



RE-OPENING QUESTIONS / ANSWERS - VERSION 1 (JULY 24, 2020)

A. WEEKLY MASS AND BUDDY PROGRAM

A1. Will the children attend Mass each week, and will they have mass buddies assigned?

Yes. Students will attend a 9:00am mass with their class on an alternating schedule to allow for social distancing guidelines. Mass Buddies will be considered in the second trimester. Parents will be welcome to attend mass, too.

B. PSR - RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

B1. Is it possible for Religious Education classes to be done virtually, to limit the number of people in the school?

Plans for the Religious Education classes have not been determined. We will communicate as we learn more about their program.

C. SCHOOL SAFETY MEASURES

C1. What is the expectation for wearing masks?

Our plan relies on maintaining appropriate social distancing for students and staff. In addition, all persons in the building will be required to wear a mask in common areas (e.g., entry/exit areas, bathrooms, hallways,) and in the classroom when medically appropriate.

C2. Will face shields other than surgical masks or face shields be permitted?

If any child wants to wear a protective mask other than the standard surgical masks, cotton fask mask or face shield, we require a written approval from your family doctor.

C3. Have desk shields been considered, for added protection, when students are seated at their desks?

Yes, we are currently getting estimates for plexiglass desk shields and barriers.

C4. What is the reason for only requiring 3 - 6 feet distance as opposed to a solid 6 feet?

The spacing requirements we follow are based on guidance from the American Pediatric Association. Click link for more: [AAP Guidance for School Re-entry](#)

C5. What type of PPE are teachers required to use?

The Virginia plan does not outline exact PPE for teachers/staff - it is a local decision. A mask is a given and should be worn indoors at all times especially if social distancing cannot be utilized. Gloves and gowns are not necessary unless caring for known +Covid patients.

C6. How will the number of people in the bathrooms be managed?

We have hired a day porter to assist with cleaning all high touch surfaces during the day. Logistical planning is in progress regarding how best to handle bathroom schedules throughout the school day.

C7. Will water fountains be available for use?

All water fountains will be closed, except for the NEW touchless water bottle filling stations which will be sanitized throughout the day.

C8. Are there handwashing stations in the classroom? What is the protocol for washing hands during the day?

There will be "Sanitizing Stations" in each classroom, complete with instructions for the children. Hand sanitizer will be used in all classrooms that do not have sinks.

C9. Has the school considered investing in an air purification system for the whole school?

Yes, we have considered an air purification system. We are currently under contract with Fidelity Mechanical Services. We will be cleaning all filters this summer as part of our routine schedule, and we will also be working with them to determine additional needs.

D. TEACHER AND STAFF HEALTH PRECAUTIONS / STUDENT EXPOSURE

D1. If we are notified that one of our children was exposed to a person testing positive for COVID-19 (either at St. Luke or somewhere else), should both children stay home or just the one that was potentially exposed?

In the case of families with more than one student, yes. Both children should stay home because potential exposure is there. In theory, the Health Department will be the one guiding the contact tracing and telling students and staff when to stay home but if there is any exposure children should not come to school out of precaution.

D2. Will the school nurse still monitor symptoms like stomach aches, headaches..or is that an isolation room symptom?-

Yes, the nurse will still monitor these symptoms. A mild headache or stomach ache might not necessarily warrant a visit to the nurse, but when multiple symptoms are present that would be a reason for the RN to see the student in the isolation room.

D3. If cases spike again in Virginia, could the governor close down all schools again? Or could private Catholic schools like St Luke's be exempt?

St. Luke School would abide by any state order from the Governor of Virginia.

E. NON-COVID HEALTH RELATED QUESTIONS

E1. Are we treating every time a kid is sick as Covid until it's proven not, or are we to recognize that it is more likely allergies, a cold, strep, flu, ear infection or the most likely "just a virus" when the kids are sick, until we have reason to believe it's Covid? In short -- it is Covid until proven not, or is it the typical kid bug until it's proven to be Covid??

In most cases, if a child is sick the physician will test for everything else first and then presume COVID if all else is negative. This also depends on exposure and what is going on in the community at the time.

E2. Allergies & Covid -- we know that there are some shared symptoms -- runny nose, coughing. I have children with seasonal allergies; will they need to stay home or demonstrate that they don't have Covid (test)?

If a child has symptoms that mimic COVID it would be best for them to have a note from a physician stating they have allergies and that they feel it is safe for them to be at school with the current symptoms. Most doctors offices can get parents a note for school electronically if needed.

E3. With the list of potential symptoms for Covid growing and mirroring just about every bug that kids get, is every child who is not feeling well going to be sent to the isolation room and treated as Covid? Will every kid who is not feeling well assumed to be Covid? If not, how is it differentiated?

No, COVID will not be assumed with every child that is not feeling well. We will have to have a triage system in place for teachers to determine who really needs to be seen by the RN. For example, mild headaches or stomach aches alone should not be assumed COVID, but a headache with a cough would certainly be something they would need to go to the isolation room with the RN and sent home. We will have a flowchart to help determine how to proceed in each individual case.

E4. Do we need to take the kids to the Pediatrician each time they have a fever (or will they need to get a covid test and test negative each time)?

If just a fever, monitor the fever at home just as you would in normal times. If fever is coupled with other symptoms or lasting a few days I suggest calling the pediatrician and see what they recommend and go from there. ***Should the child display symptoms of COVID, we will need a doctor's note stating the child is safe to return to school. The nurse will be the communicative representative from the school.***

E5. What is the expected protocol for kids to return to school after being sick? Is the 24-hour fever-free rule still the rule of thumb or has it changed?

If the child has a non-COVID illness, then the 24 hour rule still applies. The child must be fever free for at least 24 hours without any fever reducing medication.

F. CARPOOL PROCEDURES (PICK-UP/DROP-OFF)

F1. Can we get more details on how the drop off and pick up procedures/timing will work? What about families with children in multiple grades? -

Our morning carpool for grades K-8 will run from 7:45am-8:05am. During morning drop-off, cars will enter through Lane 1 and stop at one of three temperature check stations. Children will step outside of the car and a member of the St. Luke Staff will take each child's temperature. Children with a temperature of less than 100.4 must then put on their mask, and proceed to their designated entrance. Any child with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent home. The person dropping off the student may not leave until they receive clearance from the St. Luke staff member. All cars will exit the school via Georgetown Pike. Please note, parents will not be permitted to walk their children into school or park in the parking lot during the first trimester. The school will be lenient during the first few weeks of school as we all adjust to this new process. A faculty or staff member will be outside until 8:30am for the first few weeks of school.

Afternoon carpool runs from 3:05-3:20pm using Lanes 1, 2 and 3. Students will be excused directly from their classroom, wearing masks. Children will be sent to Extended Day if not picked up by 3:20pm.

More information regarding Preschool carpool procedures will follow in another communication.

G. SPECIALS (MUSIC, FOREIGN LANGUAGE, LIBRARY, TECHNOLOGY)

G1. How will "specials" be managed? Specifically, will children still do PE, Art, Technology, and Music?

Specials will still be offered to students in a way that maximizes their safety and minimizes class transitions:

- Grades K-2 will have all specials (Library, Technology, Foreign Language, Art) in their homeroom classroom to avoid class transitions. PE will be held outside as much as possible (weather permitting).
- Grades 3-8 will have all specials (Library, Technology, Foreign Language, Art) in their homeroom classrooms. PE will be held outside as much as possible (weather permitting). Class transitions will be made for Math and Foreign Language. (Example: Grade 5 - if 20 students take Spanish and 5 students take French--the French class would move to PSR3 for their lesson.)
- The PSR3 classroom will be disinfected after each class.

G2. For specials with shared equipment - specifically thinking about computers, iPads, musical instruments, gym equipment and similar, how will equipment sharing be managed? Have you given consideration to supplying each student with specific needed equipment?

iPads for lower school students will be rotated based on a pre-defined schedule. Every Middle School student will have their own Chrome Book. In addition, there will be no shared equipment used during PE and recess.

G3. We have read that activities like group singing and certain musical instruments like wind instruments can spread COVID-19. Will these activities be permitted?

There will be no shared instruments during Music class. In addition, there will be no band or private music lessons offered during the first trimester.

G4. Will children still have access to the school library? If so, how will this work?

Mrs. Mayer will be pushing her library lessons into the classroom and will have book carts for each grade.

G5. Will recess be normal or will there be restrictions?

Recess will operate under normal conditions, using our full campus grounds, encouraging active outdoor play as much as possible. Children will not be permitted to bring their own equipment/toys for recess (e.g., footballs, soccer balls, etc.).

H. MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE LOGISTICS

H1. Will middle school students use lockers? If so, how will this be handled?

Only eighth grade students will be permitted to use lockers. Students in grades 6&7 will have cubbies in their homeroom to store their books and supplies.

H2. Will middle schoolers still have the option to choose electives?

Middle School students will still have the option for choosing electives, but no electives will be run during the first trimester. We will keep parents informed if anything changes.

H3. How will the middle school math classes be handled with level crossover?

Any case where cross-over and intermingling of students is involved, classrooms will be disinfected after each use.

I. EXTENDED DAY AND EXTRA-CIRRICULAR ACTIVITIES

I1. Is Morning Care available this year?

Yes, our Morning Care Program will be available this year. Families may drop off children beginning at 7:00am. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Nick Lengyel at nlengyel@stlukeschool.com.

I2. Is Extended Day Care available after school?

Yes. The Extended Day offering will be available after school from (3:00-6:00pm). Extended Day staff and students will be required to wear masks when medically appropriate. Plans are underway to have the Extended Day participants outside as much as possible.

I3. Will CYO sports or any other extra-cirricular activities be available this year?

For Trimester 1, there are no extra-curricular activities planned beyond our Extended Day program. CYO sports fall under the Youth Ministry program of each Parish. Please contact our Director of Youth Ministry, Tiffany Lambert at tlambert@saintlukemclean.org if you have questions.

J. FOOD / NUTRITION

J1. Why are milk and juice being served, but not hot lunches?

Our milk and juice are delivered bi-monthly and in individual containers. We have control of the distribution, which we do not have for our hot lunch programs.

J2. With snack and lunch time in the classrooms, how will food allergies be handled?

Children should bring food that has been prepared at home and will be at their individual desks for lunch with no sharing. If there is a child with a severe food allergy that should be brought to the attention of the RN and a plan will be put in place such as limiting the types of food that can be brought in.