

ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS



Holy Cross Central School
Indianapolis, Indiana

*COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY
RE-ENTRY PLAN & FAQ's
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR*

Our Mission: Holy Cross Central Catholic School is a Notre Dame ACE Academy, where we see God in all things. We provide a safe, supportive, and challenging learning environment that enables our students to obtain the goals of College and Heaven. The Holy Cross community will respectfully and responsibly strive towards achieving these goals, while embracing the teachings of Jesus.



Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis believe:

- in fostering positive relationships that exemplify the love of God;
- that Catholic school communities are enriched by the unique image and likeness of God that is present in each individual;
- that formation best occurs within faith-filled cultures of learning that are inclusive;
- that parents are the primary educators of each young person and that it is the responsibility of Catholic schools to support the domestic church;
- that Catholic schools are part of the evangelizing mission of the Church, forming disciples through the intentional integration of faith, culture, and life; and
- that “excellence” is defined by and achieved through the growth and holistic development – spiritual, intellectual/academic, social, emotional, and physical – of the individual within the context of community.

Holy Cross Central School will take every precaution possible to protect students and adults. Heightened protocols related to cleaning and sanitization are in place. Expectations of proper handwashing, physical distancing to the extent possible, and minimal sharing of resources to the extent possible will be enforced. Guidance from IDOE, CDC, and local authorities will be employed as best fits our Catholic school community as determined by administration. A more comprehensive plan follows.

2020-2021 Holy Cross Central School RE-ENTRY PLAN

July 14, 2020

Implementation of this Catholic School Re-Entry Plan is subject to change at the direction of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis in collaboration with the Indiana Department of Health. It is based on the best available information and conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic at the time of publication. This plan will evolve and be adjusted when information becomes available as the status of the COVID-19 pandemic changes. Holy Cross Central School will continue to engage with the Office of Catholic Schools and other education partners as part of this important process.

This plan is founded with the safety of students, teachers, and staff as priority. A committee of educators, commission members, parents, medical personnel, etc. was formed to address and create protocols for the return of scholars in the fall. Guidance from the Office of Catholic Schools, the Indiana Department of Education, Indiana State Health Department, and Center for Disease Control was used to create a plan that speaks to the local subsidiarity of Holy Cross Central School. At all times Holy Cross Central leadership will make decisions based on the safety of all while continuing to ensure student learning is taking place. The school leadership, while in consultation with the Office of Catholic Schools, has the flexibility to do what is best for the Holy Cross Central community.

LOGISTICS AND PLANNING

What does Morning Care look like?

Students who arrive between 6:30am to 7:00am will enter through the cafeteria doors and sit in an assigned seat. At 7:00am, students will receive breakfast to take to their classroom to be supervised by their teacher. Staff members will be present throughout the school building to guide students in social distancing.

What are the procedures for morning drop off?

After 7:00am students will be dropped off at the cafeteria doors, receive their breakfast and walk to their classroom to be supervised by their teacher until the school day begins. Staff members will be present throughout the school building to guide students in social distancing. Remember, all students should be in attendance at school by 7:40am.

What if a student arrives late?

Students who arrive after 7:40am will enter the main school office to be checked in and then may be walked to class by school staff.

Are parents/visitors allowed in the building?

No parents/visitors will be allowed into the hallways or classroom areas. All adults entering the building from 6:30am-3:30pm must report to the main office.

What are the dismissal procedures?

Instruction concludes at 3:00pm for all students. However, students will be dismissed, youngest to oldest in a staggered fashion to allow for social distancing. Please wait patiently in the parking lot. Students staying for After Care will be escorted to their designated area. Car riders will be brought outside of the school, kept separated and supervised for pick up.

What does After Care look like?

Students who need to stay in After Care will be grouped by grade and have assigned areas and activities. They will receive dinner and be supervised in their designated areas.

Teaching and Learning

How will the classrooms be set up differently?

The 1st-8th grade classrooms will be reorganized to allow social distancing between individual student desks. All students will be facing the same direction in the classroom, focused on the teacher's instruction. The Kindergarten tables are being fitted with clear plexiglass partitions to assist our youngest students in staying in their individual areas.

All classrooms will have a Sanitation Station (handwashing / hand sanitizer) for students and staff. There will also be Sanitation Stations throughout the school building.

What will be done when the teacher works with a small group?

Teachers will be able to instruct a small group while still using appropriate social distancing practices. This spacing will look different, but the instruction will continue to be effective.

What about the hallways?

We are creating a schedule with staggered recess and lunch times. Restroom breaks will be scheduled for each class. Hallway movement, as always, will be very limited. Our 7th and 8th graders will remain in their classrooms and the teachers will change spaces.

Additionally, our special area teachers (those who instruct Music, Art, PE, Tech and SEL) will bring their projects to the classroom. The Library will have a specific schedule that allows for cleaning in between.

Will there be a distance learning option available?

We respect the decision of a parent or guardian who determines that in-person school is not the best fit for their child(ren) at this time (such as compromised health, parental concern, high-risk family members). We are planning a distance learning option that will include the basic direct instruction of Religion, Reading, Writing, Math, Social Studies and Science (following the classroom schedule as much as possible). It will include the Google Classroom platform, textbooks and workbooks.

Families who participate in this option will be required to 1) have a reliable internet connection; 2) meet online with the teacher as scheduled; and 3) drop off / pick up items from school as needed. The distance learning option would need to be maintained for a full Quarter at a time.

Health and Safety

Do students and staff have to wear masks?

At this time, all students and staff will wear masks throughout the school day. Students will be able to remove their masks when eating and drinking, in an outdoor setting and during PE class in the gym. During these times, students will be supervised and guided for social distancing.

Is there a specific type of mask required?

Any cloth face covering is acceptable. Please be sure that any patterns, prints or writing is appropriate for school. If you are unable to obtain a mask for your child, please contact the school office.

How can we ensure school stays open and keep everyone safe?

Keep children home if they are sick. Each family must screen their child(ren) daily and keep them home if they are sick. Handwashing will be emphasized at school and should be at home also. Wearing a mask will also keep everyone safe and healthy.

What are typical COVID-19 related symptoms?

- A fever of 100.4 or greater
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chills, shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell

Where can you be tested for COVID-19?

Call to make an appointment with your family health provider or use the free testing sites in Marion County. This [form](#) must be filled out prior to going to a free testing site.

Current sites are:

- Warren Central High School, 9500 E. 16th St. Hours are 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
- Indianapolis Motor Speedway, 4790 W. 16th St. Hours are 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

When can an individual who tested positive for COVID-19 return to school?

Individuals who **have NOT had symptoms** but test positive for COVID-19 may return to school when they have gone 10 calendar days past their test without symptoms, fever-free for 72 hours without fever-reducing medications and have been preferably released by a healthcare provider.

Individuals who **experienced symptoms** and have been tested for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:

- The individual no longer has a fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine); **AND**
- Other respiratory symptoms have improved; **AND**
- At least 10 calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared; or
- The individual has received two negative tests at least 24 hours apart.

If a student arrives at school and is sick, what will happen?

The student will be immediately referred to the school nurse and likely sent home.

How will the Nurse's Office operate?

At the recommendation of health care professionals, there will be a separate space where the school nurse will see anyone displaying respiratory symptoms or fever (quarantine room). The clinic will be used for routine medicine distribution, minor injuries, headaches, etc.

What additional cleaning protocols will be in place?

High touch surfaces (such as door knobs, stair railings, restrooms, etc) will be cleaned and disinfected regularly throughout the day. Shared spaces, like the cafeteria, will be thoroughly cleaned between groups of students. Each evening, the custodial team will clean the school building with specific EPA-approved cleaners.

How will the Cafeteria work?

Cafeteria staff will be preparing breakfast, lunch and dinner using appropriate cleanliness practices. Breakfast will be picked up and eaten in the classrooms. Lunch will be served in the cafeteria on a staggered schedule with students in assigned, distanced seats. Dinner will be served to students in After Care in their designated areas. Students will sanitize before and after eating. Of course, students will remove their masks to eat and drink.

What does recess look like?

Recess times will be staggered, and individual classes will be assigned a play area (on a rotating basis so all get opportunities) so classes stay together. Students will be able to remove their masks for outdoor play.

Can my child use the water fountains?

Our water fountains have been converted to water bottle fill stations. Each student will need to bring a water bottle from home. We encourage those to be taken home and washed out each week.

Will students and staff have their temperature checked daily?

Not routinely. Temperatures will be taken by the school nurse for those who are feeling ill. Anyone with a fever will be sent home.

Creating/Maintaining Community and Catholic Identity**Will there still be a Morning Assembly?**

We will begin and end each day with assembly and prayer. Visitors and guests will not be allowed to join us for our assemblies until further notice. Students will participate in Morning Assembly and prayer through the classroom Smart TVs.

What will Family Nights look like this year?

Until further notice we will not have all-school gatherings. We will continue to follow guidance from Marion County Health Department about smaller gatherings. Online parent meetings may be held as needed.

Will Mass still be held during the school day?

Every Thursday we will celebrate Mass as a school community. It is likely that 2-3 classes will attend Mass in person (with masks, assigned seats and social distancing). The other classes will watch Mass online from their classrooms. Until further notice visitors and guests will be unable to join us for mass.

Will students participate in Field Trips?

Until further notice, we will not be taking field trips in the community. On a case by case basis, classes may be able to take walks in the neighborhood.

Resources

Indiana's Considerations for Learning and Safe Schools:

<https://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/news/june-5-class-document.pdf>

Marion County free COVID-19 testing:

<https://mcphdredcap.hhcorp.org/surveys/?s=A4F4NY3PDH>

IDOE Remote Learning Resources: <https://www.doe.in.gov/covid-19/resources>

CDC Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

CDC Guidance- Symptoms of Coronavirus:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

CDC Guidance - Self-Screening Checklist:

https://www.ahcancal.org/facility_operations/disaster_planning/Documents/COVID19-Screening-Checklist-SNF-Visitors.pdf

Note:

This is a working document that will be updated as the COVID-19 situation changes in the local area.

Guidance from IDOE, CDC, and local authorities will be employed as best fits our Catholic school community as determined by the administration. Ongoing consultation will inform the decisions to keep school open if there are confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Thank you again for your support and understanding as we look forward to a safe reopening for the 2020-2021 school year.