



COVID 19 Reopening Plan
For the 2020-2021 School Year
St. Benedict School
3980 Main Street
Amherst, N.Y. 14226

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Updated: October 21, 2021

Name and title of person submitting plan: MaryAlice Bagwell, Principal
Updated with Mrs. Izzo, school nurse.

Please note that we are following NYS guidelines and it is an evolving document

Building Entry:

- Student drop-off points will be established and communicated to families.
- Parents should not enter the building at drop off times.
- Parents, visitors, and vendors will be discouraged from entering the building.
- Faculty will be assigned to the 2 doors
- Students will enter in a staggered, controlled manner and practice social distancing.
- Automatic Hand sanitizer stations will be provided at all doors.
- Anyone entering the building (students, faculty, and staff) will receive a temperature check. Families completed a beginning year health questionnaire with an affirmation of their student's daily health.

- Anyone with a temperature of 100 degrees F. or above will be denied entry to the school.
- All students and personnel residing in the same home as a positively tested Covid-19 patient will be excluded from the building until the Mandated Health Department Quarantine has been completed.

Masks

- All persons within our building will wear a mask. Extra masks will be provided as needed.
- Students and Faculty should arrive and depart the building wearing masks.
- Students and staff will be allowed to remove masks while eating.
- All students will be allowed mask breaks
- Students, Faculty, and Staff that refuse to wear a mask will be denied entry to the building.
- All kitchen staff and custodial staff will comply with mask guidelines.

Disinfection

- Hand sanitizers are available at all entrances, classrooms, cafeteria, and bathrooms.
- Acceptable cleaners and wipes will also be available for these areas.
- Faculty and Staff will be reminded to wash hands frequently.

Staffing

- All students are instructed to not come to school if they are experiencing Covid like symptoms.
- All faculty will be either vaccinated or tested weekly. (At time of update all faculty members are vaccinated)

Use of Facilities

- Any organization that is sharing the use of the facility will adhere to all Covid Protocols.

Classrooms

- Class sizes 15-17 students
- Desks will be placed at least 3 feet apart

Cafeteria and Snacks

- PreK 3 and 4 students will eat in their classrooms
- One classroom in Middle School will eat in their classroom daily to lessen lunchroom congestion
- Students that eat in the cafeteria will sit 4 to a table and use partitions.
- Extra tables were added to accommodate no more than 4 students to a table
- Cafeteria tables will be sanitized between all three lunch periods.
- Condiments will be single use.
- Handwashing must take place before and after meals and snacks.
- Food sharing will not be allowed.
- All birthday treats must be individually packaged and store-bought.
- Students and staff will be allowed to remove masks while eating.

Gymnasium

- Students will have Physical Education classes outside as weather allows.
- Students will wear their masks in P.E. class.

Worship

- Following the guidelines for churches, students will attend weekly Mass, practice social distancing and wearing masks. The rest of the school will participate in Mass via Zoom from their classrooms.
- A schedule will be made to assure students are able to participate in Mass in person and from their classrooms. The school is divided up so students attend mass once every 3 Thursdays on a rotating basis.
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Outdoor play spaces

- Playground will be used in compliance with existing New York State Department of Health Guidelines.
- Playgrounds will be utilized by small groups at any given time.
- Students will sanitize their hands when returning from the playground.

Part Two: Monitoring the Health of Students, Faculty, and Staff

- The COVID coordinator is MaryKay Izzo MI
- Mrs. Izzo will complete the New York State DOH COVID Report Daily.
- All staff and parents will be advised of opening plans and protocol including notifying the coordinator of any covid symptoms
- Updated plan will be posted on the school website
- Temperature checks performed on all students entering the building each day.
- Parents will not be allowed in the building except for emergency reasons.
- Anyone with a temp of 100 or over and/or exhibiting other COVID symptoms will be moved to an alternative room to quarantine until they can be picked up and taken to a COVID testing site.
- The person monitoring them will wear a mask and gloves.
- Room to be sanitized after their departure.
- Any person sent for a test may not return to school until they present documentation of a negative test or note from a healthcare provider stating symptoms are not covid related and symptoms have resolved.
- If positive, they must quarantine for 10 days and be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication prior to return.
- School work will be provided for during the quarantine period. This may be through a live stream or in a packet.
- If a person tests positive, contract tracing will be done to gather data and notify the population that they were in contact with.
- All families and staff will be asked to supply their own cloth masks and wash them at home.
- A second cloth mask will be provided by the families and kept at school.
- Disposable masks will be available if someone doesn't have one.

Hygiene Plan

- A brief lesson on personal hygiene and the importance of proper handwashing, cough and sneeze etiquette will be conducted.
- Extra supplies of tissues, gloves, and hand sanitizer will be available in all instructional areas.
- Handwashing will be expected after all visits to the gym and playground, before and after meals and snacks, and after lavatory visits. Breaks for handwashing will be encouraged as appropriate.
- Reminder posters regarding hand washing, cough, and sneeze etiquette will be displayed in lavatories and instructional areas.
- Students and staff should bring a personal labeled water bottle filled from home. Water bottles may be refilled if needed from the water stations in the building.

Cleaning and Building Care

- Staff will routinely wipe down high touch areas (door handles, switch plates, etc.)
- Disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizer, and gloves will be available in all instruction, work, and office areas.
- Ongoing cleaning of lavatories during the school day. Adequate amounts of soap and paper towels will be provided.
- Nightly deep cleaning and sanitation of the school with particular attention paid to all lavatories and instructional areas.

Instructional Considerations

- Desks and tables used by multiple students must be cleaned between classes.
- Sharing of crayons, pens, pencils, markers, scissors, etc will be prohibited.
- Each student should have their own labeled box of supplies.
- PE will take place outdoors as much as possible.

Attendance Tracking

- Parents will be expected to report all student absences and the reason for the absence to the nurse and school office secretary.
- There will be increased monitoring of absences by the school office.

Dismissal

- Students will be dismissed from their classrooms in staggered times.
- Students will exit the building with their siblings, together, regardless of grade levels. For example an 8th grade and Prek 4 student will exit together.
- Appropriate Bus protocol for seating will be followed.

Quality Control

- The above policies will be continuously reinforced through checklist and monitoring, signage, reminders, and spot checks.
- Adjustments or changes will be made based on data.

Part Four: Shutdown

Serious Outbreak

- We will shutdown immediately if a substantial outbreak occurs at St. Benedict School.
- The percentage that is deemed substantial will be determined by the CDC, Department of Health or Erie County

Government Agency

- If Governor Hochul determines that a statewide shutdown is necessary, St. Benedict School will comply.

Continuation of Instruction

- If school closes we will go to Distance Learning
- Teachers will use Google Classroom to streamline assignments
- All students will continue to complete N.Y. State Common Core Curriculum
- Faculty will use a variety of software platforms to provide direct instruction as well as record content videos.
- Students in 3rd-8th grade will have devices to take home and keep during distance learning.
- St. Benedict School will continue to do online instruction for as long as it is needed.
- If this occurs- all previously stated protocol's for health and safety will be adhered to.