



St. Laurentius School
of Holy Name of Jesus Parish
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What options does my family have in regards to the re-opening of school in September?

The Catholic Schools Onward Plan created by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia Office of Catholic Education offers each family two options:

- In-Person Learning Option: Using a socially distanced, cohort model. More information on what this will look like is described below.
- Individual Learning Option: Parents can opt for virtual instruction for their children if they prefer to keep their children at home. The class instruction will be livestreamed from the classroom to the home through the use of webcams and Google Meet. Students participating in this option are expected to be dressed and 'ready to go' at the same time as their peers at school - though they will be tuning in to class remotely. Children will be marked as attending in person or attending virtually. If children do not participate in the virtual lessons, they will be marked absent.

Will students' health be monitored by the school?

Parents are mandated to take their child's temperature before leaving home each day. Please keep in mind that each student, parent and family member is an integral part of the SLS family. In addition, a decision that your family makes outside of school can affect our entire school community. We expect one another to do his/her part to stop the spread of COVID-19 and also to help keep all of our SLS students safe and healthy.

How will this information be communicated to my child?

The first three days of school (9/10, 9/11, 9/12) will serve as initial class days as usual, but with a focus on practicing our COVID-19 procedures. As much as possible, we ask parents to explain what children are expected to see and how it might look a little different than what they are used to. Attached as a separate file is information from CHOP on how to speak to your child about wearing a mask in an age appropriate way and help them get used to it.

How will students enter the building?

Students should enter the building with their masks on properly and maintain social distancing. They should use hand sanitizer at the entrance of the school.

What if my child shows symptoms of COVID-19?

Call the school immediately. Students **MUST** remain at home if they are showing symptoms of COVID. Even if a parent suspects the child *might* be sick, it's better to keep the child at home as he or she can join the class via our class livestreaming. The major subjects will be available through this method. Materials will be also available through Google Classroom.

What happens if a student or teacher has been identified as having COVID-19?

Parents will be notified immediately and the school will undergo the disinfection process. The affected cohort will be dismissed from school for two weeks and will utilize distance learning for the isolation period. Lessons will be delivered through Google Classroom.

How will typical routines (like bathroom trips) be carried out?

Students will go to the bathroom in their cohorts at specific times of day. Bathrooms and high touch surfaces (light switches, door knobs, etc.) will be cleaned at regular intervals. Of course, accommodations will be made for emergencies, but students are encouraged to use the restroom at the designated times to maintain consistency in cleaning. Students are asked to bring their own water bottles. Shared drink fountains are not to be used.

What will the classrooms look like?

Class sizes will be limited in order to accommodate for social distancing. Non-essential furniture and unused materials will be removed from the classroom. Desks will all face the same direction and will be placed 3 to 6 feet apart from the center of each desk to the center of the next desk. Throw rugs will be removed from the room (any rugs that remain in the classroom will be sanitized on a daily basis). We will eliminate the use of shared materials in the classroom.

Will CARES still be available?

Yes. However, students will not be permitted to 'break their cohort.' Thus, 1st graders will remain with 1st graders, 2nd graders with 2nd graders, and so on. There will be no shared toys.

How else will the school experience 'look different'?

In order to maintain safety, we are limiting the admission of visitors to the school. Additional signs will be posted around in the school, bathrooms, and in each classroom to remind students to practice good hygiene. Automatic hand sanitizer stations will be set at the entrance of each classroom and in all common spaces. Students will not be switching classrooms for departmental subjects; teachers will switch instead. Teachers will be wearing facemasks, face shields, and/or other PPE.

I'm sure this information will prompt more questions and 'what if' scenarios. I will continue to update families on a weekly basis (every Monday) via Option C with more information as we prepare to welcome our students back on Wednesday, September 9th.



Kelly Bell

Principal

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