



Saint Cornelius Early Childhood Learning Center  
160 Ridge Road  
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

2020-2021 School Year Health and Safety Plan  
July 20th, 2020

**Saint Cornelius Early Learning Center will open in the fall for in-person learning.**

In doing so we aim to provide each child with a developmentally appropriate learning experience given the guidelines, procedures, and restrictions that have been determined by the state of Pennsylvania. As of July 6th, students will be required to wear face masks when learning in areas where they cannot be spaced six feet apart.

It is our goal to provide students with opportunities during most of the school day to be spaced with six feet of physical distance between them. However, to protect the safety of our students, families, and staff we are requiring every student to wear a face mask or covering to school. Additionally, we will be checking for signs and symptoms of students and staff members upon arrival each day. We will have daily health checks, including temperature checks and symptom screenings. We are encouraging our families and staff to please continue monitoring for signs and symptoms, including temperature checks, at home to ensure the safety of everyone in our school building.

**Face masks and coverings**

The state of Pennsylvania is requiring that students over the age of two years old wear face coverings in the classroom. This safety measure is important in keeping our students and staff safe when six feet of physical distance cannot be maintained.

“Face covering” means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. A “face covering” can be made of a variety of synthetic or natural fabrics, including cotton, silk, or linen, and, for the purposes of the Order, can include a plastic face shield that covers the nose and mouth. “Face coverings” may be factory-made, sewn by hand, or improvised from household items, including but not limited to, scarves, bandanas, t-shirts, sweatshirts, or towels.”

Students will be required to wear their face covering to school and teachers will allow students to remove face masks when eating or drinking, seated at assigned desks or work spaces that are at least six feet apart or engaged in any activities where students are at least six feet apart. We feel fortunate in the amount of space we have in our school building and classrooms to ensure that students can be spread out and given time to remove their masks throughout the school day. We will also have extra, disposable masks on hand in each classroom in the event a mask is needed.



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There are several times throughout the day where it is developmentally appropriate for students to be in close proximity with each other for the benefit of their learning. This includes learning experiences such as morning circle time, read alouds, centers, etc., therefore students will be required to wear their face coverings during those times.

We ask that facial coverings be labelled with student's names. Please encourage your child to practice wearing their facial covering now in preparation for the school year. Our teachers and staff will explain to students the process of removing their mask masks and keeping it stored in their pocket, assigned cubby, or assigned desk.

Teachers and administration will determine when it is appropriate for students to be wearing masks or not wearing masks. **Our number one goal is to provide students with a safe environment that also allows them to successfully learn and grow.**

Our teachers and administration will be doing the following to ensure that we are promoting healthy habits and a safe school environment.

- Teach and reinforce washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff.
- Teach and reinforce use of face coverings among all staff at all times. We hope to provide teachers with face coverings that have a clear material, which allows for facial expressions to be seen. For early childhood education, seeing facial expressions is critical for learning and understanding language, non-verbal cues, and phonics and phonemic awareness instruction.
- We will be purchasing adequate supplies, and carefully monitoring inventory, to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol, paper towels, tissues, and no-touch trash cans.

### **Classrooms, shared spaces and class sizes**

Our classrooms will be set up to accommodate the six feet physical distance of work spaces and desks for our students. In our pre-kindergarten classrooms tables will be spaced out with the goal of keeping students six feet apart from each other. We will be splitting our PreK-4 class into two classrooms. Our teachers will be Mrs. Debbie Anderson and Mrs. Pat Morell. We are excited to announce that our PreK-3 teacher will be Mrs. Kim Grenoble, who comes to us with twelve years of experience teaching Pre-Kindergarten. Mrs. Grenoble previously taught at St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic School and at Copeland Run Academy. We are so excited to have her join our team! Mrs. Maureen Hegarty will continue as our kindergarten teacher. At this time,



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we are continuing to accept registrations for the upcoming school year. The state of Pennsylvania is requiring that no more than 25 people, including the teacher and teacher's aide, be in each classroom. In the event that any of our classrooms need to be split more to abide by the PA state guidelines, those changes will be communicated to everyone.

### **Cleaning and sanitizing**

We will be cleaning and sanitizing our classrooms, shared spaces, toys, high touch areas, materials, restrooms and all communal areas throughout the school day as well as cleaning and sanitizing each night. The use of all communal areas such as the cafeteria and playground will be staggered and will not have more than 25 students in each space at one time. We will ensure that hallways and other shared classroom spaces are being used by one class at a time and sanitized after each use. Materials that must be shared will be cleaned before they are distributed to the students and sanitized after each use, however most materials will not be shared. Students' belongings will be kept in their own individually labeled containers, cubbies and lockers.

### **After-school activities and events**

We will still be offering before and after CARES to our students. We will also offer after school activities such as Science Club and Robotics Club. We hope to offer additional after school activities as well to our students. **After school activities will follow the same guidelines and procedures as the school day.** Students will not be in groups of more than 20 students for all after school activities including CARES. We will maintain groups of small sizes in separate classrooms to ensure proper health and safety guidelines are met.

### **Drop off and dismissal**

Parents and guardians will not be permitted to enter the classrooms while students are present at this time. We understand that this may be difficult especially for our youngest students but in the effort of keeping everyone safe we will not be allowing visitors to the classroom for the time being. We will be checking for signs and symptoms at morning drop off, including a temperature check of each student before entering the building.

### **Busing/Transportation**

Busing will still be provided for students five years and older if needed. We ask that you please check your child's temperature before getting on the bus and screen for any symptoms before



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riding on the bus in the morning. While on the bus, students may be asked to wear masks during the duration of their trip to school. All bus procedures follow the guidelines determined by your residing school district. It is currently being encouraged by the state that families use transportation options other than busing. However, busing will still be provided if needed. A busing request form is necessary as well as calling the transportation office of the school district in which you reside.

Our staff at Saint Cornelius Early Learning Center will continue to monitor the guidelines and procedures given by the state of Pennsylvania as everything progresses. If changes are made by the state we will adjust and implement as necessary. All changes will be communicated with our families and we appreciate any and all feedback at this time. Our number one goal is to provide an educational, healthy environment for each of our students to successfully learn and grow. If you have any questions or concerns about the academic or social growth of your child given the current guidelines and procedures please feel free to contact me directly via email at [akohlbrener@scornelius.org](mailto:akohlbrener@scornelius.org).

### **Information and resources**

- Information from The Center for Disease Control regarding children and coronavirus:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html#Children>
- Pennsylvania State Guidelines and Response:  
<https://www.pa.gov/guides/responding-to-covid-19/>
- Pennsylvania State Public Health Guidance for Schools:  
<https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/default.aspx>