



Reopening Plan Questions

1. Are families able to move from one model of instruction to another model of instruction? How often?

Families may change from one model of instruction to another model if it meets the needs of their family/student. Students moving from in-person instruction to a distance learning model may move at any time. It is recommended that students moving from distance to in-person should wait for the end of the quarter.

2. Explain the mask policy enforcement. Will there be disciplinary action for students that do not comply?

Masks are required for students to enter school. Students in grades Preschool through 5th grade will wear masks any time they cannot socially distance, as much as developmentally appropriate. It is required that they wear their masks when entering and leaving the school and if they are in the hallways. Students will be encouraged to wear a mask in the classroom, understanding that developmentally there will be needed understanding and learning about wearing a mask. If students are seated at their desks, socially distanced they will be able to take their mask off.

All students will be given mask breaks so that they may “breathe” for a bit and will be allowed to take off their masks at lunch and snack time. During these times, the students will be distanced six feet apart.

Students that are not following the mask policy will be given a gentle reminder, like the reminders given if a shoe is untied. Students refusing to wear a mask will be out of uniform and the same consequences as a uniform/dress code violation will be enforced. Multiple violations will lead to progressive discipline.

3. Will there be staggered drop off times?

The drop off schedule is still being developed but we have opened drop off to 8:00am and will extend the beginning of school to allow for the expected delay caused by the new health screenings. After the first few days/week, we will have a better idea of the delays caused by the screenings and we can more clearly develop a succinct and effective schedule for drop off.

4. How will you screen students that are coming to school on the bus?

Students arriving from the bus, although assumed to be screened in some way previously, will be screened in the same way as non-bus students.

5. Do we need to complete a health questionnaire daily?

Saint Kateri School is asking that parents make every attempt to complete a daily health questionnaire. Currently, we are developing a Google Form/Microsoft Form questionnaire to ease the process for families.

6. Are parents responsible for providing a mask for their child? Will the school provide one daily?

Parents will be asked to provide a mask each day for their child (and encouraged to pack a spare in their backpack). If a student arrives without a mask or if their mask gets lost or soiled during the day, Saint Kateri School will provide a disposable one for the day.

7. Please explain the procedures around a student testing positive. Does the entire school go into distance learning or just the student's cohort?

The procedures for a positive test are as follows:

Once a student has tested positive:

- Saint Kateri School will contact the Monroe County Department of Health to report a positive test, deferring to them for guidance on current protocol
- Student is out of school for the recommended quarantine time provided determined by the Department of Health. The student may return after the quarantine period if there has been no fever for 3 days (without fever reducing medication) and respiratory symptoms have improved
- Siblings of the student must also be out of school for the recommended quarantine time beginning from the last contact with the positive student.
- Families **must** work with the school to develop a plan for return to school.
- Student may participate as a distance learner if deemed appropriate by the parent/guardian
- A positive test will "trigger" contact tracing. The contact tracing will be conducted by Monroe County Department of Health with assistance from the school. This means that any student that has been in contact with the student having a positive test will be put into a quarantine.

Quarantine procedure for exposure to a positively tested individual:

- Individuals with no symptoms will be out of school for the required quarantine period from last interaction/exposure to the positive case. Testing will not be required without symptoms.
- If symptoms occur, individuals will move into the positive test protocol. (see above)
- In this protocol, a negative test does not allow an individual to return to school before the required quarantine period.
- Quarantines will be determined through contact tracing. In collaboration with the Health Department, cohorts will be quarantined first and if exposure is more widespread, the entire school may be quarantined into full remote learning.

8. What are the precautions being taken for vulnerable adults in the building?

Saint Kateri School has developed a plan that treats everyone as a possibly vulnerable individual. It is understood that some individuals in our community may be more susceptible to this virus so we are working to provide them additional protections and will accommodate requests to the best of our abilities. Vulnerable individuals are encouraged to speak with administration to develop a plan for their safety and health.

9. How will safety drills such as fire drills and shelter in place be handled?

Safety drills will be conducted in the same frequency as previous years. Students will follow the procedures of the school day as if they are not able to maintain social distancing (i.e. keeping masks close at hand). It is for that reason that students will always have masks in proximity including mask breaks.

10. What kind of cleaning supplies will be available for teachers to use in the classroom?

Teachers will be provided cleaning supplies that have been approved for use around children. We have a professional cleaning company that has been working with our business office to order enough supplies to appropriately meet our increased needs.

11. How was the reopening planning team formed?

At the end of the 2019-2020 school year, principals were asked to begin planning for the opening of the 2020-2021 by creating a team of parents, teachers, community members and parish staff. The Diocese of Rochester Department of Catholic Schools provided a survey sent to all Catholic School families requesting parent input. Saint Kateri School was given all the survey feedback from our school community members. The SKS Task Force recommendations, along with the information in the survey was used to create a plan that would be submitted to New York State.

12. Will students be allowed to move about and breathe fresh air?

Students will be given the opportunity to have mask breaks where they are able to breathe fresh air. Recess will take place outside as weather permits. Teachers will be encouraged to include time outside whenever possible and weather permitting. This includes learning time; mask breaks and walks around the school campus.

13. How will you handle students that struggle to remain seated or keep on a mask?

Teachers will be tasked with maintaining a safe and healthy classroom which means they will monitor students in a similar way as in the past. Students that have a need to move around or have alternative seating will be allowed to do so if they are maintaining the safety of themselves and their classmates. The teachers understand that every student is an individual and some will be more comfortable wearing a mask than others so there will be mask breaks and reminders for students having difficulty adjusting to the mask.

14. Are teachers required to wait until a student is wearing a mask to help them?

Students should be wearing masks for much of the day. In situations, such as mask breaks, the teachers may ask a student to put their mask on as they approach them to help but they will not deny help to a student if they are not wearing their mask. Teachers will be wearing their mask as well.

15. Was there any discussion about splitting into half days so there would be more freedom for the students to move around?

In developing our plan, we explored multiple options to provide the least restrictive environment while meeting all the student needs. We believe our smaller class sizes built within this plan meets that goal, allowing all our students the opportunity for in-person learning every day.

16. What are your group size limits in each grade?

In order to create the school reopening plan all schools were required to measure class sizes to determine the cap to each class. Our grade level caps are well below the allowed 24 students for our K-5 students, as per our classroom dimensions. In K-5 classrooms we are capping all classes to 18 students. Preschool classes are capped at 1:14 for three-year olds (Teacher and Instructional Assistant) and 1:16 for four-year olds. (Teacher and Instructional Assistant)

17. Will there be in person orientation for Preschool and Kindergarten students?

It would be difficult to have a large group gathering and visitation of classrooms given the COVID-19 restrictions. Saint Kateri School will send the Preschool and Kindergarten information included during our typical orientation to families in a PowerPoint by August 31st. There will be three Meet and Greet sessions for families in Preschool-5th grade to visit school, meet the teacher and drop off supplies.

18. What will drop off look like on the first day or school for students?

The first day of school for all classes will be very different from year's past. We are aware that our youngest students may have the most difficulty on the first few days of school. We are in the process of developing guidelines for families on the first days of drop off. We are asking for patience as we work through this challenge as a community.

19. How will the playground be used this school year?

We will be limiting classes that have access to the playground daily to one class per day. Classes will take turns on a rotating basis, sanitizing their hands before and after using the play equipment. Classes will also have playground toys designated for their class to use during outside time and activities not requiring equipment will be offered.

20. What will music class look like?

We are in the process of hiring a new Music teacher and will work together to create the details for music class. What we know now is that students will remain in their class and music will travel to them.

21. Will the children be wearing masks during music class if they will be singing?

It is possible that students will be able to use the gym during time when not in use. Students will be able to follow the guidelines for singing in the gym. More details will follow as we work with the new music teacher.

22. What will Physical Education class look like? Will team sports be played?

Physical Education classes will take place in the gym and the students will be socially distanced 12 feet. The curriculum is still being developed and Physical Education units of study will be announced when school begins. All regulations sent by the state for Physical Education will be followed.

23. How will the library and books be sanitized? And how often?

The use of the library and borrowing of books is being finalized but we hope to have students be able to use the Library to check out books when we have had a chance to develop a system that is safe. We will post the procedures for using the Library and for safely borrowing books as soon school opens.

24. What will be the drop off and pick up procedures look like?

The pick-up and drop off procedures are still being fully developed as we recognize that this will be an adjustment for all families.

Our current procedure is:

Parents will drive up to the screening area (Possibly the North and South Door), one at a time. Students will be screened inside the car, once the screening is complete, they will be sent directly to their homeroom. Siblings may enter the school together from the same entrance ~

End of Day, students will be dismissed by their afterschool plan ~ bus students, car riders and after school students. Timing will be staggered to allow for students moving through the hallway and common areas together.

25. Will parents be allowed in the school building at drop off?

Not at this time. Saint Kateri School will limit the number of people in the building so parents will not be allowed to enter the school at drop off.

26. Will the times be staggered for pick up and drop off? If the pickup/drop off times are staggered will siblings be able to be dropped off together?

Pick up and Drop off times will be staggered for the Preschool – 5th grade students. Procedures are being developed now and may include an 8:00 drop off and an 8:15 drop off, divided alphabetically. Siblings will be able to be dropped off and picked up together. Details will be shared as soon as completed.

27. Are these blue masks acceptable?

Blue Masks are acceptable. Bandanas are not acceptable.

28. Are wearing face shields acceptable?

According to the state regulations on opening schools, face shields alone are not acceptable.

29. Who will be the remote online teachers and how will we obtain the materials?

There are no specific online teachers. Guidelines, class expectations, and the way students will obtain class materials will be shared with families as teachers and administration finalize plans and procedures.

30. My child receives support services, what will that look like this year?

Support services will look like year's past with student's being taught both in the classroom or in a small group in another area. If the students are part of a small group, they will be required to wear a mask and social distancing will be encouraged to whatever extent possible. We are looking into plexiglass dividers for small group areas for our teacher and our service providers.

31. Before and After care states small groups. What is this number?

As we see the number of students registered and attending Before and After Care, we can identify group size. We will maintain the maximum group size of the classroom. Groupings we are looking at include: Preschool, K-2 and 3-5 but this may change due to student numbers and staffing. All families received a Survey Form to complete to state their intentions for Before and After Care, due Friday, August 21st.

32. Will outside groups potentially use the school. Like what kind of groups and do they have separate protocols?

Access to the school building will be very limited and only after parish and school staff have determined the protocols put in place for the safety of our staff and students can be followed. Any group (i.e. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts) must follow our protocols, or their own protocols, whichever is more stringent. Any group using the school will be required to contact parish staff and/or school administration before they will be granted use of building facilities.

33. What is the protocol for testing teachers and staff?

Faculty and staff will take their temperature each day before coming to school to be able to complete the self-certification required before beginning work each day. If any faculty and staff become ill during the day, they will be sent home.

34. Do you know if parents will receive transportation companies plans and protocols?

Families should contact their district of residence for information regarding safety plans and protocols.

35. Are students/families able to switch instructional models mid quarter if they feel their system is not effective/safe by the parent?

Parents must meet with administration to discuss changing instructional models.

36. What is the tuition policy if we go to distance learning only?

If the school goes into a distance learning only model the tuition remains the same. Unfortunately, we as a private Catholic school are not able to meet our financial responsibilities if the tuition rate changes for distance learning. If it is necessary to go to a distance learning only model, families are encouraged to reach out to the teacher and administration to discuss options for support. Preschool families should contact administration or our Business Manager if impacted financially by going to distance learning at any time.

37. When does the school close and go remote? Positive cases in the school? Community infection rate? What is that number/rate?

The decision to close and go remote may happen for many reasons. If the infection rate gets too high in an area, the local health department may close all schools. If there is a positive case (or multiple cases) within the school, the entire school community may be forced into quarantine or if a positive case is in one class, that cohort or group that has been exposed may go into quarantine but the rest of the school may remain open. Saint Kateri School will work with the Department of Health to determine shut down protocol if that time comes.

38. Is a COVID-19 test required for anyone that comes down with a fever?

No ~ Individuals that have registered a fever are excluded from school until 24 hours symptom free (with no fever reducing medication) and they are advised to call their health care provider. Their health care provider will advise whether to be tested. If there are no additional symptoms, the individual may return to school after the 24 fever free hours. Saint Kateri School will adhere to the CDC and the Department of Health guidelines for schools. The above information was accurate as of July 23, 2020 but may change if new guidelines are set.

39. In order to return to the school is a negative test required?

A negative test is not required if all other protocols for quarantine are met.

40. How will you prevent students from contaminating the water fountain with non-sterilized water bottles?

For the time being, all water fountains have remained covered and not in use. As in the past, students will be encouraged to bring a personal water bottle each day.

41. Will temperatures be taken of all people that enter the building?

Visitors into the building will be kept to only the essentials. Any individuals let into the building will be required to complete a health screening, attesting to the absence of a temperature.

42. Are there other times during the day that temperatures will be taken?

Student temperatures will be taken at additional times if they present symptoms. Teachers will be educated about the symptoms of the COVID-19 virus and instructed to notify the Nurse or the Main Office staff if symptoms are present in students later in the day.

43. How will bathrooms be monitored?

Students will be allowed to enter the bathrooms one at a time and will be socially distanced waiting for their turn. Every attempt will be made to limit the number of students allowed to leave the classroom for the bathroom in each class. Students will continue to be taught good hygiene techniques to lessen exposure to germs (i.e. cough in elbow, wash hands for 20 seconds, open door with your paper towel, etc.) Teachers bringing whole classes to the restrooms will sanitize high touch areas before they leave. (i.e. doorknobs, faucet handles, light switches, etc.)

44. What is the cleaning schedule for sinks and high touch surfaces in the bathrooms?

Common areas and high touch surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day. Daily cleaning logs will be put in the bathrooms and hallways. Prior days/weeks logs will be stored in the office for review. SKS staff members will be instructed on cleaning methods and will clean all bathrooms in the middle of the day.

45. Library and Technology classes: Will students visit these classrooms? Will tables be used? What about social distancing?

Students will not have Library as an Encore class this year. Plans and procedures are in the works to allow students to take borrow and return books using a system that is safe for students and staff. Technology instruction will be done in the classroom, the Library, the Technology Lab or possibly the STEAM Lab. In all situations, students will be socially distanced, wearing masks and materials will be sanitized between groups.

46. Will students be able to share books and computers?

Book procedures are being worked on, computers can be shared if they are properly sanitized between uses.

47. Explain the mask policy for teachers.

Teachers will follow the same policy as the students. They may remove their masks occasionally for a break (while remaining 6 feet apart) but will be masked for a large majority of the day.

48. What will remote learning look like for students?

The final plan for remote learning will be completed soon, work will be done with administration and teachers to develop details of the remote learning plan. Teachers began working on assessing the successes and challenges of last year's distance learning plan. We will also look to the DORDCS parent survey on distance learning for guidance. This year's distance learning plan will be more detailed and be able to communicate clearly to families and students the expectations for attendance, assessments, level of instruction, etc. Preschool – 2nd grade will use See Saw and grades 3 – 5 will use Google classroom. Kindergarten – 5 will use iReady diagnostic and instructional pieces, in conjunction with a variety of additional online resources.

49. How will we ensure that all kids will be monitored for symptoms? What tools and steps will be taken?

The first step will be health screenings at drop off. It is our hope that parents will be extremely cautious with their child(ren) by not sending a potentially ill student to school. If a student is not feeling well during the day, the school nurse, in conjunction with administration, will begin a process of isolating the student to reduce the potential spread in the classroom. The protocols will then be followed and if needed the student will be sent home. (i.e. if there is a temperature of more than 100.0°)

Teachers will continue to monitor their students through observation and if they believe that the student is exhibiting signs of illness (COVID-19 or other), that student will be screened by the nurse or administration.