

### DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG CATHOLIC SCHOOLS REOPENING PLAN FRAMEWORK 2021-2022

School Name: Sacred Heart of Jesus	School Location: Lewistown
Principal: Deborah Henry and Lorie Torquato	Date of Reopening: September 1, 2021
Type of Reopening:Total Reopening for all students and staff.	The Diocesan School Re-opening Committee will continually review this plan in light of our own data, local data, and CDC and Department of Health guidelines, and in collaboration with school principals. (last update: August 20, 2021)

# **Health & Safety Team**

These individuals play a role in drafting the school plan and in responding to Covid-related matters during the school year.

Individual	Stakeholder Group Represented
Father William Weary	Administration
Deborah Henry	Administration
Lorie Torquato	Administration
Garth Corkins	Maintenance
Kathy Graham	Cook/Maintenance
Lindsey Anderson	Secretary
Ashley Henry	Development
Jessica Henry	Technology
Dr. Mandy Maneval	Physician

Lacie Wert	Teacher
Emily Shank	Parent

т

DIOCESAN GUIDELINES	LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN: Please include site-specific details and plans for communication to all stakeholders.
Acknowledgement Forms: All parents will be required to sign an updated "acknowledgements and notices" form before the start of the 2021-22 school year. These will be similar to the forms signed before the 2020-21 school year.	Acknowledgement Forms: All parents will be required to sign an updated "acknowledgements and notices" form before the start of the 2021-22 school year. These will be similar to the forms signed before the 2020-21 school year
Weekly Data Collection: Schools will continue to complete the weekly Wednesday survey from the Office of Catholic Schools on Covid-related matters until further notice, in order to ensure consistent data collection efforts. The re-opening committee will review the data weekly and will consider adjusted mitigation strategies, if necessary, for the following school week for each school.	Weekly Data Collection: Sacred Heart of Jesus School will continue to complete the weekly survey from the Office of Catholic Schools on Covid-related matters until further notice in order to ensure consistent data collection efforts.
Virtual Learning - Individual Request: Permission must be given for children to attend our Catholic schools virtually in the 2021-22 school year. We believe it is best	Virtual Learning: Individual Request: Permission must be given for children to attend Sacred Heart of Jesus School virtually in the 2021-22

to have our students in person in our schools, whenever possible.

Parents may make an application to the re-opening committee (not to the building principal) for consideration for virtual education. The application includes completion of a Google Form and an email including the needed medical documentation. Only medically-documented reasons will be considered. When the re-opening committee receives the application, the committee will consult with the building principal on the matter. The application, pertinent dates and email link can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

school year. We believe it is best to have our students in person in our schools, whenever possible. Parents must make an application to the Diocesan re-opening committee (not to the Co-Directors) for consideration for virtual education. The application includes completion of a Google Form and an email including the needed medical documentation. Only medically-documented reasons will be considered. When the re-opening committee receives the application, the Diocesan committee will consult with the Co-Directors, Mrs. Henry and Mrs. Torquato, on the matter. The application, pertinent dates and email link can be found in the left-hand column.

## **Virtual Learning - Response to Exposure:**

If quarantine is needed for a group of students, the school will strive to accommodate that group through a combination of virtual and traditional learning methods. Schools need to be prepared to offer virtual instruction in case an entire class needs to be quarantined.

## **Temperature & Symptom Checks:**

Temperature checks will not be done on a daily basis; rather, they will be reserved for screening potentially ill students or faculty and staff.

- Parents will be asked to be vigilant in checking students each morning for symptoms of illness and to keep students home when ill.
- As details of specific symptoms of concern are known,

## Virtual Learning:

Response to Exposure: If quarantine is needed for a group of students, Sacred Heart of Jesus School will strive to accommodate that group through a combination of virtual and traditional learning methods. Sacred Heart of Jesus School will be prepared to offer virtual instruction in case an entire class needs to be quarantined.

## **Temperature & Symptom Checks:**

Temperature checks will not be done on a daily basis; rather, they will be reserved for screening potentially ill students, faculty, and staff.

Parents will be asked to be vigilant in checking students for symptoms of illness and to keep students home when ill.

As details of specific symptoms of concern are known, Sacred Heart of Jesus School will advise parents of any symptoms that

the school will advise parents of any symptoms that require students to remain at home.  • Faculty and staff are asked to do a daily self-check for symptoms.	require students to remain at home. Faculty and staff are asked to do a daily self-check for symptoms.
Social Distancing: Students are expected to be at least three feet apart in the classroom, to the extent feasible.	Social Distancing: Students will remain 3 feet apart in the classroom to the extent feasible.  Students may work in groups maintaining the 3 feet distance.
<ul> <li>Masks: Masks will not be required in our schools for faculty, staff and students. They are optional for those who would prefer to wear them. Schools must ensure that that option is honored and respected. <ul> <li>Students will follow the rules of their school district re: masks when utilizing district transportation.</li> <li>In order to respond to pertinent data or health situations in a particular school, further mitigation strategies, including masks, could be used for a designated period of time.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Masks: As of July 21, 2021 Masks will NOT be required for faculty, staff, and students at Sacred Heart of Jesus School. If a family would prefer for their student to wear a mask, the school will honor that request. Parents will be notified if data or a health situation requires further mitigation strategies. Students that ride a bus will follow the masking rules of MCSD and JCSD
Vaccines:  Vaccines will not be required for anyone.  ■ Those fully vaccinated will not be required to quarantine	Vaccines: Vaccines are not required of anyone. Those that are vaccinated will not be required to quarantine if

if exposed to Covid.

#### **Record of Vaccines:**

Principals will need to know the vaccination status of the people in the buildings in order to be aware of the overall health situation in the schools, and to be able to make quarantine decisions, if needed.

- Faculty and staff in our schools will inform the principal about their vaccination status at the proper time and through the proper channels.
- Parents of students are encouraged to let principals know, in the manner the school establishes, if children have been vaccinated.
- In all cases, the school will take every reasonable precaution to safeguard the privacy and dignity of all students, faculty and staff regarding vaccination status.

exposed to Covid.

#### **Record of Vaccines:**

The Co-Directors, will need to know the vaccination status of the people in the buildings in order to be aware of the overall health situation in the schools and to be able to make quarantine decisions, if needed.

Faculty and staff in our schools will inform the Co-Directors, about their vaccination status at the proper time and through the proper channels.

Parents of students are encouraged to let the Co-Directors know, in the manner the school establishes, if children have been vaccinated.

A form will be provided.

In all cases, Sacred Heart of Jesus School will take every reasonable precaution to safeguard the privacy and dignity of all students, faculty, and staff regarding vaccination status.

#### Quarantines:

Unvaccinated faculty, staff or students who are exposed to a Covid-positive person will need to quarantine based on time frames established by the CDC (see this link) and adopted by the Department of Health. Fully vaccinated faculty, staff and students will not need to quarantine, and no contact tracing is needed. Clearly, any student or faculty or staff member who tests positive for Covid must quarantine, with the length of the quarantine to be determined by the Department of Health.

#### Quarantines:

Sacred Heart of Jesus School will await more information from the state to see if contact tracing and quarantine are required at all for those students and faculty and staff who are exposed to a Covid-positive person.

Sacred Heart of Jesus School will assume that we will operate as we did in 2020-21 unless told otherwise.

Therefore, unvaccinated faculty, staff, or students who are exposed to a Covid-positive person will need to quarantine based on time frames established by the CDC and adopted by the State of Pennsylvania.

Fully vaccinated faculty, staff, and students will NOT need to

quarantine, and no contact tracing is needed.

Clearly, any student, faculty, or staff member who tests positive for Covid must quarantine, with the length of the quarantine to be determined by the Board of Health.

#### Parents, visitors and volunteers:

Parents, volunteers and other visitors will be allowed in schools.

- Those who are fully vaccinated will not be asked to wear masks.
- Signage will be posted prominently in the lobby/office indicating that parents, visitors and volunteers in our school who are not fully vaccinated are asked to wear masks while in the school.
- When signing in, parents, visitors and volunteers will sign that they understand and will comply with the request to mask if they are not fully vaccinated. No one will be asked for proof of vaccination when signing in.

#### Parents, visitors and volunteers:

Parents, volunteers and other visitors will be allowed in Sacred Heart of Jesus School. Those who are fully vaccinated will not be asked to wear masks.

Signage will be posted prominently in the lobby/office indicating that parents, visitors, and volunteers in Sacred Heart of Jesus School who are not fully vaccinated are asked to wear masks while in the buildings.

When signing in, parents, visitors, and volunteers will sign that they understand and will comply with the request to mask if they are not fully vaccinated. No one will be asked for proof of vaccination when signing in.

Faculty are required to provide a list of visitor names to the Co-Directors, at least 24 hours prior to a planned classroom event. Visitors to all classrooms will be very limited. We encourage those who are not vaccinated to wear a mask

## Cleaning:

Areas in schools for common use -- that is, used regularly by multiple groups within the school -- need to be cleaned regularly.

 Locker rooms, gyms, band and chorus areas, and any other spaces used by multiple school groups are to be

## Cleaning:

Areas in Sacred Heart of Jesus School for common use -- that is, used regularly by multiple groups within the school -- need to be cleaned regularly.

Classroom desks and high-traffic areas will be cleaned throughout the day as deemed necessary and at the end of the

cleaned in the middle of the week, ideally, but at least once a week.

- Lunchroom surfaces need to be sanitized between lunch shifts.
- Classroom desks and high-traffic areas should be cleaned daily at the end of the school day.

school day.

Lunchroom surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized between lunch shifts.

Classes will be assigned a stall in the respective restrooms. Restrooms will be cleaned daily.

#### Ventilation:

Schools will make every effort to provide as much ventilation as possible in each classroom, as we did in 2020-21. Leaving windows and doors open in an appropriate manner is the simplest approach.

#### Ventilation:

Teachers will make every effort to keep classrooms ventilated by leaving windows and doors open when possible.

## Handwashing and hygiene:

Students will be asked to wash/sanitize hands at sensible times, as always: at the start and end of the school day, before and after lunch, when they have sneezed or used the restroom, and as needed. Water fountains may not be used. Schools may ask students to bring water bottles to school.

## Handwashing and hygiene:

Students will wash/sanitize hands at the beginning and end of the day, before and after snack and lunch, and before and after recess.

Students will also wash/sanitize hands after sneezing, use of a tissue or use of the restroom.

Water fountains will not be used. Refillable water stations will be put in place.

Students are encouraged to bring water bottles to school.

## Field trips:

Reasonable field trips can be taken in the local area and that decision resides with the school. Proposed trips beyond the local area are to be brought to the Secretary for Education for discussion. However, the responsibility to vet the locations and situations encountered on these trips resides with the school. Schools will need to do homework and be sure of the situation

## Field trips:

Reasonable field trips can be taken in the local area and that decision will be discussed between classroom teachers and the Co-Directors.

Any trips outside of the area will be sent to the Secretary of Education for approval.

students will encounter during the field trip: crowded areas, etc. -- and will prepare appropriately. High schools will be able to offer overnight retreats, as long as there is a thorough, written health and safety plan in place.

## Social, emotional and spiritual care for students:

We need to make sure, in each school, that we are carefully monitoring student learning and providing all possible resources to meet individual learning needs and to provide the best resources for social, emotional and spiritual growth for our students. As we did last year, we will take a team approach in our schools: school nurses, counselors, social workers (if available) and priests will bring powerful resources to benefit our students. That team will need close collaboration with parents and with teachers, who know the needs of their students well.

## Social, emotional and spiritual care for students:

Sacred Heart of Jesus Faculty and Staff will consistently monitor student learning and provide all possible resources to meet individual learning needs and the best resources for social, emotional, and spiritual growth for our students.

Father Weary and Father Peter are available to offer spiritual and emotional guidance.

A school counselor through the TIU is available to help students.

A nurse from MCSD will help to maintain physical wellness.

Dr. Mandy Maneval will provide additional professional advice

## Groupings: cohorts, assemblies, Mass, small group work

While we will not start the year with the strict cohorting system we used last year, each school is asked to plan the daily interaction of student groups. Each school will determine the range of those groups. In the end, if there is a potential exposure to Covid, we need to know how to proceed. As an example: a school may decide that one group will be grades K-2, as they need to eat lunch at the same time.

# Groupings: Mass, cohorts, small group work, and assemblies

Sacred Heart of Jesus School will not start the year with the strict cohorting system we used last year. We have determined the following cohorts: Homeroom K-5

Recess will occur on the following schedule with one grade on the upper playground and one on the lower playground. Schools may have small groups work together within the classroom. Maintain the three-foot distance, to the extent feasible.

M, T, W, F

K and 3-- 9:30- 9:45

1 and 4—9:45-10:00

2 and 5—10:00-10:15

Thursday:

K and 3—10:00-10:15

1 and 4—10:15-10:30

2 and 5 - 10:30-10:45

Lunchroom and lunch recess cohorts will be K-2 and 3-5.

Small groups may work together within the classroom, while maintaining the three-foot distance, to the extent feasible.

# **Groupings - Cafeteria:**

The cafeteria may be used. To the extent feasible, students should be three feet apart in the cafeteria. Commonly-used surfaces in the cafeteria must be cleaned between lunch shifts. A clean and simple approach for the school is to make the groups mentioned above the same as the lunch groups that share the cafeteria.

# **Groupings- Cafeteria**

Students will eat breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria each day. They will be seated 3 feet apart to the extent feasible..

Breakfast areas will be cleaned between students.

Students will eat lunch in two shifts K-2 and 3-5. Surfaces will be cleaned between shifts.

Groupings - Assemblies: Schools may have assemblies, as needed. As assemblies will bring together more than one school group, schools are encouraged to start with a small number of assemblies in the first quarter of the school year, until we see the overall impact.	Groupings - Assemblies: Sacred Heart of Jesus School may have assemblies, as needed, at the discretion of the Co-Directors. Consideration will be made to conduct assemblies outside, rather than inside. As of August 20, 2021, we will not be hosting large school events inside the buildings. The availability to host large indoor school events will be considered in the future.
Groupings - Mass: School Masses will continue, as per Diocese of Harrisburg guidelines for Mass.	Groupings - Mass Students (K-5) will attend Thursday morning Mass as well as Holy Day Masses in person following Diocese of Harrisburg guidelines.