



# **2020-2021 Safe Reopening Plan**

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**Saint Lawrence Catholic School's plan for  
learning during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

revised 2020.07.23

# Introduction:

Saint Lawrence Catholic School has reviewed information from multiple sources as we plan to reopen during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have been in communication with the Office of Catholic Schools, along with several local schools, to formulate a plan that promotes safety. Also, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) provided us with extensive guidance.

No school can create a perfect plan that accounts for all possible scenarios. However, as a small school, we have a more manageable task than more densely-populated schools. Our plan may need to be amended as time passes, and everyone in our school community will need to be flexible.

This school year can be a success if we trust each other. The school staff hopes that you trust us to protect your children as they learn and grow. We trust that you will keep us informed if an illness develops, and most importantly, **never send a sick child to school**. We realize that missing work and adjusting quickly is challenging, but we ask that you err on the side of caution, this year especially.

# Monitoring:

Parents should be aware of the signs of COVID-19. Some of them include:

**A fever of 100.4°F or higher** (we now have a touchless digital thermometer at school)

**Cough, shortness of breath and/or difficulty breathing**

**Chills, especially prolonged chills with shaking**

**Unexplained body pain**

**Headache and/or sore throat**

**New loss of taste or smell**

If a child experiences these symptoms at home, please do not send them to school. If we observe these symptoms while a child is at school, we will quickly isolate the child and arrange for pickup.

When a child is sick and cannot attend school, **do not contact their individual teacher**. Parents should call the school office at 765.282.9353. If nobody answers, leave a voicemail.

In the past, a child needed to be fever-free without medication for 24 hours before returning to school. For the 2020-2021 school year, we will require that a child be **fever-free without medication for 48 hours** before returning to school.

In the event that a person in our school tests positive for COVID-19, SLCS will follow guidelines set forth by the Center for Disease Control and the Indiana Department of Education, along with the Delaware County Board of Health. In the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case, we will contact the Board of Health immediately to report the case and follow their guidance.

# Prevention:

The best way to fight any illness is to avoid getting sick in the first place. Our school will be taking extensive measures to prevent the spread of disease. These measures include, but are not limited to:

## **Social Distancing**

All students will have their own desk and chair, we will not be using communal tables for classroom instruction. Desks will be spaced out as far as possible from each other, and they will not be arranged so they face each other. Events such as Morning Gathering will be done in a way that is mindful of social distancing

## **Face Masks**

On July 22, 2020, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb mandated that all adult school staff and volunteers wear a face mask during the school day. Additionally, **all students in grades 3 and above will be required to wear a face mask during the school day** (with the exception of while they are eating or engaged in rigorous physical activity, such as recess or outdoor Physical Education). Face masks for students in grades K-1-2 will be strongly encouraged, but are not mandated at this time. All persons may bring in their own face mask, and SLCS will provide a face mask to anyone who needs one at no charge

## **Water**

For the entire 2020-2021 school year, the water fountains will be shut off. Students will be provided bottled water at no charge

## **Lunch**

For the entire 2020-2021 school year, students will eat in their classroom, not in the cafeteria. Due to potential cross-contamination, a microwave will not be available for student use

## **Hand Cleanliness**

Students will be allotted time during the school day to wash their hands with soap and running water. Also, touchless hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout the school. All persons will be encouraged to regularly clean their hands

## **Personal habits**

All persons will be encouraged to cover their mouth when they cough or sneeze and clean their hands immediately afterwards. Students will be discouraged from touching their face

## **Cleaning and Disinfecting**

In addition to our regular nightly cleaning, a professional company has been contracted to do deep cleaning, carpet cleaning, and surface disinfecting just before school starts. Deep cleaning and disinfecting will be done on a regular cycle throughout the school year. Also, we have purchased extra disinfecting spray so students and staff can wipe down high-touch surfaces during the school day

## **No Show-and-Tell**

For at least the first semester, children will not bring Show-and-Tell items to school. Children should not bring toys, games, cards, money, dolls, or other non-essential personal items

# Daily Protocols:

## **Appointments**

Parents should refrain from scheduling non-essential appointments for students during the school day. This will cut down on people leaving and reentering the building

## **Limited Visitors**

Only essential visitors will enter the school. Small-scale celebrations, such as birthdays, will be allowed in the individual classroom setting. During such celebrations, no parents or outside visitors will be permitted to enter the classroom

## **Before-School Care**

As always, children can be dropped off starting at 7:30AM. When they enter the school, children will go directly to their locker, then directly to their classrooms as they wait for school to begin. Children will not congregate in the Art Room before school

## **Dismissal**

Students will wait in their regular classroom until their ride arrives. They will not gather in the hallway near the door as they wait to be picked up. Please be patient after school, we may not move as briskly at 3:00PM dismissal as we did in previous years

## **After-School Care**

We will continue to offer After-School Care until 5:30PM on every school day. However, to allow for more social distancing, we ask that children be left for After-School Care only when it is absolutely necessary. After-School Care children will be required to stay in their seats while inside, and the children will be taken outside as much as possible

## **Outdoor Learning**

Physical Education classes and other classes may be held outside when the weather allows.

## **Emergency Drills**

During Fire Drills, students will be spaced far apart while they wait to reenter the building. During Tornado Drills, students will be spaced in separate areas to avoid overcrowding our regular Tornado Drill shelter

# eLearning:

We hope to conduct in-person instruction for the entire school year. However, a directive from Governor Holcomb and/or Bishop Doherty could force us to switch to remote learning with little warning. Families should develop a plan for how they would handle a sudden school building closure

We have scheduled eight eLearning Days this year. On these days, children will remain home while they complete and submit their assignments digitally. These days are meant to help students and staff sharpen their remote learning skills. **It is critical that all persons view eLearning days as real school days, not “free” days.** Students will be given eLearning assignments that will be graded. If the work is not completed, children will receive a “0” for the day’s work and be marked absent for the eLearning Day. We have purchased additional technology to better support remote learning

# School Calendar:

In response to COVID-19, some adjustment to our calendar are being made:

## **School Begins**

We plan to start school, in-person, on Thursday, August 6, with the aforementioned safety protocols in place

## **Ice Cream Social**

We won't have our Ice Cream Social this year. School supplies can be brought to school between 10:00AM-1:00PM on July 27-31, and from 7:00AM-3:00PM on August 5. If a family cannot bring supplies during these times, children can bring them on the first day of school

## **Back-to-School Night**

Instead of an in-person meeting with all parents, an information packet will be distributed to each family early in the school year

## **Girls' Volleyball**

The 2020 season has been canceled by the Muncie Community Schools

## **Religion Fair/Family Day**

On hold for now, we will consider a digital version of this event

## **No Literary Fair**

On hold for now, we will consider a digital version of this event

## **Movie Nights**

We hope to have Movie Nights, but we're postponing until at least December 4

## **Skating Parties**

We hope to have Skating Parties, but we're postponing until at least February 1, 2020

## **Old Washington Street Festival**

This event has been cancelled, but we still plan to do the cash raffle

## **Mystery Dinner**

This event has been cancelled