

**2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL COVID-19
REOPENING FRAMEWORK**



St. Mary's School

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Updated, September 1, 2020

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REOPENING FRAMEWORK

OVERALL PLANNING

St. Mary's School established a Reopening Committee to plan a safe reopening of our school with the health and safety of the faculty, staff, and students in the forefront of our plan. The committee is continuously evaluating current information to stay up-to-date with the guidelines set forth by the ADW, CDC, state and local health agencies. St. Mary's School has ordered PPE, disinfecting supplies, and health room supplies to maintain a safe environment for our community. St. Mary's School is committed to continued communication with stakeholders via email and surveys to receive questions and feedback to assess the operational needs of the school. We will continue to communicate, to monitor and to modify our plans for opening school and keeping our faculty and students safe. Our reopening committee was comprised of school administration, teacher representatives and parent representatives from our school community. In this effort of continued communication and remaining up to date on the latest recommendations regarding COVID-19, St. Mary's School will provide updates to this document and notify families of any changes to our reopening plan.

ACADEMICS

St. Mary's School offers the option of in person learning or virtual learning. All students will participate in a blended learning model of education. Students will work with their teachers on daily lessons and independently on assignments. All students will be completing their assignments and submitting them on a digital platform. Students will be provided training at the beginning of the school year from their classroom teachers to learn the platforms. Training sessions will also be available for parents.

AFTERCARE

St. Mary's will not be offering aftercare for the 2020-2021 school year. We will reassess the feasibility of the program later in the year.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Student Arrival

Student arrival begins at 7:40 am. Students arrive to school at an assigned time and checkpoint for their daily health screening before being admitted to school. Health Screening consists of temperature check and specific questions regarding COVID symptoms, testing and exposures. Students are supervised by staff and will enter from outside door of classroom whenever possible.

Afternoon Dismissal

Afternoon dismissal begins at 2:45 for our preschool and Kindergarten students. Families will be assigned a pick up time and car lane assignment. Students will be dismissed by family to their parents at the rear of the school.

CLASSROOM CAPACITY

Enrollment capacities have been determined in each space of the school by setting desks 6 feet apart in all classrooms. Classes can accommodate between 12 and 15 students at each grade level. Our gym will be used with partitions for a preschool lunch and rest time. Our library will be kept free for an additional classroom if needed.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

St. Mary's School has worked with a professional cleaning company to learn a three step process to address the cleaning and disinfecting needs in our school. In addition to cleaning and disinfecting daily, St. Mary's School will have an added step every three months that will provide antimicrobial protection in our classrooms and common areas. Rigorous schedules for cleaning and disinfecting our school building have been created to address the needs due to COVID-19. Bathrooms will be cleaned and disinfected between each class use. Classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected each day. Commonly touched surfaces will be disinfected throughout the school day.

CLOSURE AND QUARANTINE

Recommendations for closure and quarantine will come from the health department if there are exposures to COVID-19 in our school community. Monitoring for possible COVID-19 requires close communication between our school and parents. Parents are

encouraged to report illness within their household, children and themselves at the drop off daily screening. St. Mary's School asks that all families use good judgment in their daily lives with regard to exposure to the COVID-19. It is our responsibility as a community to work together to keep each other healthy.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Some of our favorite traditions at St. Mary's School include our many community building events sponsored by the HSA. This year, we will host our larger community activities virtually through Zoom meetings, i.e., first day of school coffee, back to school nights, high school information sessions.

DAILY HEALTH SCREENINGS

Symptom screening will accompany a daily temperature check. Staff and students (families) will be asked the following questions prior to the start of each school day.

1. In the last two weeks, have you had any of the following symptoms?
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Fever of 100.4 or higher
 - Chills
 - Shivering
 - Muscle pain
 - Sore throat
 - Headache
 - Loss of sense of taste or smell
 - Gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea)

2. Since last here, are you waiting for a COVID-19 test result, been diagnosed with COVID-19, or been instructed by an health care provider or the health department to isolate or quarantine?
3. In the last 14 days, have you had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 or suspected of having COVID-19 (i.e., tested due to symptoms)?

If staff or students can answer no to all of the screening questions, they may attend school that day.

DELIVERIES

Deliveries will be dropped off at the front door of the school on the porch under the portico. A table will be set up for delivery persons to drop off outdoors. Deliveries will be brought into the school by our custodial staff.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

No extracurricular activities will be offered during the school day or after school until further notice. The ADW Band program will operate virtually beginning at the start of the school year.

FACE COVERINGS

Any individual entering the school must wear a face covering, including students regardless of grade level. Families are asked to provide their student with masks/face coverings for school use. Students should have a clean face covering each day and two extras with them at all times. When students proceed to outdoor recess, a face covering should be worn until they are outside. Masks may be removed when outside if social distancing can be maintained. Masks may also be removed during lunch with the enforcement of strict social distancing. Students will be taught proper mask procedures (eg. Clean hands before putting

on mask and when removing, only touch mask by its straps, Place mask in a container/bag when not in use....) Students are provided a paper lunch bag to store their mask during snack, lunch and outdoor time. Students will also be asked to bring two extra masks to school. Additional masks will also be available in the main office if needed.

Face coverings should :

- be worn over the nose and mouth;
- never worn around the neck or over the head
- never shared with other people
- never be reused unless it is stored properly to be kept clean
- be removed by the student during snack, lunch and recess, or when it needs to be replaced
- be removed and replaced if it becomes soiled or wet
- be removed if the student has difficulty breathing

HANDWASHING

Staff and students will wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol or at least 70% isopropanol if soap and water are not available. Portable sinks are available near our playgrounds for student and staff use throughout the day.

- Before and after using playground
- Before and after eating
- After blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing
- Upon returning from a shared space
- Classrooms with sinks will use their classroom sinks (kindergarten & science). All other grades will be assigned a sink for handwashing in the building (kitchen, bathroom, art room, portable,...)

HEALTH AND SAFETY- IF A CHILD IS ILL AT SCHOOL

A student who becomes sick in school will be escorted by a staff member to the isolation room where they can be evaluated by the school

nurse. All suspected cases of COVID-19 will be communicated to the ADW and the local health department for further guidance. If symptoms appear to be possible COVID symptoms, students in that class will move to a holding classroom for the remainder of the day. After 24 hours the classroom will be cleaned and disinfected. Students are not permitted to return to school until they have been cleared by a doctor to return or have a negative COVID test.

LUNCH TIME

All students will bring their lunch from home this year and will eat in their classroom. Students will have 30 minutes to eat and 30 minutes for recess.

MASS ATTENDANCE

We will offer opportunities for classes to attend school-only Mass in our main church as well as virtual Mass. Students will be seated six feet apart during the Mass. Our school Monday Morning Meeting and prayer will be held via Zoom- allowing all students within the building and those virtual learners can attend. Classes will continue to pray within their classroom community. Students will participate in class service projects rather than school wide service projects.

RECESS

Classes will have 30 minutes of recess time each morning and will stay with their class cohort. The playground will be marked off with cones and relay flags to help students stay in their assigned areas. Classes will not share assigned areas at the same time. Playground equipment is disinfected between class uses.

SNACK TIME

Students are permitted to eat a snack each morning during their recess time or when their teacher has allotted time in the classroom.

SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES

Teachers and students will practice social or physical distancing by staying at least 6 feet apart. Students will remain in their classroom cohorts without intermingling with students in other grade levels. Markers and visual reminders will be posted throughout the building regarding social distancing. Students not able to or unwilling to follow social distancing guidelines or the requirement to wear a face covering will not be permitted to attend school in person and will be moved to distance learning.

VIRTUAL LEARNING COORDINATORS

Virtual Learning Coordinators will be assigned to students who are on the Virtual track to assist classroom teachers monitor their progress.

VISITORS TO SCHOOL

Non-essential visitors to our school will not be permitted to enter the school building. No one other than students and staff of St. Mary's School will be permitted to enter the building. Parents will not be permitted to visit the school. Volunteer activity within the school building is suspended until further notice. Essential visitors might include MCPS teachers who are providing services to students in our school. Other visitors might include workers from vendors providing essential services to the school. All visitors will only be permitted to enter with the express permission of the principal and after a health screening is conducted.

WATER FOUNTAINS

Water fountains will not be available for use by staff or students. We ask that students bring their own water bottle each day.