



OUR LADY Queen of Heaven CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Parent FAQ

What happens when a student tests positive for COVID-19?

We will work with our health partners and follow the LA Department of Health guidelines which currently state that all members of that static group (class) will be notified by the school, and the child should be quarantined for 14 days. All parents should closely monitor their child for symptoms. Local health authorities will determine if it is required that the class be closed.

If a certain amount of cases become positive, will the school be shut down?

While there is no guidance on a specific number of cases, the possibility does exist that if there is an outbreak at our school, we may be directed by the local health office to close the school temporarily until the outbreak is under control. This may happen class by class or school wide. Our prayer is that we do not have to close, but if we should be required to do so, we will be ready with a comprehensive plan to teach in a distance model.

How will temperature scanning work?

Students' temperatures will be checked immediately when they exit the car each morning. Following guidelines from the LA Department of Health, temperatures will be taken with a non-touch thermometer that will scan the student's forehead (no other areas, wrist, etc. are allowed to be scanned). If a student has a temperature exceeding 100.3, the parent will pull up to the designated area and the student will be re-checked in 5 minutes. If the temperature still exceeds 100.3, the student may not enter campus.

What is the procedure for walking students in on the first day?

Mindful of the guidelines we are putting into place to keep our students safe for the school year, we are going to make an exception for each students day #1. Parents will be able to walk their child into school on their first day (Monday and Tuesday.) We know that this is an important part of socialization, for our youngest students in particular, and we want to ensure that they feel safe with their new teacher. All safety procedures will be followed. All visitors including parents will need to wear a mask, have their temperature checked at the gate, and sanitize their hands upon entering and leaving. We also ask that parents do not enter the classrooms and do not loiter in the hallways / breezeways.

Will students change classrooms for core classes and enrichments?

We desire to keep the school day as normal as possible for our students, so currently the plan is that all middle school students will travel to their individual classes as scheduled. For all grades, they will rotate to the enrichment classroom, unless that classroom cannot accommodate the class size, at which time those enrichment teachers will be itinerant.

Will dismissal still begin at 3:15 pm for all students?

Dismissal will remain at 3:15 pm for our rolling start on Day 1 and 2 of the school year. We will re-evaluate when we see the dismissal process.

Will there be changes to the P.E. schedule?

We will have altered the P.E schedule to reduce class sizes to the 24 student limit. Separate locations for classes may be used to stay under this quota. We will utilize the divider in the FLCC gym to accommodate two classes.

Will kids be able to bring a treat to share for their birthdays?

Classroom celebrations may continue, however, no guests or parents will be permitted enter classrooms. Parents may drop treats off to the office if students are too young to carry them.

How will music classes operate?

Elementary music classes and middle school choir and band will remain part of the enrichment schedule. As per Department of Health and Department of education guidelines, students may not sing in enclosed spaces during phase 2. Singing is permitted when socially distanced outside. Classes may be brought outside for some activities as long as social distancing is upheld. Teachers will use techniques including closed-mouth humming, and cover topics such as sight reading, music theory and music appreciation. Students will not share music materials and will wear their masks while in music class.

What will social distancing for PK and K look like?

It is generally recognized that PK and K students will have a difficult time understanding the need to avoid contact, keeping their hands away from their mouths and touching surfaces and then their face. This is the premise behind the conventional thinking that masks are generally ineffective for young children. Every effort will be made to mitigate these types of contact, through education, practice in areas of regular handwashing, social distancing during instructional time and the use of solid table dividers. Students will be grouped into static sub groups to minimize contact between peers for center focused activities. That said, all elements of the typical Kindergarten school day including recess, enrichment classes, whole group learning and small group activities will continue with modifications to reduce contact.

Also, is there any plan for the PK and K classes to attend mass in person?

This was one of the processes that required the most amount of evaluation and planning, in an effort to ensure as many students can attend weekly mass as possible. The nature of PK and K students in mass, requires that they be closely monitored making the required spacing for social distancing nearly impossible. Additionally, the number of students attending mass in grades 1-8 will fill the church to its phase II capacity with four weekly masses scheduled. Our desire is that this is a temporary measure, and that we can go back to having regular masses with our PK and K friends without the social distancing requirement, sooner than later. Mass will be recorded for PK and K students to observe in the classroom.

If we have to return to full-time virtual learning, will the cost of tuition decrease?

The financial reality of a non-profit organization like our school is that we operate with the goal of having a \$0.00 balance at the end of each fiscal year. The financial investment that our families make in their child's education is what allows us to stay open. Since the pandemic started, 140 Catholic schools in the United States have closed their doors, a fate we are trying to avoid in light of decreased enrollment. In order to continue to operate and keep our teachers and staff employed we have no choice but to continue to charge full tuition which makes up about 80% of our cost to operate. The other 20% comes from our PTC fundraising efforts, as well as grant funding. We pray that we will be able to have our fundraisers to help sustain our school, but some of these may be in doubt until social gathering rules are relaxed.