

**August 4, 2020**

## **School Return Plan St. Benedict School**

With the guidance of the Governor of our State, the Lucas County Health Department, the CDC, the Diocese of Toledo, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, we have developed a plan for the opening of our school in the fall. The plan will be updated as new information becomes available.

Our plan is to have in-person, in-school learning five days a week. We believe that this is what is best for our students both academically and socially. The backbone of our plan is increased health monitoring, cleaning procedures, and new classroom and school day procedures. While we realize that the perfect plan is impossible, we present with confidence and prayer our procedures and pray that they will mitigate the risk of the spread of COVID-19 on our school campus.

As we have all witnessed with policies surrounding this virus, this plan will be amended as needed with the counsel of experts as they learn more about this virus.

### ***Health and Safety Policies and Procedures***

- Our campus will only be open to faculty, staff, and students. Parents and guardians may not be in our school building at any time during the school day. This includes dropping off your student and picking them up.
- Each student will have a temperature check and quick health screening upon entering the building. If the student's temperature is 100 degrees or higher, they will be sent home immediately.
- Each family will receive a list of current CDC symptoms and are asked to do a "health check" with your child before you leave the house each day.

### ***Social Distancing Guidelines***

- Each classroom will have desks spaced 4 - 6 ft. apart. Most of our classrooms can accommodate that type of spacing. We will adhere to social distancing in an age-appropriate manner.
- Classes will stay together in the same space and will not mix with each other.
- Students will have class outdoors as much as possible.
- We will not have large gatherings or field trips until further notice. We will assess the situation as it changes.

### ***Mask Guidelines***

- All faculty and staff are required to wear a mask or other protective face covering all day.
- All Elementary students (K-8) will need to wear masks during arrival and dismissal, when walking in the hallway, and inside the church.
- Grades 3-8 must wear masks all day, with the exceptions of Physical Education and recess.
- Masks are best but the Lucas County Health Department has approved face shields as appropriate face coverings.

### ***Handwashing Guidelines***

- Handwashing lessons and times which maintain social distancing will be built into the daily schedule of the class. Children will wash their hands with soap and water at least every two hours as recommended by the CDC.
- In addition to handwashing, hand sanitizer will be available constantly.

### ***Cleaning and disinfecting guidelines***

- Students' work areas will be cleaned and disinfected throughout the day.
- Common areas will be cleaned and disinfected by our maintenance staff.
- Bathrooms will be cleaned and sanitized between groups.

## **Daily Procedures**

***Start of Day-*** School doors will open at 7:00am. Every student K-8 will enter through the gym doors when they get dropped off for school. We are not allowing any parent into the school at any time during the school day. We have to be mindful of contact tracing and exposure. Therefore, staff members will be at the gym door to do a quick temperature check for each student as they enter the building. The students will use hand sanitizer and proceed to their classrooms. I realize that the Kindergarten class is quite a distance from the gym door. Ms. Karen or another staff member will walk the Kindergarteners to their classroom.

All Preschool students will enter the building at the Extended Day/Preschool door. A temperature check will be administered and Mrs. Bishop or Mrs. Vendemo will walk them to their classroom.

***In the classroom-*** Each teacher will inform you of procedures that they will have in place in their classrooms. Teachers will switch classes so that the children will stay in their classrooms. For example, Art, music, technology class will be in the classroom. Phys. Ed will be in the gym or outside. Middle school students will stay in their homeroom and their teacher will switch classrooms to teach them.

**Lunch and Recess-** For the students, this is the most important part of their day! We will have 5 recess times throughout the day for children to go outside for fresh air. Each recess time will be for 2-3 classes at a time. For example, K-1 will be together for recess, 2-3 will be together, 4-5 will be together, and 6-8 will be together. Pre-school has their own recess time. Social distancing and keeping children from gathering in large groups will be enforced. Even though the children are outside with another class, the classes will not be playing together. Masks do not need to be worn outside. Hands will be washed immediately upon entering the building from recess.

Lunch will be eaten in the classrooms. At least at the beginning of the school year, we will not be having hot lunch.

**Dismissal-** We will be instituting a loop system for pick-ups. This will allow parents to stay in their cars. A family name tag will be given closer to the beginning of school to be displayed in your window. When it is your turn in the loop, your child will be brought to your car. More explicit details and a map will be given before school begins.

Preschool students will be picked up at the Extended Day/Preschool door at 2:15.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What will happen if someone is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 at school?**

If someone is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, whether it be faculty, staff, or student, their temperature will be taken immediately and they will be placed in a room that we have designated to be our "sick room". If it is a child, an adult will stay with them until a parent can come and pick them up. Please enter the building at the Tower entrance and pick up your child from the office. At that time, we would refer the person to their doctor. As per the Lucas County Health Department guidelines, the person must then stay home for 10 days AND be fever free for 24 hours WITHOUT FEVER REDUCING MEDICATION. If they go to the doctor and the doctor gives the person a different diagnosis, (for example strep throat, ear infection, flu) that might cause the same symptoms, the person will be allowed to return to school with the guidance of their doctor.

### **What will happen if someone tests positive for COVID-19?**

If someone tests positive for COVID-19, the person with the positive test will be in isolation for 10 days and 24 hours fever free WITHOUT FEVER REDUCING MEDICATION and have an improvement of their symptoms. Contact tracing will begin and the school and Health Department will notify anyone at school that was within 6ft. of the person and spent 15 minutes or longer in close contact with the person. Anyone contacted by the school and Health Department, must quarantine for 14 days from the date of exposure. They may not return to school until the full quarantine has been completed.

### **When can someone come back after an illness?**

If a staff member or student contracts **Covid-19**, they must stay home 10 days from their positive test AND 1 day with no fever without fever reducing medication. If someone is sent home from school with COVID symptoms, they must stay home for 10 days and 1 day with no fever unless they get a diagnosis from their doctor that states that another illness has caused the symptoms.



5522 Dorr Street  
Toledo, Ohio 43615  
419.536.1194

[www.stbenedicttoledo.org](http://www.stbenedicttoledo.org)

### **How will my child learn if they are home from school either in isolation or in quarantine?**

If your child is home sick, either in isolation or quarantine, then they will adopt a learn at home model for school. Their teacher will instruct and assign virtually the assignments and lessons that they will miss. If your child is not feeling well and needs to rest, then they will catch up when they are feeling better, either virtually or face to face when they return to school.

### **What will happen if my child's teacher either tests positive for COVID-19 or has to quarantine because they were exposed to COVID-19?**

If the teacher is able to teach from home while in quarantine or isolation, then they will teach as much as they can with the help of a substitute teacher that will be in the classroom with the students. If they are not feeling well and unable to teach, a substitute teacher will be provided for the classroom.

### **What happens if Lucas County goes to purple according to the Governor's map?**

If Lucas County goes to "purple", that means that hospitalizations and deaths are on the rise, hospitals are getting overwhelmed, and the disease is not able to be controlled. In that case, we would assess the situation and make a decision. If there is a shelter in place order for our county, we would go to remote learning at home. Hopefully it would not be for long and we could return to in person learning as soon as the situation gets better.