



## **St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School Return to School Plan**

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The spiritual, physical, intellectual, and emotional wellness of all students, faculty and staff within the St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School family remains our highest priority. St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School, in partnership with the Office of Catholic Schools will closely monitor the rapidly changing circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and will remain vigilant in identifying and implementing evidence-based health and safety practices guided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH), the Diocese of Biloxi, and local, state, and federal government. School-to-Home Virtual Learning is available to any parent/guardian who requests it for their child(ren).

### **Mission Statement**

**As a ministry of the Catholic Church, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School:**

- *Leads and guides students in the Catholic faith through a Christ-centered curriculum.*
- *Sends students and staff forth into the community with a formation of a strong moral character as a witness to others.*
- *Develops skills necessary to succeed academically and socially.*
- *Leads others to hear and answer God's call to evangelize.*
- *Use leadership skills to serve others with their God-given potential.*

### **Goals**

- Form intentional disciples of Christ
- Inspire a passion for service
- Provide a safe learning environment
- Achieve social distancing where possible
- Maintain high academic expectations and rigorous curriculum
- Provide an optional distance learning environment that meets the same high academic expectations, rigorous curriculum, and focus on student achievement.



## **RETURN to SCHOOL PLAN**

### **Considerations for Decision Making**

- Does this precaution improve the overall safety of students and/or staff in our school setting?
- Does this precaution positively improve the psychological perception of safety for students/faculty/staff/parents or guardians?
- Can this precaution be managed by faculty, staff, students and parents/guardians?
- Does this precaution have negative impacts (financial, time, social, etc.)?
- Do the benefits outweigh the costs?

### **Arrival & Dismissal**

- Before school care is available from 7:00 a.m. until 7:30 a.m. in the cafeteria
- Students drop-off and pick-up locations/entry points have been changed (see separate document)
- Students should arrive and be seated in their classrooms by 7:50 a.m.
- Directional hallways will be utilized to prevent crowding
- Temperature checks will be conducted daily before each student enters the school
  - **Fever will be determined by a temperature of 100.4 or greater**

### **Maintaining a Healthy Environment**

- Classroom desks will be spaced as far as possible in all directions
- There will be no large group functions or events held on campus until further notice. All efforts will be put in place to keep groups of students, faculty, and staff as small as possible.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be placed in each classroom, at all main entrances and throughout the campus
- Enhanced hand washing/sanitation schedules are in place for each classroom
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting schedule has been implemented
- Janitor will be onsite throughout the day to ensure cleanliness (sanitation checklist)
- Toys, games, manipulatives that cannot be easily cleaned (disinfected) will be removed from all classrooms
- Multiple water filling stations have been installed.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle daily
- Students will utilize their own supplies



### **Masks**

- Students in grades 1-6<sup>th</sup> will wear a mask or cloth face covering when entering and exiting the school, in hallways and all common areas of the school when social distancing is not possible.
- Students in PK3, PK4, and kindergarten are strongly encouraged to wear a mask when entering and exiting the school, in hallways and all common areas of the school when social distancing is not possible
- PK- Kindergarten students do not have a mask requirement
- 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students will wear a mask to weekly School Mass
- Students may choose to wear a mask at all times
- Masks will be provided for students who need one or forget to bring one to school

### **Mass**

Students in grades 1-6 will attend a weekly Mass at 8:30 in the school gym. Masks will be worn.

- Wednesday – 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will attend Mass
- Friday – 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will attend Mass

All school Masses are being planned and will be announced. They will be live-streamed for students and families.

### **Lunch/Snacks**

- No self-serving (shared) items
- Designated seating in socially distanced eating areas or classrooms (special schedules for lunches)
- Directed pathways for entry and exit of cafeteria

### **Visitors on Campus**

- Visitors/volunteers will not be allowed on campus due to safety concerns
- Parents may not walk students to class, eat lunch with students, or visit during the school day
- Parent meetings will be held virtually when possible
- Any individual entering the front office must wear a mask at all times and be temperature checked



### **Distance Learning**

- School-to-Home Virtual Learning is available to any parent/guardian that requests it for their child
- Distance learners will commit to one full nine week period
- School-to-Home Virtual Learning Consent form must be signed by each family who participates
- Distance learners may not participate in athletics or extracurricular activities
- Distance learners will follow the academic calendar of SVdP
- Distance learners must adhere to all grading and academic requirements of SVdP
- Daily attendance will be recorded based on student participation
- Full Tuition is required for distance learners

### **Daily Screening Protocols and Temperature Check**

- Students or employees who answer "yes" to any of the following questions may not attend school or be on campus: Ø Have you had fever of 100.4 or higher during the past 24 hours?
  - Do you have any signs of respiratory infection-cough, shortness of breath?
  - Do you have any signs of illness-fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell?
  - Have you been in close contact with anyone exhibiting the symptoms listed above within the past 14 days?
  - Are you living with anyone who has been sick or has exhibited symptoms of COVID-19?
- All faculty and staff will check their temperature upon arriving on campus each day. Any faculty or staff member with temperature of 100.4 or higher may not attend school until fever-free for at least 24 hours.
- All students will have their temperature taken each day upon arrival to school. Any student with a temperature of 100.4 or higher may not attend school until fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. For students who are not able to attend school, virtual learning will be provided



### Exposure Protocol

- Students, faculty or staff who are diagnosed with COVID-19 or have been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 will be required to quarantine for 14 days. Following the 14 days, the individual must be fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication before returning to school. “Close contact” is defined as being within six feet of COVID-19 case for 15 minutes or more.
- If able to do so, the student or teacher will participate in instruction via the School-to-Home Virtual Learning program while quarantined.
- In the event of positive COVID-19 diagnosis, we will communicate with all parents, faculty, and staff who were within the same classroom (or facility) as the diagnosed individual. Communication will occur as soon as possible, and will maintain the confidentiality of the individual as required by the ADA and FERPA. Anyone who was within the same classroom (or facility) as the individual diagnosed with COVID-19 will have the option to quarantine for 14 days. Anyone who was within “close contact” of the individual diagnosed with COVID-19 will be **required** to quarantine for 14 days.
- In the event that a teacher is required to quarantine, a substitute teacher will be hired to be present in the classroom while the certified teacher is live-streamed to provide instruction. In the event that the certified teacher is too sick to provide instruction, the substitute teacher will provide instruction.
- Any specific location in the school where infected student, faculty, or staff member was present will be professionally deep cleaned before students, faculty, or staff return to that location.



## **Return to School Plan**

### **Q&A**

**1. On which level of the SVdP Infection Prevention Plan will school begin?**

*Based on the heightened risk of infections, we will begin on a combined level of 3 and 4.*

**2. Does my child have to wear a mask all day?**

*No, students will wear masks in hallways, upon entering the building, exiting the building, during transitions, and in places where social distancing cannot take place. During other times of the day when students are socially distanced, they will be permitted to remove their masks. Masks are not required while seated at lunch, during exercise or during outdoor activity unless social distancing is difficult to maintain. Teachers will provide outside breaks and other periods of time during the day for students to remove their masks.*

**3. Can I choose for my student to wear a mask all day?**

*Yes, students wear a mask all day if parents prefer this option.*

**4. What if my child has a medical/health/behavioral issue and cannot wear a mask?**

*Special consideration will be given to any student who cannot tolerate a face covering due to developmental, medical or behavioral health issues.*

**5. Can my child wear any type of mask?**

*Yes, we recommend that parents and students work together to choose a face covering that is most comfortable and suitable for their child.*

**6. Will SVdP provide masks for students?**

*Masks are available for students who forget them at home.*

**7. What should I do if I want to choose the School-to Home Virtual Learning option for my child?**

*Notify the school office on or before Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Specific directions and information will be given by the school administration and teacher(s). Training on our online platform will be offered on Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup> in two sessions.*