

ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS



Holy Angels
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
A NOTRE DAME ACE ACADEMY

Holy Angels Catholic School
Indianapolis, Indiana

*COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY
RE-ENTRY PLAN & FAQ's
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR*

Our Mission: *Holy Angels Catholic School, a Notre Dame ACE Academy, will form scholars and Saints by providing a challenging, faith-filled, educational experience that serves as the foundation for a life lived in service to Jesus by educating children to Seek, Persist, Excel, Love, and Serve in our Church, School, and Community in order to reach our goals of College and Heaven.*

“Everything has suddenly changed. What we previously took for granted seems to be uncertain: the way we relate with others at work, how we manage our emotions, study, recreation, prayer, even the possibility of attending Mass.....”

*-Pope Francis
Strong in the Face of Tribulations:*



ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS

The Church in Central and Southern Indiana

Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis believe:

- in fostering positive relationships that exemplify the love of God;
- that Catholic school communities are enriched by the unique image and likeness of God that is present in each individual;
- that formation best occurs within faith-filled cultures of learning that are inclusive;
- that parents are the primary educators of each young person and that it is the responsibility of Catholic schools to support the domestic church;
- that Catholic schools are part of the evangelizing mission of the Church, forming disciples through the intentional integration of faith, culture, and life; and
- that “excellence” is defined by and achieved through the growth and holistic development – spiritual, intellectual/academic, social, emotional, and physical – of the individual within the context of community.

Holy Angels Catholic School will take every precaution possible to protect scholars and adults. Heightened protocols related to cleaning and sanitization are in place. Expectations of proper handwashing, physical distancing to the extent possible, and minimal sharing of resources to the extent possible will be enforced. Guidance from IDOE, CDC, and local authorities will be employed as best fits our Catholic school community as determined by administration. A more comprehensive plan follows.

2020-2021 Holy Angels Catholic School RE-ENTRY PLAN

(6/26/2020)

Implementation of this Catholic School Re-Entry Plan is subject to change at the direction of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis in collaboration with the Indiana Department of Health. It is based on the best available information and conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic at the time of publication. This plan will evolve and be adjusted when information becomes available as the status of the COVID-19 pandemic changes. Holy Angels Catholic School will continue to engage with the Office of Catholic Schools and other education partners as part of this important process.

This plan is founded with the safety of scholars, teachers, and staff as priority. A committee of educators, commission members, parents, medical personnel, etc. was formed to address and create protocols for the return of scholars in the fall. Guidance from the Office of Catholic Schools, the Indiana Department of Education, Indiana State Health Department, and Center for Disease Control was used to create a plan that speaks to the local subsidiarity of Holy Angels Catholic School. At all times Holy Angels leadership will make decisions based on the safety of all while continuing to ensure student learning is taking place. The school leadership, while in consultation with the Office of Catholic Schools, has the flexibility to do what is best for the Holy Angels community.

LOGISTICS AND PLANNING

What does before care look like? We will be gathering in gym area with assigned seating until 7:30, teachers will take who is here to get breakfast and then to the classroom (2-6). PreK-1 remain in gym area.

What are the procedures for morning drop off for scholars? If you arrive after 7:30 and prior to 7:45 the scholar will get a breakfast and take it to the classroom if 2-6 grade. PreK-1 will get breakfast and remain in the gym area in their assigned seats.

What if a scholar arrives late? Late arrivals will wait in their assigned seat in gym area to get a breakfast. We will end breakfast service at 8 am. Anyone who arrives after 8 am will report to the office to be checked in and sent/walked to class by authorized school personnel.

Are parents/visitors allowed in the building? No parents/visitors will be allowed into the instructional hallways or classroom areas. All individuals entering the building from 8 am – 3:15 pm must report to the main office.

What if my scholar is new to Holy Angels? Our PreK families will receive a communication from their child's teacher about two options for a structured opportunity to meet their teacher and receive information relevant to PreK families. These dates will be Monday, August 3 and Friday, August 7, times will be communicated by individual teachers. We ask that masks or face shields are worn in the building.

Any family with a scholar entering K-6 grade can report to the main office between 12:30-3:30 on Friday, August 7, to meet their teacher and visit their classroom.

How does dismissal of scholars look different? PreK(A) & K will arrive in gym at 3:00, PreK(B) & 1 at 3:05 get dinner and stay in gym 2 & 6 at 3:10, 4 at 3:12, 3 & 5 at 3:15 car riders stay at assigned tables, others take dinner to classroom.

What does after care look like? We ask that families pick their scholar up by 3:30 pm and only use aftercare if it is an absolute necessity, so we can limit the number of children in the building after school hours. Our goal is to continue to have scholars grouped by grade and have assigned areas for each grade during after school programming.

Teaching and Learning

How will the classrooms be set up differently? Excess furniture and equipment will be removed from all classrooms so as to provide the maximum opportunity to spread out. Social distance will not be possible in every classroom so we will attempt to have all scholars facing the same direction. This should allow scholars to not have to wear a mask or face shield during class.

What will be done in those classrooms that have tables and not desks or times when the teacher works with a small group?

We will social distance to the maximum extent possible but there will be times where we will need to put masks or face shields on when working closely, in small groups.

What about the hallways?

We are creating a schedule with staggered recess and lunch times. Restroom breaks will be scheduled for each class. Hallway movement, as always, will be very limited. For our classes that change teachers, this will be scheduled after lunch or a specials to limit the number of people in the hallway. Only authorized school personnel will be allowed in our instructional hallways.

Will there be a distance learning option available? A limited distance learning option will be provided in special circumstances. This will not resemble the distance learning that took place to end the 2019-2020 school year. At that time our teachers were working in an only online environment. With an overwhelming majority of our scholars returning to in-person instruction, our teachers will not be able to replicate what is happening in the classroom in a distance learning platform.

Health and Safety

Do scholars/staff have to wear masks? There will be masks or face shields required when social distancing is not an option. All scholars will be provided with a face shield to start the school year that will be wiped down at the end of each day. The best way to keep everyone safe is by wearing a mask or face shield and follow social distancing recommendations.

Is there a specific type of mask required? Any cloth face covering is acceptable. A face shield will be provided to start the school year. If a family prefers a mask, they will need to provide that mask.

How can we ensure school stays open and keep everyone safe? Keep children home if they are sick. Please screen your child(ren) daily and keep them home if they are ill. Handwashing will be emphasized at school and should be at home also. Wearing a mask or face shield at the appropriate times will also keep everyone safe and healthy.

What are typical COVID-19 related symptoms?

- A fever of 100.4 or greater
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chills, shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell

Where can you be tested for COVID-19? Call to make an appointment with your family health provider or use the free testing sites in Marion County. This [form](#) must be filled out prior to going to a free testing site.

Current sites are:

- Warren Central High School, 9500 E. 16th St. Hours are 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
- Indianapolis Motor Speedway, 4790 W. 16th St. Hours are 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

When can an individual who tested positive for COVID-19 return to school? Individuals who **have NOT had symptoms** but test positive for COVID-19 may return when they have gone 10 calendar days past their test without symptoms, fever-free for 72 hours without fever-reducing medications and have been preferably released by a healthcare provider.

Individuals who **experienced symptoms** and have been tested for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:

- The individual no longer has a fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine); **AND**
- Other respiratory symptoms have improved; **AND**
- At least 10 calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared; or
- The individual has received two negative tests at least 24 hours apart.

If a scholar arrives at school and is ill, what will happen? The scholar will be immediately referred to the school nurse and likely sent home.

How will the clinic operate? At the recommendation of health care professionals, there will be a separate space where the school nurse will see anyone displaying respiratory symptoms or fever (principal's office). The clinic will be used for routine medicine distribution, sprains, headaches, etc.

What additional cleaning protocols will be in place? High touch surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected regularly throughout the day. The 5th and 6th grade classrooms will be disinfected prior to scholars switching rooms. More intense cleaning will occur each evening.

What about the cafeteria? PreK-1 grade will eat in the cafeteria for breakfast and dinner, along with late arrivals and car riders, all in assigned seats. The remaining classes (2-6) will eat breakfast and dinner in their classrooms. Lunches will be served in the cafeteria with a staggered serving schedule and assigned seating. Cafeteria staff will be masked and adjustments will be made to the serving line so scholars are not touching common surfaces.

What does recess look like? Recess times will be staggered, and individual classes will be assigned a play area (on a rotating basis so all get opportunities) so classes stay together.

Can my child use the water fountains? There will only be access to the water refill stations. Scholars will be given an Anthem water bottle to begin the school year. We encourage those to be taken home and washed out each week.

Will scholars and staff have their temperature checked daily? Not routinely. Temperatures will be taken by the school nurse for those who are feeling ill. Anyone with a fever will be sent home.

Creating/Maintaining Community and Catholic Identity

Will there still be daily assemblies? We will begin and end each day with assembly and prayer. Visitors and guests will not be allowed to join us for our assemblies until further notice. PreK-1 grade will attend assembly in the cafeteria area in assigned seats. The 2-6 graders will attend assemblies via Zoom on the classroom TV.

What will Family Nights look like this year? Until further notice we will not have all-school gatherings. We will continue to follow guidance from Marion County Health Department about smaller gatherings.

Will mass still be held during the school day? Every Thursday we will celebrate mass as a school community. Assigned seating similar to cafeteria seating will be used for mass. Scholars will wear their mask or face shield to attend mass. Our PreK classes will remain in their classrooms for mass and it will be streamed via Holy Angels YouTube channel. Until further notice visitors and guests will be unable to join us for mass.

Will our scholars still be able to participate in service activities? Activities that occur at Holy Angels scholars will still have the opportunity to participate in. Scholars will still be able to help with the chickens, tower gardens, outdoor gardens, and other service opportunities.

Resources

Indiana's Considerations for Learning and Safe Schools:

<https://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/news/june-5-class-document.pdf>

Marion County free COVID-19 testing: <https://mcphdredcap.hhcorp.org/surveys/?s=A4F4NY3PDH>

IDOE Remote Learning Resources: <https://www.doe.in.gov/covid-19/resources>

CDC Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

CDC Guidance- Symptoms of Coronavirus:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

CDC Guidance - Self-Screening Checklist:

https://www.ahcancal.org/facility_operations/disaster_planning/Documents/COVID19-Screening-Checklist-SNF-Visitors.pdf

This is a working document that will be updated as the situations change

Guidance from IDOE, CDC, and local authorities will be employed as best fits our Catholic school community as determined by the administration. Ongoing consultation will inform the decisions to keep school open if there are confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Thank you again for your support and understanding as we look forward to a safe reopening for the 2020-2021 school year.