

St. John Berchmans Catholic School
Back to School Plan Survey -FAQ

We recognize that the return to school is a dividing issue amid this COVID 19. However, the faculty and staff of St. John Berchmans Catholic School remain committed to providing the best possible education for our children in a safe, secure, positive learning environment. We do not take the responsibility of your invested interest in your child's education lightly.

We still plan to open with in-person instruction on August 17, 2020, and the Archdiocese of San Antonio will continue to monitor health and safety issues along with any guidance from health and civic leaders. St. John Berchmans Catholic School will offer a remote learning option for students who do not feel comfortable returning to an in-person environment.

Following CDC Guidelines, the following procedures will be implemented daily.

Please note: This is the action plan as of today, based on currently available information. These plans can change without advanced warning at any time based on guidelines from the governor, local directives from TCCB ED, the archbishop, the superintendent of Catholic schools, and the needs of our St. John Berchmans community.

Will everyone's temperature be taken before entering the building?

- Temperature checks will be taken for all students before entering the school building.
- Temperatures will not be recorded.

Will my child be required to wear a face mask?

- Everyone will be required to wear a face mask at all times while on campus.
- We kindly ask adults to wear their masks when dropping off students in the car line due to possible proximity to school personnel.
- Everyone will be required to wear face masks when entering the school and for dismissal.

What procedures are being taken to ensure my child's safety during drop-off/pick up?

Student Drop Off

- Doors will open at 7:00 AM for early drop-off. Students will proceed to the cafeteria after temperature checks.
- Students may arrive between 7:25 AM and 7:55 AM.
- All students will use the car line for arrival and dismissal.
- Family vehicles will enter via the Weir Street gate located behind the Family Dollar. Please stay to the right and drive along the fence to come up to the drive-through carline.
- Only the SJB students should exit the vehicle with their backpack in hand; everyone else must remain in their cars.

- An SJB staff member will be ready to receive your child and administer a temperature check.
- Immediately following the temperature checks, students will proceed directly to their homeroom.
- When exiting via Cupples, please turn right on Cupples to limit the backup of traffic.
- All students must wear a mask when walking from the vehicle to the building. **Student Dismissal**
- We are looking at different models to make dismissal as safe and efficient as possible. More information will be communicated as it becomes available.
- Parents, grandparents, and other authorized individuals must remain in their vehicles. Each family will be given a “student name” sign for the designated person to display on their passenger-side dashboard.
- At 3:30 pm, any remaining student will be taken to after school care. Fees will apply.
- Parents may NOT pick up their child in the last hour of the school day to alleviate crowding in the school office. If students must be picked up early, then please make sure to pick them up before the following times:
- 2:00 pm on regular school days and 11:00 am on noon dismissal days

How will movement in the building be managed?

- Directional floor signs will identify one-way pathways for movement through hallways. (Except during fire drills and emergence school evacuations)
- Students may not loiter or gather in the restrooms or hallways.
- Masks must be worn at all times while moving through the school building.

Is after school care being offered this year?

- After school care will be offered for all grade levels and will be held in the school cafeteria.
- More information on after school care procedures will be coming soon.

What procedures will be taken in regards to school visitors?

To limit exposure, St. Berchmans Catholic Schools asks that you adhere to the following:

- Visitors will not be permitted on the campus during the school day other than the front office.
- Visitors are encouraged to only come on campus for extenuating circumstances.
- At this time, we will forgo the use of campus volunteers when possible. Our schools will provide alternative means of serving our community.

What procedures will be taken if a teacher/ student becomes ill during school hours?

- Students who show signs of COVID-19 symptoms will be isolated immediately at school.
- Students must be picked up within 60 minutes of the parent being notified by the school of illness.

- Parents should have a backup plan for pickup in case of this happening.
- If the student has a fever of 100° or more, they may not attend school the next day.
- Non-essential visits to the office/clinic will be limited.
- Medication and basic First Aid will be delivered to the classroom. Only serious illnesses will be handled in the office/clinic.
- A staff member who becomes ill at school will be sent home immediately.
- The CDC guidelines will be followed for students who have been directly exposed to COVID-19; direct contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 at a close distance for longer than 15 minutes without a mask. These students will be asked to quarantine until it can be established that they have not contracted the virus.
- Teachers who become ill and are capable will continue to teach from home via streaming.

What measures are being taken to ensure that students remain safe and healthy if they attend class in person?

- Hand Washing & Hand Sanitizer - Students, teachers, staff, and campus visitors will be encouraged to sanitize and wash hands frequently.
- Each student, faculty member, and staff member will have a personal hand sanitizer for personal use only at each of their desks.
- Each student must have a parent permission form on file for the use of hand sanitizer (i.e., allergies)
- All will wash hands with soap and water before lunch and use hand sanitizer upon entering the cafeteria.
- All will wash hands with soap and water and use hand sanitizer after recess and P.E.
- Hand washing signs will be posted in the restrooms.
- Signs will be placed on the floors in the walkways, cafeteria, and office designated 6-foot distancing.

Will my child be able to use the water fountain at school?

- Personal water bottles - All students must bring his/her water bottle for personal use.
- Students may bring clear water bottles filled with water only.
- Names should be clearly written on the bottles or containers
- Drinking fountains will be sanitized. No one will be allowed to drink from the water fountain.

What safety measures are being taken to ensure sanitation of high traffic areas?

- Enhanced cleaning protocols have been established to disinfect the campus daily.
- High touch surfaces will be regularly disinfected throughout the school day.
- Teachers and staff will be provided with the necessary cleaning and disinfecting materials.
- We will ensure the safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfecting products.
- Common areas and lunch tables will be cleaned and sanitized after each use.

- Whenever possible, doors will be opened to improve airflow by allowing outside air to circulate in the classrooms.

What safety measures are being taken to ensure my child is safe during class?

- Classroom seating will be arranged to maximize strategic social distancing and to limit face-to-face contact.
- Students will use individual items at their school desk or in their designated cubby: pencil, crayons, scissors, etc.
- Students will use only their school-issued Chromebook/device or a device provided by the family.
- Students will remain with the same students throughout the school day. Teachers will rotate among classrooms for those students that have multiple teachers.

Will students be having lunch in the cafeteria?

- Students are encouraged to bring their lunch in disposable bags. Lunches must come with the child at the start of the day. **NO LUNCH DROP-OFFS IN FRONT OFFICE**
- Students, faculty, and staff will use a designated entrance and exit. All will wash hands with soap and water before lunch and use hand sanitizer before entering the cafeteria.
- Students will eat lunch in their classrooms.
- Students will be seated at least 6 feet apart while strategically placed to maintain a social community.
- Food sharing is not permitted.
- Parents are not allowed to eat with their children.
- Each student must bring his/her snacks.
- Snacks will not be sold for purchase on campus.

What procedures are in place for restroom use?

- Hand washing signs will be posted in the restrooms.
- Bathroom usage will be limited to a safe number of students in the room at one time.
- Classes will have designated restrooms to use.
- Teachers will focus on teaching students proper hand washing techniques.
- Teachers will encourage social distancing when waiting to use the facilities.
- Facilities will be marked to ensure social distancing.

Will students have recess?

- Recess times will be staggered to limit the number of students in the courtyard/playground.
- Each class will alternate a specific recess designated areas (i.e., basketball court, soccer field, baseball field, circle and parking lot). Weather permitting, students may have two recess breaks.
- All will wash hands with soap and water and use hand sanitizer after recess.

What are the options being offered for instruction?

Unified Learning Management System – itslearning

St. John Berchmans Catholic School will be utilizing a unified online learning management system for the 2020-2021 school year. Whether we are here on campus or at-home, instruction and learning will continue through this unified platform. SJB faculty and staff are currently receiving training on the use of this new platform. Parents and students will also receive training at the beginning of the year.

Primary Option:

In-Person Instruction

St. John Berchmans Catholic School is committed to providing a quality Catholic education for our students with a strong focus on in-person instruction. Our faculty and staff are dedicated to ensuring the spiritual, mental, and physical growth of each child. We nurture and foster a community of love and respect for all.

At the beginning of the year, teachers will instruct students on how to use the online learning management system in the classroom. Teachers will utilize itslearning to guide and facilitate instruction while also providing enriching in-person experiences. Students will use the program to submit some of their assignments and also traditionally submit assignments. Our students will be able to transfer from one medium to another effortlessly – they will be 21st-century learners!

*If a student is absent for a short period and is a member of our in-person learning community, then work can be found on itslearning, and any additional in-person assignments will be received through the teacher. Please email your child's teacher if your child is absent.

Secondary Option:

Remote Learning Option

Remote learning Option (RLO) will be offered to any parent who does not feel that it is safe for their child to attend school in person. This could be due to the child having a medical condition, a family member having a medical condition, he/she is in isolation or in quarantine, or by parent request.

- The student will Zoom in with their class at assigned times. Students will need to be present for each of these sessions to be counted present for the school day. After these sessions, they can log off to complete the same activities and assignments as the in-person students, with the same expectations and due dates. Using this model, students could choose to return to in-person Instruction at any time and be on pace with their classmates.
- Teachers will take and post attendance as if the student were physically present in the on-campus classroom.
- Students who are not logged in at the teacher's documented official attendance time will be marked absent.
- A student is required to have a 90% attendance rate.

How will my child's work be graded?

- School grading policies for remote student work will be consistent with those used before COVID-19 for on-campus assignments.

What will be the required uniform for the In-person Option? Will my child be required to wear his/her uniform if I choose the RLO?**In-Person Option:**

- Students will be allowed to wear P.E. uniforms.

RLO option:

- Students enrolled in the Remote Learning Option must wear P.E. uniform during all Zoom sessions daily.

How will Mass be held?

- School Masses will still be offered via live stream.

Will parents who choose RLO still be required to pay full tuition?

*Regardless of the option you select for your family, the tuition at St. John Berchmans Catholic School is a fixed-rate and will remain set for the entire year, even if all of us are mandated to go to Distance Learning. Our faculty and staff are working extremely hard to meet the ever changing needs of our community, and we have a fixed budget for the school year. We much appreciate your cooperation and support. We love having you as a member of our St. John Berchmans Catholic School family!

Does SJB have sufficient cleaning supplies to maintain a clean school environment?

- Yes, we have enough cleaning supplies to ensure a clean environment.

Are parents expected to still be expected to provide cleaning supplies (wipes, hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray)?

- No, not unless parents wish to donate cleaning supplies.

If COVID-19 cases decrease before the first 9 weeks end, will my child be able to transition to in-person instruction sooner?

- Parents may change their child's learning option at the end of the nine weeks.

Would parents be notified if someone tests positive for COVID-19?

- Yes, an email would be sent out.

Who would be instructing classes for students who are going virtual?

- Teachers will be live-streaming instruction, students must attend to be counted present.

Will sports be offered this year?

- No