

## FAQ

### Commonly Asked Questions

### EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

#### **Will ECP be opening in the September?**

We fully expect to open our school for in-person learning for all students as originally scheduled. We will be incorporating new procedures based on the recommendations issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Archdiocese of Boston Catholic Schools Office.

#### **What cleaning measures are you taking to keep the children safe?**

In March of 2020, our cleaning crew immediately started to empty classrooms, strip floors, and sterilize all rooms. This process has been completed and daily cleaning will continue to take place during the school year using a 360-degree misting sterilizer system. Classrooms, toys, and all high traffic areas will be sterilized at the end of each day. Throughout the day teachers will be cleaning their classrooms with disinfectant wipes. Teachers will also have access to spray cleaners that will be used in shared spaces such as bathrooms. Bathrooms will be cleaned in between class use.

\*Please note, that especially during this time, to limit contact with your child, we are advising that your child be independent in their potty skills. This includes, the process of going and washing. We do not advise the use of pull-ups at this time.

#### **Will my child have to wear a mask?**

Upon arrival to school your child will have to wear a mask, but once in the classroom your child will be allowed to remove his/her mask. The school will have mask zones, such as the hallways and bathrooms where children will be asked to wear their masks. All teachers and staff will wear masks throughout the day.

#### **What will the classrooms look like?**

Our classrooms will still be warm and inviting, with bright walls, wall decorations, and toys. We have removed all rugged areas from the building; instead students will find fun decals on the floors that will help them with spacing during group time. We will still be using our tables and chairs, though they will be spaced out differently. Classrooms will have simple barriers, such as bookcases, to break up the class space into smaller cohorts to limit the number of students in groups within the classroom.

#### **Will drop off and pick up procedures be the same?**

You will still have the opportunity to walk your child to the building and greet your child's teacher each morning. In adhering to guidelines, we are trying to limit the amount of adults in our building therefore your child will be greeted by his/her teacher each morning in the parking lot outside our school and the teachers will walk the students in each morning. Outdoor morning drop off **for ALL ECP students** will be at **8:15 am**. All students must arrive by then, so they can walk in with their teacher and classmates.

Pick up procedures will be the same as in the past, where teachers will walk students out to the parking lot to meet their parents (12:30 for half day students, by 2:30 for full day students). During drop off and pick up all students and adults must wear masks to keep yourselves and others safe.

#### **Will there be a health screening at drop off?**

We will not be conducting health screenings upon arrival at school, but to ensure the safety of all students and staff we are kindly asking parents to take a temperature screening at home before arriving at school. It is of utmost importance that you do not send your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms: cough, fever, headache, or upset stomach. We are also asking that no fever

reducing medication be given the morning of school. Upon arrival at school and before entering the school building children will sanitize their hands.

If your child is to become ill at school we will keep them separated from other students until pick up. If your child displays any signs of COVID-19 they will need a doctor's note to return to school.

### **Will my child still have snack and lunch?**

Your child will still have the opportunity to enjoy snack and lunch with their peers and teacher. To simplify this process and to reduce contact we are asking that you please send in a light, simple lunch that your child can enjoy; such as a sandwich, cheese and crackers, cut up fruit. Please avoid meals that need to be heated in a microwave or storage containers that may be difficult for your little ones to open and close on their own. Of course the teachers are always there to help, but to reduce contact it is best if children are capable of serving themselves. A great way to practice those self-help skills they learn in PK! Also, we are asking that only easy-to-open water bottles be sent in. They can be filled with any liquid your child enjoys. Please avoid juice boxes, Capri suns etc. that need to be opened by an adult.

### **Will there be before and after school?**

School will begin at 8:15 for ALL ECP students. We are currently working on the after school program set to open in September. We will keep you up to date with further information.

### **Will we receive additional information and updates?**

Yes, we will continue to keep you updated every step of the way as we receive additional guidance from the Commonwealth and/or RCAB Catholic Schools Office. In the meantime, please feel free to contact [Dr. Sullivan](#) or [Mrs. Flynn](#) at 781-245-2081 or Mrs. Hinds at 781-245-0796 or email at [ahinds@stjosephschoolwakefield.org](mailto:ahinds@stjosephschoolwakefield.org) with any questions.

Please also read FAQ's posted for the upper school. You can find these on the school website.