youngers	Technology Applications
Jennifer Seweryn	PreK Coordinator
Catherine Alleva Diane Finley	Kindergarten Coordinators
Tracy Cunningham Tim Plourde	Co-Curricular Coordinator
Chris Duffey Sue Ranieri	Lower Level Coordinator
Rosemary Mason Betsy Atras	Upper Level Coordinator

Pandemic Crisis Response Team Consultants

Richard S. Lorraine, MD, FACP, Montgomery County Department of Health
 Archdiocese of Philadelphia Catholic Schools Onward Taskforce

Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting, and Ventilation

- In house facility team will thoroughly clean entire school building before opening day.
- Facility manager, Mr. Chuck Buretta, will monitor cleaning to ensure all was completed properly and correctly. In house facility team will use sprayer disinfectant daily throughout the school building at 4 pm.

- Our regular evening cleaning crew, will do a 2nd cleaning, sanitize, disinfect every classroom, restrooms, nurse's office, main office, all offices, hallways, cafeteria, gymnasium, each night.
- Facility manager will check and monitor ventilation of building each week.
- High touch surfaces will be cleaned frequently throughout school day, such as door knobs, remotes, and light switches.
- During departmental and co-curricular classes, students and teachers will end the class period by cleaning and disinfecting the area used during class time.
- Signage will be in each classroom and throughout the building reminding students to practice good hygiene.
- Frequent hand washing by faculty and students- when students arrive to school, before and after morning breaks, lunch, recess, classroom activities, and dismissal.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom along with Lysol spray.
- Each student should provide their own supplies to reduce the need to share supplies
- No area rugs or carpets are permitted in classrooms.
- Windows will remain open throughout school day except during inclement weather.

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols

- Every day, parents are primarily responsible for monitoring the health of their children and completing daily checklist including a temperature check.
- Teachers will be observant of the health of their students.
- School will implement random temperature monitoring.
- A PPE Station (Personal Protective Equipment) will be set up inside school office for faculty and staff.
- Faculty and staff will be responsible for taking their temperature daily and recording it when signing-in each morning.
- As people travel about the building, masks must be worn. Every child should come to school with their own mask or neck gaiter. We are recommending a solid color.
- All non-essential furniture and materials will be removed from each classroom
- In grades K-8, all students' desks will face in the same direction.
- Desks will be arranged with health guidelines for spacing and class size will be limited.
- Teachers use face shields when working with students less than six feet away
- When materials must be shared, cleaning in between uses is essential.
- Morning Recess and bathroom breaks will be staggered.
- Limited number will be permitted in bathroom. Every other bathroom stall will be closed if needed.
- Grades PK and K will eat lunch within classrooms.
- Lunch schedules for Grades 1-8 will be properly spaced and distanced in cafeteria.
- Students will have assigned seating in cafeteria.
- Pre-paid lunch will be pre-packaged. Morning pretzel snack will be pre-packed in plastic.
- Lunch recess will be in assigned areas and students will only have recess with their cohort.
- There will be limited lunch moderators during lunch and recess for the fall.
- Directional arrows will be placed in hallways to ensure proper spacing and one-way direction when cohorts are moving.

- All after-school clubs will be suspended during the first trimester of the school year with possible consideration to begin in January 2021.
- CARES Program will be available and will provide a safe, healthy and sanitized environment for those students entrusted to our care before and after regular school hours.
- Outside visitors should not be allowed to enter the area where the CARES program is being held. Children should be met at the school door both entering and leaving the building.
- Students are responsible for providing their own snack and beverage during their time in CARES. There will be no snack sharing.

Monitoring Student and Staff Health

- Every day, parents are primarily responsible for monitoring the health of their children and completing daily checklist.
- Teachers will be reminded to be aware of the health of the students in their classrooms.
- School will implement random temperature monitoring.
- When students are experiencing discomfort or potential symptoms of COVID, they will be sent to the Health Office where they are isolated from others with enough room that several students could sit in the room and be apart.
- PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) will be set-up upon entry of Health Office.
- Chairs will be set-up outside of Health Office for minor injuries and illnesses. Additional room will be provided if needed for nurse. Additional nursing staff will be provided if needed.
- We will provide necessary mental and whole health support along with interventions as needed for students to have a safe and effective transition to a new school year, as well as provide additional support as needed.
- School counselor will meet regularly with principal and team to discuss specific student needs and effective strategies to support these students within classroom setting.
- School counselor will meet with individual students and small groups to help students work on coping skills and resiliency
- Further interventions and resources will be recommended to teachers and families as needed.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology

- Each classroom / homeroom is considered one cohort. Grades 7-8 will be one cohort.
- Grades PK-8 will be provided with either I pads, netbooks, chrome books or laptops technology to use for instruction. Once these devices are assigned, the student is responsible for the care of the device.
- All PE classes will take place outside except for extreme inclement weather. Approved games will be provided.

- Media Center will be closed for the 20-21 school year. Students will receive media instruction, and it will be incorporated into the classroom by the media teacher using the device assigned to each student.
- Music and Spanish will come to the cohort for scheduled class time.
- Science Lab will be closed for the 20-21 school year and will be used as an additional space by the nurse.
- Science labs will take place within cohorts.
- The Art studio will remain open and instruction will continue with proper distancing.
- All students 1-8 will have a google account.
- All teachers 1-8 will continue to use Google Classroom
- Classrooms will be equipped with devices for those students who are not in school so they can “zoom” into live classrooms for instruction- specifically in the areas of Religion, ELA, and Math. This will include recorders, microphones and tripods.
- Teachers will switch for any departmental teaching. Students remain in cohorts in their homeroom for all classes.
- When possible, certain classes will be instructed outdoors.
- PK and K will attempt to take learning outside.
- Manipulatives will be packed for individual student use.
- Use “airplane arms” or swim noodles to reinforce physical distancing when standing in line or moving from place to place.
- Create activities to promote school spirit and community throughout school day. Introduce school mascot with mask and proper hygiene.
- Create year-long plans to facilitate more meaningful, interdisciplinary, instruction integrated with our Catholic faith that can be delivered face to face or remotely.
 - ❖ Google Classroom will be used to centralize materials, lessons, instruction, assessments, feedback and communications.
 - ❖ Provide a continued focus on our Catholic identity throughout instruction and in all content areas.
 - ❖ Live-stream direct instruction by teacher.
 - ❖ Incorporate recorded instruction via You-Tube video with follow up.
 - ❖ Follow set schedule if digital learning is required. All classes will be live.
 - ❖ Use Zoom for all digital learning classes.
 - ❖ Use IXL subscription for math and ELA.
- Ensure all instructional experiences include modeling, guided instruction, collaborative work, and independent work (do not overly rely on independent work in-person or remotely).
 - ❖ Teachers will encourage age appropriate physical movement to avoid sitting too long. Include the principle of movement within lessons when possible.
- Vary the way content is delivered to students (reading, lecture/mini-lesson, videos, visual tools, modeling) and the way students can demonstrate their understanding (writing, speaking, visual products, modeling/building).
 - ❖ Google Classroom and Zoom will be LMS used when delivering content to students in and outside of classroom setting.
 - ❖ Online books and sites will be used.
 - ❖ Flipped classroom approach will be implemented for certain content areas.
 - ❖ All manipulatives will be individually separated for each student.
- Engage students by setting a purpose for the work and providing choice in the work process and product.

- Teachers will work together to coordinate assignments, deadlines, projects, and assessments to ensure a manageable workload for students.
- Make adjustments to school-based services plans for students with disabilities to account for accommodations and modifications needed in a remote learning environment.
 - ❖ Special education teacher will meet with regular education teachers at the beginning of the year to discuss the following topics: specific students, accommodations and modifications that were already in place, any curriculum concerns, and scheduling services for this upcoming school year.
 - ❖ In the event of school closure and a remote learning model being implemented, the special education teacher will continue to work with students with disabilities via Google Classroom and Zoom.
 - ❖ Students will continue to receive accommodations and modifications. Some accommodations that students receive in a classroom can translate easily into distance learning. For example: adapting assignments, adapting assessments, adapting the pace, providing opportunities to redo assignments, etc.
 - ❖ Real time feedback from the teacher can also still be provided virtually via Zoom or Google classroom.
 - ❖ Prerecorded video lessons are a great tool to use with students with special needs, especially for those students who need multiple exposures to content and longer think time to process ideas.
 - ❖ Distance learning can be challenging for all students. One area of concern is how to create structured schedules at home. The special education and regular education teachers will work together to address this challenge and other challenges that students face with online learning.
- Prioritize and protect professional learning time for teachers to develop flexible learning plans for the upcoming school year.
- Adjust curricular and supply orders to reflect the most useful tools for face-to-face and distance learning
- Help parents to assist better their children should remote learning become necessary.
 - ❖ Introduce/ review how to use Google Classroom and Zoom with parents at Virtual Back to School Night. Discuss a typical day of online learning with the parents at BTSN.

Maintaining Catholic Identity

Excellence in education is characterized by having a strong curriculum, student engagement, utilizing quality instructional methods, making good use of data and regular communication with parents and stakeholders. **What is at the heart of learning in a Catholic school is the inclusion of faith and Catholic identity in all we do.**

Saint Albert the Great Catholic School has a two-fold charge: providing an education that is academically excellent and one that is deeply rooted in Catholic identity. The challenge, then, is to ensure that the education that is delivered (no matter what the mode of delivery) meets this standard.

- Catholic faith and teachings will be integrated across all grade levels and all subject matters

- First Friday masses may take place by grade level or at different times so social distancing can take place.
- Attendance of parents and general community at the school liturgies may have to be suspended depending on local guidelines.
- Daily prayer will take place in each cohort.
- Each day will begin with community prayer over PA system and will include the prayer of Pope Francis daily.
- Support and make modifications to other faith-based activities that are important in the life of the school
- Increase opportunities for cross-grade faith sharing using virtual means (i.e., prayer buddies meeting virtually).
- Begin all synchronous video sessions with prayer, including soliciting prayer intentions from students.
- Invite parents and families to join in virtual prayer and faith life.
- Connect the current events with a Catholic perspective (using the tenets of Catholic Social Teaching, the Virtues, etc.) as a framework to support understanding.
- Promote service learning experiences in virtual spaces.
- Find opportunities in the current situation that would lend themselves to a community response (acknowledgements and prayers for police, first responders, holding food drives, etc.).
- Every classroom will still make space for a prayer corner, crucifix, statues, bulletin boards reflecting faith values.

The Prayer of Pope Francis during the Coronavirus

Lord, may you bless the world, give health to our bodies and comfort our hearts. You ask us not to be afraid. Yet our faith is weak and we are fearful. But you, Lord, will not leave us at the mercy of the storm. Tell us again: “Do not be afraid” (Mt 28:5). And we, together with Peter, “cast all our anxieties onto you, for you care about us” (1 Pet 5:7). Amen.

Saint Albert the Great Catholic School will make efforts to monitor the health of our students and staff, although it is not required or suggested by the CDC.

Specifically, they suggest schools and Child Care programs are **not expected** to screen children, students, or staff to identify cases of COVID-19. If a community, or specifically school, has cases of COVID-19, **local health officials will help identify those individuals and follow up on next steps.** The school has specific guidance related to situations involving the school, community and COVID-19. These situations include but are not limited to a staff member or volunteer with a confirmed case, a student with a confirmed case, a student or staff member with a suspected case or symptoms.

Other Considerations and Notes

In the event of alternating bus schedules, Saint Albert the Great Catholic School will be open for students 5 days per week. We will not impose an alternating schedule on students. If a student’s public school district imposes alternating schedules for transportation, parents may choose to drive their student to school or may choose to have the students attend virtually. We encourage parents to make the choice that is in the best interest of their student and family life. We will adjust arrival times accordingly to accommodate fluctuating student arrival.

While it is our intention to remain open for the entire school year, we are implementing these strategies to ensure uninterrupted, effective, quality Catholic education in either the best case or worst case scenario.

Parents are encouraged to choose the best options for their child's needs and their family needs. Accommodations will be made for families who require virtual instruction during certain times or to address health and emotional well-being concerns. Arrival and dismissal time will be adjusted as necessary.

This is a constantly evolving situation and Saint Albert the Great Catholic School will continue to adapt so that we can provide the least restrictive, continuous educational program for our students.

**PLEASE EMAIL ALL QUESTIONS TO OUR PCR TEAM AT:
PCRTeam@satg1.org**