



COVID-19 Reopening Plan (2021-2022)

*Centered in Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
All Saints Catholic School partners with families to integrate faith formation
with academic excellence while focusing on the whole child
in a safe, joyful, and welcoming environment.*

As we prepare for the opening of the 2021-2022 school year, we look forward to partnering with families and the local health district to provide a safe learning environment for our students. It is our goal to implement a reopening plan that will ensure the health and safety of our school community and allow for continued in-person learning for students.

This year, the Commonwealth of Virginia has provided schools increased latitude in developing mitigation plans that meet the needs of their specific communities. The following plan has been informed by the guidance provided by the Virginia Department of Health, the Virginia Department of Education, and the Diocese of Arlington. Development of the plan has occurred through consultation with the Continuity of Mission Task Force and the Pastor of All Saints Catholic Church.

The plan has also been informed by the results from the recent reopening survey on the topic of mask requirements for the 2021-2022 academic year. We wish to thank the 201 parents who participated in this important process. The following is a brief summary of the input provided by the parent community. These statistics and the accompanying narrative responses provided by parents confirm that there is a wide range of opinion on this topic.

Option 1 – All students, faculty, and staff should wear masks while indoors regardless of vaccination status. (31.84%)

Option 2 – Unvaccinated students, faculty, and staff should wear masks while indoors. Vaccinated individuals should not be required to wear masks in the building. (17.41%)

Option 3 – Masks should be optional for students, faculty, and staff regardless of vaccination status. (50.75%)

These results enhance our situational awareness and broaden our understanding of community needs and expectations. As such, it is our intention to design a reopening plan that takes into consideration the range of opinion that exists among parents while determining the safest path for the whole school community and one that enables us to sustain in-person learning.

The following is a summary of operational procedures for the opening of the new academic year. It is important to note that this plan will serve as a baseline and is subject to change in accordance with the following key metrics: rate of transmission in the community, rate of vaccine coverage in the building and/or the Manassas/Prince William jurisdictions, and the number of cases and rate of transmission in the building.

All Saints Catholic School will monitor three sources of data to make adjustments as necessary to our operating procedures. As the data changes over the course of the year, specific mitigating strategies may be increased or discontinued. All decisions will be based on careful attention to the following data sources.

Virginia Department of Health School Metrics – Data pertaining to *School Metrics* and the level of transmission in the community can be found on the Virginia Department of Health website, a link for which follows below. The metric categories include Low Transmission, Moderate Transmission, Substantial Transmission, and High Transmission. Two measures are used to determine the level of community transmission: the total number of cases in the past seven days and the percentage of nucleic acid amplification tests that are positive in the past seven days.

Categories of Substantial or High Transmission levels in the City of Manassas/Prince William County will require mandatory face coverings and social distancing. Additionally, limits on other gatherings and extracurricular activities may be necessary until transmission levels decline.

Indicator	Low Transmission	Moderate Transmission	Substantial Transmission	High Transmission
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in past 7 days	0-9	10-49	50-99	>=100
Percentage of NAATs that are positive in past 7 days	<5.0%	5.0%-7.9%	8.0%-9.9%	>10.0%

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/key-measures/pandemic-metrics/school-metrics/>

Vaccine Data Dashboard - Vaccine data on the Virginia Department of Health website helps us understand community level vaccination coverage. Age-group vaccination statistics in our jurisdiction will provide important data to estimate vaccination coverage at All Saints Catholic School. Although children 12 years of age and older are eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine, policies and procedures will remain consistent across all grade levels, since students will be moving throughout the building and interacting with each other during recess, Mass, and other school-wide activities and events.

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine-demographics/>

School Impact Data - Just as important as the local data, monitoring information specific to All Saints Catholic School will help us to maintain an awareness of any cases or the level of transmission in our building and inform our response. The criteria we will track is transmission within the school, student absenteeism, and staff capacity. For example, if the level of school impact is low and the other local data mentioned above indicates that transmission rates in the community are at or below the moderate level, school protocols may be lifted. Similarly, if the level of school impact is worsening, protocols will be adjusted to provide a higher level of protection which may include a transition to remote learning.

Criteria	Level of School Impact		
	Low	Medium	High
Transmission Within School	Zero or sporadic cases with no evidence of transmission in school	Two breakouts within a short time period or sporadic outbreaks in school. Size of outbreaks remains small.	Several outbreaks in school within short time period; size of outbreaks is large or scope of outbreaks is significant (i.e. multiple classrooms or grade levels impacted)
Student Absenteeism	At baseline/low	Slightly above baseline	High
Staff Capacity*	Normal	Strained	Critical

*The school's ability to maintain adequate staff for facility operation, teaching, and administrative functions.

The reopening plan for All Saints Catholic School includes the management and monitoring of four key areas:

- Managing Health of Students, Faculty/Staff, Families, and Visitors
- Managing Physical Distancing
- Managing Contact and Movement
- Managing Cleaning and Disinfecting

Managing Health of Students, Faculty, Staff & Visitors

Face Masks - In accordance with the State Public Health Commissioner's Order, effective August 12, 2021, all individuals aged two and older are required to wear masks when indoors at All Saints Catholic School, as recommended and described by the CDC.

The indoor mask requirement applies to all students, employees and visitors, regardless of vaccination status.

Exceptions to the Order include: Individuals who are eating or drinking; exercising; or playing a musical instrument (e.g. wind or brass instrument) so long as at least six feet of physical distance can be maintained from other persons.

The mask requirement shall remain in effect until the CDC guidelines for K-12 schools change, unless the Order is sooner amended or rescinded.

Vaccines - Any decision regarding student vaccination is personal and remains within the domain of parental authority. Although the school does not require vaccinations for students, faculty, or staff, data related to the level of student coverage in our building will be useful in shaping any future responses to cases that may occur in our school community. For this reason, parents will be provided the opportunity to voluntarily provide information related to their child's vaccine status. Note: In consideration of the fact that the vaccine is only available for children who are 12 years of age or older, this information will only pertain to our middle school population at this time.

Daily Health Screening - Again this year, parents are required to perform wellness checks, including a temperature screening, before departing for school each day. Children not feeling well and/or exhibiting COVID symptoms may not attend school. Keeping sick students home and adhering to all wellness policies are among our most important mitigation efforts.

Ventilation - During school operations, the HVAC system will remain in fan mode to ensure a sufficient exchange of air in each classroom with the system configured to allow for the greatest amount of intake of outdoor air possible. Additionally, classroom windows will remain open to the extent possible as related to weather conditions.

COVID-19 Symptoms & Illness - Parents/guardians must notify the school within 24 hours if their child or any member of the immediate household has developed a communicable disease (COVID-19, flu, etc.) or had any exposure to a positive case of Covid-19 within the past 24 hours. Parents must notify the school immediately if the disease is life threatening. Parents must pick up their sick or injured child within two hours of being contacted. If a parent cannot be reached, emergency contacts will be called to pick up the child. The school nurse will monitor the rate of student illness and absenteeism as well as any related health information on a daily basis.

Quarantine & Isolation - We will continue to work closely with our health district on contact tracing in the event of a positive COVID case on campus. Any unvaccinated close contacts of a COVID positive person will be required to quarantine in accordance with the most current guidance available from the health district. Mrs. Snowden, school nurse, will continue to serve as the point of contact for determining the length of any necessary quarantine or isolation period and the date at which the student or staff member is eligible for a return to school.

In the event of a positive case in the building, homeroom classes or grade levels may need to quarantine. Should this be the case, the teacher will provide online instruction for the length of the quarantine period by posting assignments and instructional materials in Schoology, our online learning management system, and/or via livestream instruction using Zoom video-conferencing.

Post-International Travel – Families returning from international travel are asked to consult with the school nurse, Mrs. Patrice Snowden, regarding eligibility for a return to school. Up to date travel recommendations and requirements from the Virginia Department of Health can be found at the following link.

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus/travel-to-areas-with-widespread-ongoing-community-spread/>

Managing Physical Distancing

Distancing- Recognizing the priority of in-person instruction, three-foot physical distancing in the classrooms will be implemented to the greatest extent possible. Students will return to attending special subject classes in the rooms designed for that purpose, i.e. art room, music room, etc. Students in grades K-5 will remain in class cohorts throughout the day except during recess.

Teachers will maintain seating charts for each classroom which will enable the school to conduct efficient contact tracing in the event of a positive case.

Middle school students will transition from classroom to classroom throughout the day, remaining in their homeroom cohorts, except during math and science class when they will be

grouped in accordance with their regular or advanced math placements. Middle school students will use the lockers located in the hallway with scheduled times for access throughout the school day to allow for physical distancing.

When moving throughout the building, students will be encouraged to walk on the right side of the hallway and to maintain 3-foot physical distancing. Signage will be strategically placed throughout the school to serve as a reminder of this protocol.

Plexiglass barriers may be used on a limited basis and at the discretion of the classroom teacher when facilitating small group or one-on-one instruction.

In the event that school metrics indicate that it is necessary to increase the level of mitigation strategies, the use of shared space in the building may be limited. For example, special subject and middle school teachers may rotate between classes rather than having students move through the building.

Managing Contact & Movement

Instructional Plan- We look forward to opening the year with five days of in person instruction per week. The school day will be from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Please note that the morning arrival time will be from 7:40 - 8:00 a.m.

School Mass - The school will gather for Mass on a weekly basis as part of the parish liturgy occurring at 8:30 a.m. Typically, the school Mass will occur on Friday of each week with occasional deviations from this schedule in celebration of a Holy Day or a particular saint.

Cafeteria- Seating at lunch tables will be limited to allow for greater spacing while all students are unmasked. In order to allow for 3 to 6-foot distancing in the cafeteria, individual classes or grade levels may be asked to eat lunch in their classrooms on a rotating schedule. At this time, the school will not be offering food service and will further explore this option in future months.

Snack- Students will eat their snack in their classrooms or outdoors during recess. Students will be distanced at least three feet apart while indoors when they remove their masks to enjoy their snack. As touch-free water bottle filling stations are available, students are encouraged to bring a refillable bottle to school each day.

Restrooms – Students will be encouraged to maintain 3-foot physical distancing when visiting the restrooms. Additional procedures related to restroom access will be at each teacher’s discretion in accordance with age-appropriate considerations for each specific grade level.

Recess - Students may wear a mask outdoors if they choose. During outdoor recess, students may play with students from other homerooms/grades. Students not actively participating in a

game or activity will be encouraged to maintain 3-foot physical distancing. The soccer field and playground equipment will be open for student use.

Physical Education (P.E.) – To the greatest extent possible, all P.E. classes will occur outside. In the event of inclement weather or extreme temperatures, P.E. class will take place in the gymnasium. If the rate of transmission in the surrounding community is substantial or high, students will be required to wear masks during indoor P.E. classes.

Music Class – During music lessons, students may participate in a range of activities, to include singing during times when transmission rates are low or moderate in the surrounding community. At such time, students will be asked to maintain 6-foot physical distancing.

Morning Arrival - Morning drop-off begins at 7:40 a.m. and ends at 7:58 a.m. As in prior years, parents may drop-off their children in either the front or rear parking lots, except for Pre-Kindergarten families who are asked to use only the rear parking lot. Students will exit from their vehicles and proceed into the building via the new breezeway entrance.

Dismissal – We will continue to dismiss students using the system that was implemented last year. Each family will receive a parking assignment and pick-up their child/ren in one of three designated “loading zones”. Additional instructions and guidance will be shared with parents prior to the first day of school.

Pre-Kindergarten – The Pre-Kindergarten will operate in accordance with the licensing standards provided by the Virginia Department of Education and in accordance with all of the COVID-19 mitigation strategies implemented by All Saints Catholic School, including the requirement for the wearing of masks when transmission rates are substantial or high in the surrounding community.

Extended Day - Students attending the before or after school program will remain in their homeroom or grade level cohorts to the greatest extent possible.

Extracurricular Activities - We look forward to reestablishing extracurricular activities as the school year resumes. More information about these groups will be forthcoming from the activity sponsor.

Field Trips – We are hopeful that students will once again be able to participate in field trip activities. Decisions regarding the feasibility of each trip will be determined on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the current health metrics for our community and those of the intended trip location as well as the nature of the activities in which the students will be participating.

Band – Students in grades 4-8 will have the opportunity to participate in the beginner or advanced band programs. Small group rehearsals will occur on a weekly basis with students assigned to a specific instrumental cohort.

Visitors & Volunteers - Recognizing the value of parent involvement, it is our hope that opportunities for volunteering in the building will return to pre-pandemic levels during the upcoming school year. As we begin the new year and during this time of transition, we will continue to limit visitor and volunteer access for the first four weeks of school, at which time we will reassess. All visitors and volunteers will be required to complete a health screening prior to arrival at All Saints. Additionally, all adults who visit or volunteer in the building are required to wear masks and maintain physical distance if not fully vaccinated.

Managing Cleaning & Disinfecting

Handwashing - Regular and thorough handwashing will be encouraged again this year. Touchless hand sanitizer units are available for student use inside each classroom and at the main and new breezeway entranceways.

Cleaning and Disinfecting - Classrooms will be cleaned each evening. The restrooms and high contact touch points will be sanitized at regular times throughout the day. In the event of a positive case of COVID in the building, enhanced sanitization procedures will be implemented, including the use of electrostatic cleaning.

Should it become necessary to implement changes to our plan in response to the criteria outlined above, additional information and updates will be provided to parents via our school newsletter or email communication.

Thank you for choosing All Saints for your family and for the trust that you have placed in our school. We look forward to our continued partnership with you in the year ahead. Should you have any questions regarding our plan, please do not hesitate to contact the school office for more information. (703-368-4400)