

Saint Peter Catholic School
2020-2021 Academic Year
COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

Masks

Will students have to wear masks? If so, when?

Students will be required to wear masks whenever they are on school grounds, with the exception of during strenuous exercise. We are also building “mask breaks” into our daily schedule.

Will the school provide my child with masks?

We have 5 cloth masks for each face to face student and/or students can wear their own.

Will teachers wear masks?

Yes.

Can masks have designs/logos?

Yes, as long as the masks are appropriate for school and are not distracting.

Is a neck gaiter or buff ok for a mask?

No. The Diocese of Raleigh requires students to wear cloth masks with ear loops.

Can my child use a lanyard or something similar to keep their masks connected to them?

Yes.

Can my child use an ear saver with their mask?

Yes.

Can my child use a disposable mask?

Yes.

What happens if we get to school and realize we have forgotten my child's mask?

Your child will need to come to the front office for their health screening. They will be provided with a disposable mask for the day. Students will need to wait until 8 am to get screened at the front office. Please park in the gravel lot on Fourth Street or the church parking lot on Beech Street until 8 am, when you can drive to the front office on Fourth Street, facing east. Following morning announcements and prayers, a staff member from the front office will come to the lined up cars with disposable masks, thermometers and forms for the health screenings.

Please remain in your vehicle until a member of the staff has completed the child's health screening.

We encourage you to keep spare masks in your vehicle.

What if my child refuses to wear a mask?

A child will not be allowed to leave their vehicle without a mask on. We suggest starting to introduce your child to wearing a mask as soon as possible. Perhaps let your child pick out their own masks with their favorite color or character. There are also several kid-friendly videos on YouTube explaining why masks are important.

Daily Health Screenings

What can I expect from the daily health screening?

We have created a digital form to replace the paper forms the school discussed earlier.

A faculty or staff member will come to your car, and ask the following questions:

1. Has your child had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) in the last 14 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or has any health department or health care provider been in contact with you and advised you to quarantine?
2. Does your child have a fever, chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new cough, or new loss of taste or smell?

If the answer to both of these questions is no, the faculty or staff member will take the temperature of the child while they are still in your vehicle with a touchless thermometer.

What could cause my child to not pass the health screening?

If a child does not pass the symptom screening or registers a temperature of 100.4 or higher, they will not pass the health screening.

What happens if my child does not pass the health screening?

The child will not be allowed to exit the vehicle.

Beyond Core Academics

How will lunch be handled?

Lunch will be eaten in classrooms. If a child is buying school lunch, they will be prefixed individually and brought to the classrooms.

Will they be sharing or using equipment in the gym or art room?

Special teachers will be coming to individual classrooms or classes will be held outside. Any equipment used will be sanitized after each use.

If we choose remote learning only for my child, how will special classes work?

Special classes are not available if a family chooses remote learning.

Will the recess equipment be sanitized?

Students will not be allowed on playground equipment.

If we choose the online option will it be an interactive class where our child can ask questions and be a part of the class like it was done in the spring?

Not like it was in the Spring. The teacher will be live streaming and recording their lessons.

Remote learning will be less engaging than those that are face to face.

Will students be sharing supplies as in years past, i.e. community supplies?

Students will have their own supplies. If shared materials such as math manipulatives are used, they will be sanitized before allowing another student to use them.

What are the school's plans for handling if a child tests positive in a classroom? Will only those sitting near the child be notified, or will the entire class be notified, or something else will happen?

The child's class will quarantine at home for 14 days and class instruction will resume remotely for that time period.

How will you handle suspected, presumptive or confirmed cases of Covid-19?

We are following requirements from the NC Department of Health and Human Services. The steps required are:

- Establish a dedicated space for symptomatic individuals that will not be used for other purposes.
- Immediately isolate symptomatic individuals to the designated area at the school, and send them to isolate.
- Ensure symptomatic the student remains under visual supervision of a staff member who is at least 6 feet away. The supervising adult should wear cloth face covering or a surgical cloth face coverings.
- Require the symptomatic person to wear a cloth face covering or a surgical cloth face coverings while waiting to leave the facility.
 - Cloth face coverings should not be placed on:
 - Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious
 - Anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
 - Anyone who cannot tolerate a cloth face covering due to developmental, medical or or behavioral health needs.

- Require delegated school staff who provide direct patient care to wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and perform hand hygiene after removing PPE.
- Implement cleaning and disinfecting procedures following CDC guidelines.
- Have a plan for how to transport an ill student or staff member to medical care.

When can my child come back to school after either having Covid-19 or thinking they had Covid-19?

We are following requirements from the NC Department of Health and Human Services. The steps required are as follows:

- If a person has had a negative COVID-19 test, they can return to school once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines and they have felt well for 24 hours.
- If a person is diagnosed with COVID-19 by a medical professional based on a test or their symptoms or does not get a COVID-19 test but has had symptoms, they should not be at school and should stay home until they are (or a family member if younger child) can answer YES to the following three questions:
 - 1. Has it been at least 10 days since the individual first had symptoms?
 - 2. Has it been at least 24 hours since the individual had a fever (without fever-reducing medicine)?
 - 3. Has there been symptom improvement, including cough and shortness of breath?
- A person can return to school, following normal school policies, if they receive confirmation of an alternative diagnosis from a health care professional that would explain the COVID-19 like symptom(s), once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines and they have felt well for 24 hours.
- Notify local health authorities of confirmed COVID-19 cases among children and staff.
- Ensure that if a person with COVID-19 was in the school setting while infectious, school administrators coordinate with local health officials to notify staff and families immediately while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with FERPA and all other state and federal laws.
- If a student/employee has been diagnosed with COVID-19 but does not have symptoms, they must remain out of school until 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test, assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test.
- A student/employee that has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has been presumed positive by a medical professional due to symptoms, they are not required to have documentation of a negative test in order to return to school.
- A student/employee has been determined to have been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, they must remain out of school for 14 days since the last date

of exposure unless they test positive. In which case, exclusion criteria above would apply. They must complete the full 14 days of quarantine, even if they test negative.

- Provide remote learning options for students unable to be at school due to illness or exposure.

How and when should a family report a positive Covid-19 case to the school?

Please report a positive COVID-19 case to the front office immediately. The number to the school is 252-752-3529.

Is there a surplus of substitute teacher resources available should teachers fall ill?

The Diocese of Raleigh has asked that we use people already employed by our school to serve as substitute teachers, to avoid introducing a new potential contagion into the school. Teacher assistants and other faculty/staff will help when needed.

How are PLC days being handled this year?

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are being shelved for the 2020-21 school year. We want to maximize instructional time to the best of our ability. Therefore, school will no longer dismiss one hour early on the first and third Thursdays of each month.

I love to volunteer at school or eat lunch with my child. Can I still do that?

Parents and volunteers have always been an important part of our school community. In our effort to minimize health risks, the school will limit non-essential visitors and contractors to the buildings, including parent volunteers. We look forward to the day we can welcome our parents and volunteers back on campus!

Is it ok to carpool with other families?

We recommend families not use carpools.

What kind of cleaning procedures will the school do?

Cleaning will take place continuously. Bathrooms and anywhere with high touch surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day. Teachers will disinfect their classroom during the day and at the end of the day. The school will be sprayed with disinfectant spray each Friday.

What will happen if a student does not comply with the mask and/or social distancing requirements?

All teachers have age-appropriate discipline plans in their classrooms. Mask and/or social distancing violations will be treated very seriously. If a child repeatedly breaks these important

rules, they will be sent home for a determined amount of time at the principal's discretion. The amount of time could range from one day to one week.