

Blessed Sacrament School

Dear Parents,

First and foremost, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. On Tuesday, we received the directive from Governor Cooper and the Diocese of Raleigh that schools can reopen for the fall. We know this announcement has been stressful to many, but we also recognize that along with academics, socializing and interacting with peers promotes positive social and emotional development in children.

As we move forward to school opening on August 19, know that the health and safety of our students/staff/families remain our highest priority. We have used the CDC, NC Department of Health and Human Services, and Diocese of Raleigh recommendations/requirements to formulate the following procedures so we lower the COVID-19 risk as much as possible.

General Protocols for the Reopening of Blessed Sacrament School 2020-2021

Cloth masks for anyone entering the school building will be required.

- Little Knights will only need face masks when entering the building or when they are moving outside their classrooms. The school will provide each Little Knight student with a kid-friendly hat shield for their personal use.
- Per NCDHH and diocesan requirements children in grade K-8 will be able to remove their masks when there is social distancing of 6 feet.
- Teachers will plan breaks for children to remove their masks for short periods throughout the school day.

All students must wear a mask when there is movement in the hallway, at PE, recess, and dismissal and whenever situations arise.

Accommodation: If a student has documentation from their health care provider stating they cannot tolerate wearing a cloth face covering due to developmental, behavioral, or medical needs, the school will require the student to wear a plastic face shield which wraps around the sides of the face and extends below the chin.

The masks must be made of cloth and void of any political logo/vulgar language, etc. The mask is part of the school uniform.

Social Distancing

Everyone must adhere to social distancing when there is movement or when stationary. The hallways, stairs, classroom, etc. will have decals reminding students to maintain their distance.

Cleaning

Ms. Nora and her crew, (two/three people) will be cleaning the school throughout the day, especially the bathrooms and highly touched areas such as the banisters, door knobs, etc. Each classroom and other areas will be equipped with a mounted hand sanitizer (on back order-should arrive in August). Teachers will plan frequent hand-washing breaks throughout the day.

School Arrival

Morning Drop-off will begin at 7:10

1. Every morning, parents must have a signed attestation (sample is uploaded) sheet for **each** child. There are a series of questions concerning symptoms/exposure to COVID-19. Every Friday in your child's yellow take home folder, there will be five attestation sheets for the week. We cannot allow your child to enter the building without the sheet.
2. Once the teacher/designee collects the sheet, your child's temperature will be screened by a staff/school designee who has been trained by the school administrator. A digital no touch forehead thermometer will be used. Anyone with a fever of 100.4 will need to go home. Parents may not take their child's temperature and report it to the school.
3. **Little Knights and K** will be dropped off/screened by the stairs near the Little Knights' playground.
4. **1st-4th** will be dropped off/screened at the front door.
5. **Middle School** will be dropped off/screened at the café door which is located in the parking lot. Please do not have students walk across the parking lot.
6. If there are multiple children from different grades in the car, they should be dropped off at the youngest child's location.
7. Students arriving between 7:10 and 7:30 and after they are screened will proceed to the MPR, and sit down. (social distancing). At 7:30 they will be dismissed by class to their homeroom.
8. Students arriving between 7:30-7:45 and after they are screened will go directly to their homeroom.
9. At 7:50, there will be flag-raising via the phone.

Any student that arrives after 7:45, must be screened at the front door. Parents will accompany their child to the door. Mrs. Libera/Mrs. Gomez will collect the attestation sheet and take the child's temperature. We will make sure the student gets to class.

We ask for your patience at drop-off as we adjust to this new procedure. If you forget your attestation sheet, we will have extras, however, it will slow us down. Thank you for your cooperation.

Classes

There will be the possibility that students will use different classrooms (not teachers) to make sure social distancing is maintained.

All classes will be self-contained. The students will move to:

Art- Classroom will be wiped down after every use.

Chorus- For now, there will be no singing. Mrs. Spradlin will be creative

7th and 8th Math Classes

PE- It will be outside, weather-permitting. If children are outside and can maintain 6 ft. apart, they can remove their masks.

Elementary and MS Science- Students will go to the lab as our curriculum is based on students interacting. Precautions will be taken.

Teachers will have the option to use the outdoors as a classroom setting.

Little Knights

The BSS Little Knights program is looking forward to working with our students this school year. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, there are a few changes to ensure the safety and well-being of everyone. Drop off will be at the door closest to our Little Knights playground. We will sign the student in, take their temperature, wash hands or use hand sanitizer, then escort the child to their class. We ask that students wear a mask upon arrival. They are not required to wear them all day and we will provide individual age appropriate hats with face shields they can wear throughout the day, especially to and from the classroom to outside or to the bathrooms. Our classroom sinks allow for frequent hand washing, and we will have hand sanitizer available throughout the day. We will have a few changes to our program for safety, but we will continue to provide the high quality academic and fine motor skill opportunities parents have come to expect at Blessed Sacrament School.

Enrichments

We will continue to have Art, Chorus, Coding, PE, and Spanish.

Mass

There will be Mass or a prayer service on Fridays. Mass might be K-4 one week and MS another week. Little Knights will join us later in the year.

Bathrooms- Little Knights-4th Grade

Teachers/Assistants will walk students to the bathroom.

-1st and 2nd Grade will use the downstairs learning lab bathrooms

- MS students will go one at a time.

Scheduled bathroom breaks will be coordinated and teachers will let the office know when bathroom use is finished so they can wipe down.

Fruit Breaks/Water

Fruit breaks will be scheduled. No sharing of food. All students must bring water/a water bottle as students will not be allowed to use the water fountains. Teachers will talk to the students about water bottles in the classroom especially when they are using their devices.

Café: Lunch Times

Once again, we will be using MYHOTLUNCHBOX

Little Knights- Lunch Time/Location to Be Determined in August. Parents will be notified of lunch times.

K-4th- 11:30-12:00 Lunch; 12:00-12:30 Recess

Classes will be eating in the café on a rotating basis. Other times, they will eat in the classroom or if it is a nice day, on the deck. We will make sure social distancing is enforced.

MS- 12:30-1:00 Lunch; 1:00-1:20 Recess

Classes will be eating in the café on a rotating basis. Other times, they will eat in the classroom or if it is a nice day, on the deck. We will make sure social distancing is enforced.

We ask that no lunches be dropped off until Tuesday, September 8. We want to ensure everything is running smoothly. After September 8, if you are dropping off a lunch, there will be a table to the left of the front door to place the lunch. Please make sure lunches are clearly labeled.

Recess

Each class must play with their own peers. They will be given their own separate bag with different equipment to use. Teachers will schedule a rotation of different areas where students can play each day. For example, 2nd grade can use the swings on Tuesday. Then they will be wiped down for the next recess break. Masks must be worn outside, and classes must play with the members of only their class.

Children are very creative when it comes to playing recess games. If children are outside and can maintain 6 ft. apart, they can remove their masks.

Dismissal:

Prayer will begin promptly at 2:50 in each classroom.

During prayer, **Little Knights** will be moving to the café using the front door and will sit on the benches/stairs. Little Knights going to afterschool will be dropped off in the afterschool room.

K-2 students will sit on the café floor. Kindergarten students who stay in afterschool will be dropped off before proceeding to the café.

3rd and 4th graders will go downstairs by the closest staircase, out the front door, and sit on the café benches (where 5th-6th sat last year).

5th graders will come downstairs and sit in the MPR; then **6th**, then **7th**. There will be assigned seating.

8th graders will sit on the front stairs of the school. They will be given assigned seating.

We will make sure social distancing is enforced.

Afterschool- Locations may change once we know the numbers in after school

Afterschool Room- 3 and 4 years olds separated

Upstairs- Music Room- Kindergarten

MPR- 1st- 3rd Separated at tables by class

Café- 4th- 8th Separated at tables by class

A pre-packaged snack/drink will be provided.

Distance Learning

Blessed Sacrament School will offer distance learning for grades even though we are operating onsite. If your family believes this is the best option for your child's education at this time, please review the following guidelines.

General Guidelines

1. Student will follow the routine of the class schedule.
2. Student must attend class every day via Google Meet
3. Student will be required to do the work as if they are physically in the building.

A more extensive guideline/procedure is being formulated when teachers met on Monday, July 20.

Visitors

At this time, we are limiting the number of people who enter our school. If it is necessary for the visitor to enter the building, the visitor should be screened and only allowed access to the main office. In the event a visitor is allowed access to the main office, they must complete an attestation and submit to a temperature screening.

Parents needing to pick up their child before dismissal, will need to send a note/email to the teacher. When you arrive, please call the office. School staff will accompany your child to the car so you can sign-out. Early dismissal will be between 2:25-2:40. We will not be able to release a student after 2:40.

If you need to make payments, a specific day/time will be set up so you can enter the office. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Covid-19 Outbreak

In the event of a positive case, there are procedures in our guidelines, that will be shared in the event of a positive case. Please see the uploaded flow chart for information.

Outside of School Activities

Blessed Sacrament School cannot dictate what activities families can do outside of school. Please be conscientious of your actions so we can avoid the spread of the virus in our school community.

Please know this is a flexible document that will change as we get more information. Our goals are to make sure that your children get back to school, learn, laugh, and have fun being kids, while keeping the health and safety of our students, staff, and families in the forefront.

Thank you for beginning/continuing your child's educational journey with BSS! Can't wait to see you soon. This year as we celebrate our 85th birthday, we will continue to be "Knight Strong."

In Christ,
Mrs. Gomez and Faculty/Staff of BSS