



Blessed Sacrament School

DRAFT School Reentry Plans 2020-2021

Planning Vision

Blessed Sacrament School is committed to re-opening our school with the safety of our students, faculty, and family at the forefront of all decision making. We have worked with our reentry committee, faculty, and families to produce a draft plan for each scenario that takes into account the EEC and DESE guidelines while ensuring that the unique needs of our community are taken into account. This plan is written in accordance to the most recent CDC, DESE, and EEC guidelines as of 7/22/2020. This plan will continue to change as the standards and situations change over time. We will update the community on any changes in guidelines and in planning as the year progresses.

Guidelines

- EEC Guidelines:
 - Apply to Preschool and PK classrooms
 - The guidelines discussed in this plan for grades PS/PK follow the most current EEC guidelines
 - It is important to remember that every decision we are making is based on the current guidelines and is subject to change

- We will always notify the community of a change to the guidelines and anticipate there will be changes and amendments as we move through the opening of school
- DESE Guidelines for grades K-8:
 - The most up to date DESE Guidelines were released in late June for grades K-8
 - The guidelines discussed later in this plan are the most up to date version
 - DESE will be continuing to amend the guidelines over the course of the summer
 - It is important to remember that every decision we are making is based on the current guidelines and is subject to change
 - We will always notify the community of a change to the guidelines and anticipate there will be changes and amendments as we move through the opening of school

In School Plan

- COVID 19 Health Protocols
 - Some symptoms of COVID-19 are the same as flu or a bad cold- please do not assume it is another condition. When in doubt, STAY HOME.
 - Parents are our first line of defense, please check your child carefully EVERY day for the following symptoms. Please do NOT come to school if your child has any of the symptoms below:
 - Fever (temperature of 100°F or higher), chills or shaking chills
 - Cough (not due to other known cause)
 - Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Headache *when in combination with other symptoms*
 - Muscle aches or body aches
 - Nausea, Vomiting, or diarrhea
 - Fatigue, *when in combination with other symptoms*
 - Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes such as allergies)*when in combination with other symptoms*
- If staff or students have any of these symptoms, they must get a test for active COVID-19 infection prior to returning to school. (per guidelines dated 07/17/2020**
- Specific protocols for possible/positive COVID-19 vary based on scenarios but the following are common elements for each possible COVID-19 scenario:
 - Evaluate symptoms
 - Separate from others
 - Notify close contacts. *DPH defines close contact as being within 6 feet of a person for at least 10-15 minutes or having direct contact with*

infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g. being coughed on) while not wearing recommended PPE.

- Clean and disinfect spaces visited or used by the person in question
- Test for COVID-19 *and stay home while awaiting test results*
- Key actions for individual with positive COVID-19 test
 - Monitor symptoms
 - Remain at home (except to get medical care) for at least 10 days ***and*** until at least 3 days have passed with no fever and with improvement in other symptoms.
 - Notify personal close contacts
 - Isolate as much as possible being especially careful around elderly and immunocompromised individuals.
 - The affected student's parent or caregiver or the staff member should inform the school nurse (BSS designated COVID-19 school lead) that the individual has tested positive for COVID-19 to allow for management of close contacts.
 - Answer the call from the local board of health or Massachusetts Community Tracing Collaborative to help identify close contacts to help prevent transmission
 - Secure a release from contact tracers (local board of health or Community Tracing Collaborative) for return to school when appropriate
- Key actions for symptomatic individuals:
 - Get tested and remain at home while awaiting results
 - *If test is negative-* may return to school after 24 hours symptom free
 - *If test is positive-* Remain at home (except to get medical care), monitor symptoms, notify the COVID-19 school lead person, (at BSS is the school nurse), notify personal close contacts, assist the school in contact tracing efforts, and answer the calls from local board of health or MA Community Tracing Collaborative. Most people with relatively mild illness will need to stay in self isolation for at least 10 days ***and*** until at least 3 days have passed with no fever and improvement in other symptoms.
 - *If not tested-* remain in self isolation for 14 days from onset of symptom
- Key actions for individuals exposed to a COVID-19 positive person:
 - If at home when they learn about close contact with a person who tested positive, they should remain at home and notify the school
 - If they are in school when this is discovered they should be masked for the remainder of the day (including K and Grade 1 students) and adhere to strict physical distancing for the remainder of the day. Caregivers may dismiss prior to the end of the day. Dismissal at the end of the day cannot be via bus.

- Subsequently, this individual should remain at home and be tested 4 or 5 days after their last exposure to the person who is positive. (testing too early often results in false negatives)
 - Test results should be treated in the same manner as noted above for symptomatic individuals
- When notified of a positive COVID-19 test result, the COVID-19 lead (BSS school nurse) will:
 - Notify school leadership, school medical/board of health point of contact, building maintenance and management and any bus company involved.
 - Determine whether the student or staff member was on the premises during the time frame that started two days prior to symptom onset (or testing positive if asymptomatic) until the time of isolation.
 - If so, promptly close off areas visited by the COVID-19 positive individual until such areas can be cleaned and disinfected, if not already done so.
 - Promptly arrange to clean and disinfect the classroom and other facilities visited by the individual, if not already done so.
 - Arrange for communication to be sent to other families in the student or staff members class (or cohort) that there has been a positive test without naming the individual who tested positive.
 - Communication will inform that their student may have been within 6 feet of a person with a positive test and are considered “close contact” and therefore should be tested and isolate while awaiting results
- If the school finds out about the original COVID-19 positive test during the school day when the rest of the cohort is in class:
 - Close contacts will be identified quickly, students will continue to wear a mask (including K and grade 1 students) and families will be notified. Students may be dismissed to caregivers but may also complete the day (per 7/17/20 guideline updates), wearing masks and adhering to strict physical distancing. They cannot travel home via bus.
 - Close contacts should not come back to school after dismissal until they have received results of testing (or elected to self quarantine for 14 days) and are asked to communicate their test results to the school.
 - Caregivers and students as well as staff should wear masks, wash hands and change clothing upon arriving home as a precaution.
- Close contact information:
 - DPH defines close contact as being within 6 feet of a person for at least 10-15 minutes or having direct contact with infectious secretions of a

COVID-19 case (e.g. being coughed on) while not wearing recommended PPE.

- Current DPH guidance is that all close contacts of someone who tests positive for COVID-19 should be tested.
 - Any close contact individual who does not wish to be tested should instead quarantine for 14 days and until asymptomatic.
 - Close contacts should isolate at home while awaiting test results. Ability to mask is critical, so if close contact cannot mask or is K-1 and not masking, they should not return to school for 14 days.
 - In order to return to school, close contacts need one negative test result and not be showing any COVID-19 symptoms, or if they should have quarantined at home for 14 days.
- ***Tests performed too early can be falsely negative, ideally the test should be performed no sooner than 4 or 5 days after the last contact with the person who tested positive***
 - Teachers will summon the nurse for students presenting with complaints or symptoms of illness.
 - Wearing the appropriate PPE, the nurse will assess students for illness and/or symptoms of COVID-19 and accompany students to the health office or the care and comfort room depending upon assessment of needs.
 - The care and comfort room is a separate ventilated space to allow students who are ill to await prompt pickup by an authorized adult.
 - Students will be supervised in this area and persons supervising will wear a KN95 mask with face shield or goggles and maintain a 6 foot distance.
 - Masks are strictly required in this space, even for students in kindergarten and Grade 1 and physical distance of 6 feet is required if more than one student is in the room.
 - Hand washing facilities or hand sanitizer needs to be used when entering or leaving this space, as well as before and after eating.
 - If food or drink must be consumed before a student is picked up, the student should be walked outside to consume food or drink if possible due to strict mask policy in this room. If a student is unable to wear a mask, there should be no other student in this room.
 - Parents or caregivers coming to dismiss a student must wear a mask
 - Parents will be contacted to dismiss any student with symptoms of illness for follow up with their primary care physician and for testing as deemed necessary.
 - All routine daily medications will be brought to the student and administered in a discreet location, as ordered. Confidentiality will be maintained as much as possible.
 - Students with asthma are asked to provide an inhaler *with spacer* to be kept in the health office.

- Nebulizer treatments are not permitted in the school setting during COVID-19 due to risk associated with aerosolizing.

- Classroom Space
 - PS/PK
 - All PS and PK classrooms will have a 1:10 (teacher/student) ratio
 - The early childhood wing will be reconfigured to meet the spacing needs of PS/PK.
 - An additional PK room will be formed using non-permanent walls in the BSS cafeteria
 - All rooms will be outfitted to meet the most up to date EEC guidelines
 - The courtyard will be used as an outdoor space for breaks and recesses

 - K-8

From the DESE Guidelines:
“To the extent possible, aim for desks to be spaced six feet apart (but no fewer than three feet apart) and facing the same direction. Again, schools should seek to maximize physical distance between desks within their physical and operational constraints”

 - Every classroom at BSS has the space to comply with the current standard of 6ft between desks
 - Classroom space and availability will be capped as to ensure all desks have the optimum of 6ft of space at all times
 - Should the standards change we will adapt space as much as possible until our **hybrid** plan will need to be enacted

- Masks Guidelines
 - PS/PK
 - EEC Guidelines will not take a punitive approach to enforcing use of masks or face coverings
 - Children aged 2 to 5 may wear a mask at the discretion of their parents, to be determined in partnership with the provider.
 - We request 2 masks be sent with children to child care daily, stored in a clearly labeled paper bag
 - We ask that families wash used masks after every use either by hand (using 4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of water) or in a washing machine on the warmest setting appropriate

- K-8

From the DESE Guidelines:

“Students in grade 2 and above are required to wear a mask/face covering that covers their nose and mouth. Students in kindergarten and grade 1 should be encouraged to wear a mask/face covering. Face shields may be an option for those students with medical, behavioral, or other challenges who are unable to wear masks/face coverings”

- Younger students are exempt from this mandate but must maintain social distancing.
- We ask that all students bring 2 clean masks to school each day
- We ask that families wash used masks after every use either by hand (using 4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of water) or in a washing machine on the warmest setting appropriate
- Masks do not have to be “uniform” students may wear any mask they choose as long as they are appropriate. No bandanas or scarves please.
- Teachers and staff must wear masks in the building and while entering and exiting.
- The DESE guidelines mandate two “mask breaks” per child a day

- Cleaning/Hygiene

- PS - 8th Grade

- Cleaning Protocols

- Rooms cleaned and disinfected every evening
- Cleaning of all surfaces between every class period
- BSS has purchased a fogger to ensure areas of the building and campus can be disinfected as needed and the whole building can be disinfected every evening
- Bathrooms will be cleaned frequently throughout the day
- All cleaning products purchased have been recommended for schools by DESE and CSO.

- Hygiene Protocols

- BSS has purchased all recommended PPE for compliance with the board of health
- Handwashing protocols taught to all children
- Handwashing schedules will be built into the school day for all students
- Hand sanitizer stations in each room and at each point of entry
- Teachers are working on classroom systems and creating supply lists that allow for individual use of items to limit sharing

- In-Building Cohorts

From the DESE Guidelines:

“The state recommends students should remain with a select group (EX: classroom or grade level) to mitigate cross contamination. This is acknowledged as not entirely possible in a middle school setting where students have different classes, schools are encouraged to plan accordingly for different grades”

- PS - 8th Grade

- The BSS re-entry committee has chosen to cohort students by grade level. EX: 3rd grade students will only be able to move between the two 3rd grade rooms.
- Middle School students will also be cohorted by grade and (to begin the year) will only move between two classrooms. Middle school teachers will move from class to class
- Each wing of the school will be looked at as a larger cohort group

- Schedules/Lunch/Recess

- PS - 8th Grade

- A working group of grade level teachers are working with administration on scheduling scenarios
- Lunch will be in the classrooms to start the year
 - Students can eat at desks without masks due to 6ft of distance
 - We are working out a way to provide a limited lunch program
- Recess and masks breaks will be built into the schedule and students will be going outside as much as possible - please provide warm winter gear daily
- Specials will be provided with one specialist being assigned to each of the three wings for a two week period
- Time in the school day will be given to social/emotional well being in all grades

- Drop off/Pick up

- PS - 8th Grade

- The goal is to have three entrances for the school next year to ensure distancing and no mixing between cohorts
 - Gym Entrance - Possible PK room and grades 1-3
 - Side entrance adjacent to East St. - Middle School, Grades 4 and 5
 - Debbie's Way Door - All PS, two PK rooms, and Kindergarten
- We will be working on a timeline of drop off and pick up times as we move into August

- Parents (at this point) are not allowed into the building
 - We will work to ensure we orient everyone to procedures as they evolve over the summer
 - Our goal is to ensure safety while also understanding the need for parents and students to feel comfortable as they enter BSS
 - We will have more information to share on drop off/pick up as we draw closer to the start of the year
 - There will be no morning assembly to start the school year (it will return someday!)
- Resource Services- In person learning (while meeting current health and safety requirements)
 - There will be a designated space in each cohort to receive resource support
 - Resource staff will adhere to current health and safety requirements when assisting in a classroom.
 - In a remote setting instruction and services will be provided.
- Extracurricular Activities/Sports/Events
 - The BSS Parent Collaborative has been working diligently to come up with community events with this in mind
 - We will be working with our sports leagues on which sports may be permissible
 - Clubs and extracurriculars will all be evaluated given the guidelines
- Remote Option for Students
 - Students who cannot join a regular classroom due to quarantine requirements or underlying conditions will have the opportunity to participate in the regular lessons during the school day remotely via live streaming from the classroom
 - Please reach out to school administration for more details on this option

Hybrid Plan

- A Hybrid plan will be put into effect if the state or local board of health restricts the total occupancy of the building to a number less than we are able to hold safely with the DESE guidelines
- The student body grades PS-8 would be broken up into two cohorts (A/B)
- The A and B cohorts would come into the building at alternate times while the other cohort would then be remote
- The BSS community will give feedback on four options:

- A/B cohorts alternate by day (EX: Monday the A cohort attends live and B is remote)
 - A/B cohorts alternate every two days (EX: Monday/Tuesday the A cohort attends live while the B cohort learns remotely, then all learn remote on Wednesday to clean the school, Thursday/Friday the B cohort attends live while the A cohort learns remotely)
 - A/B cohorts alternate by week (EX: B cohort is live for a week while A cohort is remote)
 - A/B cohorts come in for a half day each (EX: A cohort attends live from 8-12 then B cohort attends from 2-6 with a deep cleaning in between)
- The option that is most preferable to the community will be the chosen option should the school go remote
 - The school will make every attempt to meet the spacing guidelines so early childhood can be live for a full amount of time unless the school is totally shut down via a governmental order

Remote Learning Plan

- We continue to build our remote learning capabilities at BSS gained through our remote experiences last spring
- Foundations of our Remote Learning Plan:
 - Academic Rigor (grades will be given, attendance taken)
 - SeeSaw will be used in grades PS - 2
 - Google Classroom will be used in grades 3-8
 - Platforms and remote learning expectations will be consistent and planned ahead of time all are on the same page before we go remote.
- Remote learning will consist of a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning.
 - Synchronous learning occurs when all students are engaging in learning at the same time. At BSS, this is primarily done through Zoom, but we will explore Google hangouts and other platforms.
 - Asynchronous learning occurs when students are learning independently, at their own pace without direct teacher interaction. At BSS, this could consist of learning through prerecorded video (either teacher created or public), discussion boards, or other assignments. For example, a teacher may assign students to watch a prerecorded or public video and then engage in a reflection on a discussion board with other students

- Remote schedules
 - Monday - Synchronous Learning during the day for each grade
 - Tuesday - Synchronous Learning during the day for each grade
 - Wednesday - Asynchronous learning, faculty meetings, students having time to catch up on assignments
 - Thursday - Synchronous Learning during the day for each grade
 - Friday - Synchronous learning during the day for each grade

- Administration and teachers will be forming a detailed daily schedule and specific classroom/middle school class zoom schedule to be shared with students and parents at the beginning of the year so all understand what is expected should the school quickly transition to remote learning

- If the year begins with in person instruction teachers will use the digital platforms in their classrooms to ensure comfort in their use for students and parents