

# St. Patrick Catholic School School Re-Opening Plan August 2020

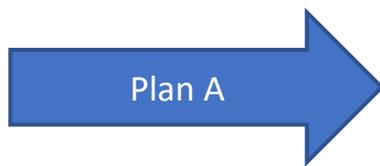


**DISCLAIMER:**

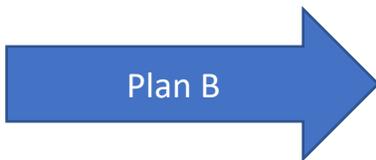
**This plan is based solely on the requirements set forth by the CDC, the NCHHS and the Diocese of Raleigh in order to open the onsite school. No opinions or personal beliefs have been promoted in this plan. The plan may be altered due to changing circumstances. You will be updated as any changes take place.**

## THE PLANS

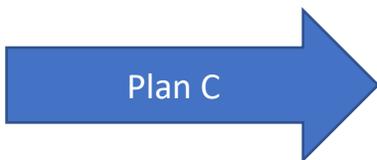
St Patrick Catholic School has developed re-opening plans that allow for as much flexibility in learning and social interaction as possible within the confines of prioritizing the health of our students and staff. Even though we will make our best effort to conform to all government and diocesan guidelines, parents need to recognize that some risk exists when your children leave your home and encounter others. We are committed to mitigating this risk to the best of our ability.



- School re-opening as usual
- No change to basic procedures
- Increased illness screening, hand hygiene and school sanitation
- Face coverings optional
- Minimal distance requirements



- School re-opening on site
- Changes to various school procedures to allow for minimal public contact
- Increased hand hygiene
- Daily illness screening
- Increased school sanitation
- Social distancing
- Face coverings required
- Hybrid learning model offered (online and/or onsite)



School is ordered not to open and switches to a distance learning only platform

**The school assumes we will be opening under PLAN B at this time** with the realization that we may have to temporarily move between plans depending upon circumstances. As communicated previously, the school does not have to follow the directives of the Cumberland County Schools. We have autonomy to make our own decisions based on our own unique circumstances yet within the restrictions of the various governing agencies.

## PLAN B

This plan serves as a summary of the school re-opening plan under the Plan B protocol. Please note that this is meant to be an information summary. More details of certain procedures will be communicated as we progress and may need to change as we sit fit. We realize that certain procedures may be inconvenient to you, but please understand that they are necessary in order to comply with prescribed requirements and safeguard the children as much as possible.

### Campus-Wide Cleaning and Hygiene Policies

- 100% daily temperature checks upon entering school for students and staff.
- All students and staff to wear masks. (students can remove masks when socially distanced and teachers give “mask breaks”). It is recommended that parents send children with more than one mask. Cloth masks are required, not paper, surgical masks. We realize this is a challenge for children so please begin training them at home on how to wear a mask. They can remove their masks when they are socially distanced from others.
- One-way and divided foot traffic patterns around the school
- Social distancing throughout school
- Students remain with their own class group all day. There will be no mixing of class groups. (Exceptions: Extended Care. See separate policies)
- Frequent handwashing and sanitization
- Sanitation stations readily available in each class and throughout the school
- Cleaning of high-touch surfaces (desks, tables, etc.) after every classroom change and every day after school
- Limited sharing of common items and supplies.
- Social distancing at lunch
- Disposable water bottles or thermoses from home only. Communal water fountains throughout the school will be disabled. (water bottles or thermoses must be clearly labeled with students’ names)
- Assemblies and performances may be allowed under limited student participation and within social distancing guidelines. Performances could be

livestreamed or recorded. School sports that participate with other schools will be cancelled until further notice.

- School access beyond the office area is limited to students and staff only. Volunteers and outside visitors will have to be restricted. All parents and visitors entering the school office must be temperature checked and screened and wearing a cloth face covering before entering the building. **No outside vendor lunch deliveries will be permitted. Please send your child to school with his/her lunch or order lunch through My Hot Lunchbox.**

### Campus-Wide Health Policies

*These procedures have been prescribed to schools by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.*

The school has already increased its cleaning protocol and made sure that our service is using CDC recommendations for cleaning and EPA approved cleaning products. Our air filtration systems have also been checked and are compliant with recommendations. The following health policies are adopted for the 2020-2021 school year. Alterations or extensions of these policies may be necessary and will be re-evaluated as the school year progresses.

#### **MORNING INTAKE CHECKS:**

- Parent MUST keep a child at home if they are exhibiting any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, as listed below:
  - Cough
  - Sore Throat
  - Shortness of Breath
  - Cold-like symptoms
  - Loss of Taste or Smell
  - Unexplained Body Aches
  - Fever
  - Had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or someone who had symptoms associated with COVID-19.

- Parents/guardian will be required to declare an Attestation of Health every day upon drop-off.
- Daily temperature checks will be taken of all students upon entering school. Students and staff with a temperature outside of the normal range will not be allowed to remain on campus. **Temperature must be in the normal range without temperature reducing medicine.**

### **HANDLING SUSPECTED OR PRESUMPTIVE POSITIVE CASES OF COVID-19**

*These procedures have been prescribed to schools by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.*

*(Disclaimer: The school cannot require anyone to submit to a COVID-19 test.)*

- If a student becomes ill on campus, they will be quarantined in a separate area. Parents will be called and MUST pick up the sick child immediately. Parents need to make plans before school starts concerning who will be available to pick up and stay with a sick child in the event this happens. Sick children cannot stay at the school for hours awaiting pick up.
- If a staff member becomes ill while on campus, they will leave campus immediately.
- If a student or staff member has a fever and/or ANY symptoms of COVID-19 (respiratory symptoms, coughing, loss of taste or smell), but **not confirmed for COVID-19** by a medical professional, they cannot return to school until they can answer YES to all 3 of the following questions:
  - 1) Has it been at least 10 days since the individual first had symptoms?
  - 2) Has it been at least 3 days since the individual had a fever (without fever-reducing medicines)?
  - 3) Has it been at least 3 days since the individual's symptoms have improved, including cough and shortness of breath?

*(For illustration: "Student A" comes down with a fever and is sent home. "Student A" suffers the fever for 3 days even though fever-reducing medications keep it down. Still, it comes back when the medicines wear off. On day 4, the fever breaks on its own and stays down without fever reducing medications. Now "Student A" must stay home for an additional 3 days without the fever or the fever-reducing medication in order to be able to return to school. The 3 day countdown for fever begins when the fever*

*breaks and stays down without fever reducing medication, not when the fever starts.)*

HOWEVER...

- If a student or staff member obtains a negative COVID-19 test on their own volition, they can return to school once there is no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicines) after 24 hours and symptoms have improved.
- If a student or staff member obtains confirmation of an alternative diagnosis from a health care professional that would explain the COVID-19 like symptoms **AND** there has been no fever for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved, they can return to school

**HANDLING CONFIRMED POSITIVE CASES OF COVID-19**

- If a student or staff member is **diagnosed** with COVID-19 by a medical professional, they cannot return to school until:
  - It has been at least 10 days since the first sign of symptoms or diagnosis **AND**
  - It has been at least 3 days fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications and symptoms have improved
- The school will follow the CDC guidelines for extra cleaning and disinfecting of required areas
- Students and staff who have been in close, unprotected contact with the infected person must remain out of school for 14 days from the date of exposure unless they obtain a negative COVID-19 test.
- It may be necessary for a single class or the whole school to switch to a distance learning model temporarily while disinfecting takes place.

**If a parent or student becomes aware they have been exposed to a COVID-19 case but are asymptomatic, please contact the school for specific instructions as each set of circumstances may be different.**

We will monitor and track all student health information to insure we are in compliance with requirements.

## On-Campus Learning

### **Highlights:**

- Classrooms are arranged to emphasize social distancing
- Teachers in grades 1-8 will use Microsoft Teams to communicate assignments and supplementary material in class and at home. Homework is also posted in Teams through One Note. Parents and students will be assigned credentials and taught how to access their Teams online.
- Students will travel to special area classes such as PE and Art but within a schedule that reduces the amount of potential cross-contamination between classes.
- In areas where social distancing may not be possible, all students will wear cloth face coverings.
- Students will be allowed to remove masks when they are operating under social distancing requirements.

### **Lunch/Recess:**

- Students in grades KG-8 will eat lunch in the lunchroom under social distancing conditions. Students will rotate in and out of the lunchroom in staggered shifts and be seated 6 feet from each other.
- Students will sanitize hands before and after lunch.
- Students will not share food products with each other.
- Students will remain with their specific class during lunch and recess. Students from different grade levels will not inter-mix at lunch or recess.
- Sanitizing cleaning products will be used to wipe down all surfaces after each lunch and recess cycle.
- Each class will have its own set of playground equipment which will be sanitized each day.

### **After School Clubs:**

- At this time, we will not be participating in any after school clubs or sports. This could change depending on circumstances.

### **Physical Education:**

- Students will participate in PE classes focused on individual fitness and personal best and employing social distancing.
- PE equipment will be sanitized as necessary after each use.
- Middle School students **WILL NOT** change into PE clothes this year. On regularly scheduled PE days, students will wear their PE clothes to school all day, both in winter and in warmer months. Please note that the length of PE uniform shorts must extend beyond the tip of the middle finger for both girls and boys.

ONLINE LEARNING – HYBRID MODEL
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### **The Hybrid Model of Online Learning** is offered to families:

- whose students must stay home due to illness or exposure
- OR
- who do not feel comfortable sending their child to school at this time.

### The Hybrid Model of Online Learning consists of the following:

- Onsite lessons for all academic classes will be livestreamed during the academic instruction portion of the class for viewing by online students.
- A schedule of each class will be communicated so that students can watch the teacher online giving the instructions of the lesson.
- These lessons will be recorded and posted for students to view for reference or review at times other than the live instruction times.
- Only the visual field of the teacher and the demonstration areas (electronic board, whiteboard, etc) will be visible. Online students will not be able to see the other students in the onsite class for privacy reasons.
- Online students will receive the same instructions for practice and homework that the on-site students do.

- Resources for the online students will be the same as for onsite students and posted for access using Teams and OneNote.
- Online students will be able to ask questions about the lessons using the chat features on Teams. The teachers will be able to answer the questions either using the chat or by video conferencing during established “office hours” that will be communicated along with the schedule of classes.
- Online students must submit class and homework assignments in a timetable assigned by the teacher.
- Attendance will be taken at the livestream sessions.
- Teachers will not be available for access beyond usual working hours. For examples, if questions are asked at 7:00 pm, students can expect an answer the following school day.
- Parents may choose either the onsite or the hybrid model and may switch between the two models depending on their particular needs. However, students may not switch in less that weekly increments. (For example, they can’t opt to come one-day-on, one-day-off. This would be too inconsistent for effective learning.
- Additional faculty are being brought onboard to provide assistance to the onsite teachers with the online students. In this way, we can ensure that all students receive the personal attention they need. These additional faculty members will be available during school hours to work with students. This is why it is important for online students to attend the livestream classes during the school day while the faculty members are available for questions and assistance.

**ONLINE LEARNING – FULL  
DISTANCE LEARNING**

This model will be used if:

- 1) It becomes necessary to close the school temporarily for health or cleaning reasons,
- OR
- 2) Plan C is activated and all schools have been ordered by the Governor to close completely (stay-at-home order)

This Distance Learning Model bears many of the same features of the Hybrid Model except that the teachers may be working from home and all the students will be home.

- Our distance learning platform utilizes Microsoft Teams. These tools will also be used throughout the regular school day for on-site learning and hybrid learning. It is our goal to seamlessly transfer back and forth between on-site and on-line learning without any gap in instruction if necessary.
- Teachers will instruct the students at the beginning of the school year (either onsite or remotely) on how to use the required technology so the students can independently navigate the online classroom tools. Many classes will use the on-line tools even in their on-site learning.
- Homeroom teachers will set the student schedule and pacing for completion of assignments.
- Attendance at live lessons is critical to understanding the material.
- Instruction may be “live”, recorded or written.
- Virtual assessments (tests, quizzes, projects) will be given to students to determine learning.
- “Special area” classes will provide lessons for enrichment and extension.
- If Plan C is activated and distance learning should become necessary for all, students and parents will receive more specific instructions at that time.
- Students need to have access to reliable technology and internet access if deciding to participate in distance learning.

***Please note: There will be no tuition reductions for either the Hybrid Model or the Distance Learning Model. Both models use the same teachers and resources and have actually required the school to hire more faculty and purchase more technology in order to accomplish, so the cost to the school is greater, not lesser. Tuition cannot be reduced.***

Morning Arrival  
Procedures

**These procedures have changed in order to accommodate social distancing requirements.**

- Students will be dropped off at the door of the Conference Suite from 6:45 – 7:30 for Morning Extended Care
- Morning Extended Care students will be temperature screened and parents will complete the Attestations of Health daily.
- Morning Extended Care will practice social distancing
- Morning Extended Care toys will be sanitized after each use.
- At 7:30, students in grades 1-8 will enter through the main school door and go directly to their classrooms where teachers and assistants will manage the temperature screening and hand sanitation. PreK and KG students will enter through their outside parking lot doors directly into their classes.
- Parents must drop off their children either at the drop-off circle (if driving) or at the door to the school (if parked and walking) in order to minimize adult traffic in the building. Parents will not be able to come into the school unless they have specific business in the office to attend to and then they must be temperature screened, be wearing a cloth face covering and practice social distancing in the office. If there are more than 3 people in the office, parents will have to wait outside until called. Teachers and assistants will be on duty throughout the building to assist children in getting to their classes, particularly students new to the school. New students will be escorted to their classes and introduced to their teachers.
- If your child needs assistance getting out of the car, putting on his/her backpack, etc...**please park in the school parking lot and walk the child to the school door. The drop-off line is for moving cars only!**

### Afternoon Dismissal Procedures

In order to comply with social distancing requirements, afternoon dismissal procedures must significantly change until further notice. We realize that dismissal may take longer than in the past. However, once we practice the procedure a few times, it will improve. Safety first has to be our guide.

- Families with last names beginning with “A” to “H” and/or you have students in the PreK or KG class will dismiss from the **school side**. Students will remain in their classrooms and not go outside until their names are called over the school’s PA system. Cars will drive through the loop,

students' names will be called over the walkie-talkies and students will quickly proceed outside to their waiting cars.

- Families with last names beginning with "I" to "Z" will dismiss from the church side. If you have a student in the PreK or KG classes, you will be dismissing from the school side regardless of your alphabetical last name. Students will be taken over to St Brigid Hall and be seated in a socially distanced way. Student names will be called as the cars approach through the lot and students will quickly walk outside to meet the cars.
- If you have specific circumstances requiring you to pick up students other than your own, please notify the school, as usual, and we will have the children positioned together.

### Afternoon Extended Care

Afternoon Extended Care is offered. Currently, only those students who are registered for the yearly plan will attend. Daily "drop in" service for extended care is not being offered as of the writing of this plan. Social distancing is much more difficult in an extended care situation, and student age groups cannot be kept apart as well as they are during the school day. They will continue to practice hand hygiene and wear face masks, but students will be mixed in groups of other students close to their age, but not specifically in their own class. For example, grades KG, 1, 2 are grouped, grades 3,4,5 are grouped and grades 6,7,8 are grouped. Parents must be aware that they assume greater risk by using afternoon extended care because of the inability to social distance and stay exclusively in their own grade level groups during extended care. Further updates on Extended Care will be forthcoming prior to the beginning of school.

Please contact the school with any questions.