

Safety Precautions and Policies for the return of a limited number of students

As we reopen our campus to a small number of children during the 2020 – 2021 school year, please review the following safety precautions and policies. Our goal is to prevent the entry of pathogens into the building, and if necessary, limit exposure to those who may become ill while on campus.

Thank you for playing your role in ensuring the health and safety of all our children, staff, and their families by strictly adhering to the following.

Before the first day of school

- Read the following document thoroughly and sign and submit the Memorandum of Understanding by **August 17**. A signature on the Memorandum is required before your child can begin school.
- Review the following information with your child:
 - How to wear a mask correctly (please review the provided video)
 - How to wash their hands correctly for 20 seconds (please review the provided video)
- Ensure that each child has:
 - a re-usable water bottle (as they will not be permitted to drink from the water fountain)
 - at least 3 face covering available at all times. Students can also wear a face shield.
 - Face coverings should be Catholic-school appropriate. Masks that are vulgar or inappropriate or very distracting should not be worn.

Before leaving home each day

- Your child has at least 2 face coverings and his/her water bottle.
- The first point of screening begins at home.
 - Please do NOT give your child any fever reducing medication and send him/her to school.
 - If anyone in your household tests positive for COVID-19 or has any of the following symptoms, your child is required to stay home.
 - If your child has any of the following symptoms, s/he is required to stay home:
 - a body temperature of 100.4°F or higher,
 - chills
 - shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
 - cough
 - fatigue
 - muscle or body aches
 - headache
 - new loss of taste or smell
 - sore throat
 - diarrhea

- nausea or vomiting
- congestion or runny nose

Arrival (8:10 – 8:25 am)

- A helpful video on the new arrival process will be available on our website by August 10. Please review it at your convenience.
- During arrival, in the presence of the masked parent/guardian, the masked child will be screened. This includes a temperature check and screening questions.
 - If the child is permitted to enter the building, the parent/guardian is then permitted to leave.
 - If the child has any symptoms, s/he will return to their parent's/guardian's car to leave.
 - The student will be permitted to return to school when a doctor's note is provided that indicates it is safe for the child to return.
- Students will enter through select doors, depending on their grade level; and immediately proceed to the restroom to wash his/her hands for 20 seconds before proceeding to his/her classroom.

During the school day

- If your child is absent, please either email or call the school and provide an explanation for the absence per Maryland state requirements.
- We take the safety of all of our children, families, and staff very seriously. Therefore, please be aware that there are additional disciplinary consequences for students who intentionally violate any of the safety guidelines, including, but not limited to: social distancing, wearing a mask, and handwashing. The administration reserves the right to change the instructional delivery to distance-only learning for the remainder of the quarter if a parent or guardian or child intentionally or repeatedly engages in actions that compromise the safety of others.
- For late arrivals,
 - A masked parent/guardian must be present at the main office doors with their child(ren).
 - Each child will be screened before being permitted to enter the building.
 - If the child is permitted to enter the building, the parent/guardian is then permitted to leave.
 - If the child has any symptoms, s/he will return to their parent's/ guardian's car to leave.
 - The student will be permitted to return to school when s/he has a doctor's note that states the child can return.
- If your child becomes ill during the school day
 - Your child will immediately be sent to the isolation room and the parent/guardian will be expected to pick up his/her child within 60 minutes.
 - Failure to timely pick-up a sick child is grounds for the administration to change the instructional delivery model to distance only learning for the remainder of the quarter.
- Entry by parents and visitors will be restricted to accessing the building by appointment only.

- All appointments must be scheduled and approved before any parents or visitors can access the building.
- All parents and visitors must self-screen for fever and symptoms before visiting the school.
- All parents and visitors are required to wear a face covering and practice social distancing while in the building.

Dismissal (3:20 – 3:35 pm)

- Students will only be dismissed from the blacktop or the aftercare program.
- Before exiting the building, students will be required to wash their hands.
- Parents must remain in their cars until the whistle is blown twice. Students will then promptly walk to their respective cars. When the whistle is blown once, no parent or student is permitted to walk.
 - Pre-K parents: please line up according to social distancing guidelines at the classroom door. You will not have to sign out your child as the teacher will do that for you.

Question: *What safety policies and procedures are being implemented to help to keep my child safe?*

- St. Joseph's is committed to ensuring the safety of each child, staff member, and our families by strictly adhering to the following protocols:
 - High-traffic areas such as restrooms, door knobs, main office desks, shared equipment, etc. are sanitized hourly and a deep cleaning done at the end of each day.
 - All staff members will be trained about COVID-19 transmission and prevention and are screened daily, required to wear face masks, and practice social distancing.
 - All students will also be screened, masked, and complete the COVID-19 safety training.
 - Class sizes are limited to 12 students and adhere to 6 feet spacing requirements.
 - Shared items or spaces are sanitized prior to a new group entering the space/using supplies.
 - Drinking from water fountains is prohibited.
 - Some instruction will be held outside the building.
 - All clubs and extra-curricular activities have been temporarily placed on hold.
 - Students will be required to wash their hands more frequently and use hand sanitizer often.
 - Restrictions on contact sports during recess are in place.

Please know of our continued prayers for you and your families at this time. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have additional questions or comments.

Please stay safe!