

All,

Our Catholic faith reminds us that we are never alone in our struggles. It roots us in relationship – with God and with neighbor, who is made in God’s image; it is expressed in prayer and worship and in love. Anchored in this relational way of being, we can respond to life’s stresses with great peace and inner security. As we come back together after months of being apart, we recognize that both teachers and students will need support necessary to reenter their school environments.

We are planning to open to in-person instruction on Wednesday, August 18th. The following procedures are based on guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Kentucky Department of Health, Kentucky Department of Education and the Office of Catholic Schools (OCS) and are designed to protect our entire community from the spread of Covid-19 and variants.

Implementation of this re-entry plan is subject to change at the direction of the Archdiocese of Louisville in collaboration with the authorities listed above. It is based on the best available information and conditions related to Covid-19 as of August 6, 2021. This plan will evolve and be adjusted when information becomes available as the status of the Covid-19 pandemic changes. Ascension School will continue to engage with the Office of Catholic Schools and other education partners as part of this important process.

Arrival/Dismissal/Carpool:

No parents/visitors will be allowed in school building.

Drop off for students in grades K-8: (3’s, PK and their K-8 siblings will be using the parish lot and entering through gathering space).

- Early drop-off in café parking lot begins at 7:10am.
- Aintree lot ONLY beginning at **7:40am**.
- Form line inside pylons. No temperature checks.
- Student(s) may exit vehicle and enter school going directly to classroom.

- Students becoming ill during the school day will be asked to sit in the church (we will have someone monitoring them) until they can be picked up – same Dr. note must be filled out before returning to school.
- Dismissal/Carpool will be in parish/gym lot as usual. Preschool carpool will take place in the Aintree lot at 2:40 except on Wednesday when we dismiss at 1:40. All K-8 siblings will dismiss with the preschool students from this lot.
- Walkers will remain in homeroom.
- Early dismissal will continue on Wednesday's (including the 18th) at 1:45pm.

Back to School/Parent Night

All new families are welcome to arrive at 5pm on Monday, August 16th in the gathering space (area just outside church) and I will walk them through carpool areas and answer other questions.

Grades 2-5 – Monday, August 16th 5:30-6:30pm in church - **Masks required**

Grades 6-8 – Monday, August 16th 6:40-7:40pm in church – **Masks required**

1st grade camp – Thursday, August 12th - **Masks required**

3:00pm-5:00pm - Students will meet in Café (drop-off at café doors) and move to their classroom to drop off supplies and see their classroom as well as meet Mrs. Stiller, Mrs. Tudor and Mrs. Strohmeier.

5:00pm – 6:00pm – Parents meet with Mrs. Stiller and in the café (enter through café doors only) while Mrs. Tudor and Strohmeier take students to gym or outside. **Masks required.**

Kindergarten Camp – Thursday, August 12th – **Masks required**

3:00pm-5:00pm - Students will meet in Café (drop-off at café doors) and move to their classroom to drop off supplies and meet Mrs. Burchell and Ms. Shell.

5:00pm – 6:00pm – Parents meet with Ms. Shell and Mr. Mullaney in the café (enter through café doors only) while Mrs. Burchell takes students to gym or outside. **Masks are required.**

Café

Prior to any prep work, the café team will spray all surfaces with TB Quant Sanitizer/Disinfectant, (which is on the CDC list of chemicals that is food surface safe and kills many bacteria/viruses including COVID-19). All kitchen staff will wear masks during all food prep and cooking.

- Students will enter the café from the school doors. They will be distanced 3ft apart while waiting in line to be served and wearing their face mask.
- Students will have 20 min for lunch and 15 min for recess (extended when possible).
- We will eliminate other classes passing through the café as they will be using various doors around the building to re-enter from recess. Essentially, there will be a one-way traffic flow.
- We intend to have a maximum of 3 classes at a time in the café and maintain distance during lunch.
- As students go through the line, they will no longer be able to help themselves to vegetables, etc. instead everything will be plated for them.
- All fruits will be in disposable portion cups & milk will be poured for them. No longer will students need to enter their lunch numbers on the pin pad, but instead will give their number to our cashier to manually enter.
- We will be using our normal utensils, cups & trays, since our dish machine reaches temperatures of over 170 degrees, everything will be safe from bacteria & COVID-19, (as stated by the CDC, EPA, & FDA).

- After students have finished their meals, they will dispose of any leftover food(s), napkins, etc as they normally do. Those assigned to clean tables will only be using our provided buckets of Quant Sanitizer & rags, which are cleaned & refilled after each classroom has finished cleaning their tables. When they are finished cleaning our kitchen staff will go over each table & chairs with the TB Quant Sanitizer for additional sanitization & disinfection.
- At the end of the lunch service each table and chair will once again be sprayed with TB Quant Sanitizer/Disinfectant along with all surfaces in the cafeteria & kitchen. This includes all handles, doors, water fountain, appliance, etc.

Cleaning and Disinfection

- Frequently touched surfaces (e.g., door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains, tables, chairs) within the school will be cleaned between uses. Use of shared objects (e.g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, games) will be limited or cleaned between uses.
- Touchless bathroom faucets have been installed.
- Water bottle filling stations have been added throughout the building.
- A schedule for increased, routine cleaning and disinfection is in place and includes disinfecting all classrooms, bathrooms, café and hallways at the end of every day and/or in between classes.
- Safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfection products, including storing products securely away from children. Use products that meet EPA disinfection criteria.
- Classrooms will be sanitized using sanitizing wipes, approved by CDC, between classes.

School Mass

Students will be masked and seated in class groups. Classes will be distanced from one another.

Masks

Masks are required to be worn, all day, by all students in grades K-8 (except during lunch and recess where students will be socially distanced). We are not requiring a, “uniform” mask but do ask that they not be distracting – no designs that are offensive or you wouldn’t allow on any other article of clothing.

Online/Hybrid

We are offering in-person instruction only at this time. If your child is sick, they are asked to keep up with school work as possible through Google classroom. Please see attached memo from the Archdiocese.

All students in grades K-8 will take their ipads home, daily. Please make certain the school ipad is used ONLY for school, is charged and ready for each day and is taken care of.

Playground

- Students will wash their hands before going out to play and immediately upon returning inside the school building.
- We will limit how many classes are on the playground at one time.

Shared Objects

- Discourage sharing of items that are difficult to clean or disinfect.
- Keep each child’s belongings separated from others’ and in individually labeled containers, cubbies, or areas.
- Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible (e.g., assigning each student his or her own art supplies, equipment) or limit use of supplies and equipment by one group of children at a time and clean and disinfect between use.
- Avoid sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids.

Staying Home when Appropriate

There has never been a more important time for parents to make sure their child(ren) is healthy before coming to school. We are relying on you to take temperatures at home each morning, ask how they are feeling (nausea, headache, sore throat, stomach pain) as well as check for persistent coughing and/or sneezing. If any of these symptoms are present, please keep them home and consult a pediatrician, if needed. If you do see a pediatrician, the attached note will need to be submitted to school office upon return.

Please call Mr. Mullaney with any questions.

#Movingforward