

St. Patrick Preschool Re-Open Plan

Dear Saint Patrick Preschool Parents:

We hope this letter finds you all in good health and enjoying the summer. We have been working diligently the past few weeks with the single-minded focus of re-opening St. Patrick Preschool as safely as possible for all our students, faculty and staff. We are pleased to present our 2020 Re-Open Plan which outlines new policies and procedures to ensure we can continue our mission of *safely* educating the whole child in Mind, Body, and Spirit.

This Re-Open Plan was developed with the guidance of the Diocese of San Diego Office for Schools and Community Care Licensing Child Care Programs following the most current recommendations by local and state agencies. It is important to note all safety protocols not only meet, but in many cases exceed, standards for re-opening schools set by the San Diego Department of Health and the San Diego County Office of Education.

It is also important to note this Re-Open Plan is subject to change in response to the most current scientific discoveries and recommendations by local and state authorities. Given our relatively small student population, dedicated teaching staff, and tremendous relationship with parents, we are confident that we can navigate the upcoming school year together as partners in your child's education.

To ensure the safety of children, families and teachers, we will follow guidelines based on the best available public health data at this time. These guidelines are practical and allow us to ensure that children are in a nurturing and responsible environment. The four cornerstones of our COVID-19 Preparedness:

- Physical Distancing and Reducing Density
- Health Screening and Preventative Hygiene
- Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting
- Communication, Training, and Coordination

Plan to minimize the spread of COVID-19

Arrival Procedure:

1. Parents will drop-off and pick-up at their agreed schedule to avoid gatherings.
2. Parents and teachers will meet at the preschool entryway for pick-up and drop-off of children and be as brief as possible.
3. Children and adults must wear proper face coverings.
4. Each morning, we will take teachers', and children's temperatures with a non-touch thermometer. Anyone whose temperature exceeds 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will be asked to go home.
5. We will conduct visual wellness checks of all children upon arrival and ask health questions when concerned.

6. We will ask parents about COVID-19 symptoms within the last 24 hours and whether anyone in their home has had COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test.
7. We will ask parents to monitor their household members for COVID-19 symptoms, including fever, and avoid bringing sick students to school.
8. Parents will use the Brightweel app. to sign in and off on their phone.

During School Day:

- We will monitor staff and children throughout the day for signs of illness and send home if they have a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher or other COVID-19 symptoms.
- We will have methanol-free hand sanitizer available but will be kept out of reach of children and used only under a teacher supervisor that will ensure that hand sanitizer is rubbed into children's hand until completely dry.
- We will have multiple toys and manipulatives accessible that are easy to clean and disinfect throughout the day.
- Ensure all outdoor play equipment is cleaned and disinfected between use by different groups of children
- We will frequently clean and disinfect all high-touch surfaces such as sink knobs, toilet handles, tables, door handles, etc.
- Thoroughly clean classrooms when children are not present.
- We will keep the same group of children and teacher in cohorts.
- Arrange developmentally appropriate activities for smaller group to maintain 6 feet of separation when possible.
- Plan activities that do not require close physical contact between multiple children.
- Offer more opportunities for individual play.
- Develop spacing instructions in both indoor and outdoor spaces that are developmentally appropriate and easy for children to understand.
- Use opportunities to reduce time spend indoors by bringing children outside.

Mealtimes:

- We will utilize more tables to spread children out and use name cards to ensure adequate spacing of children.
- Practice proper hand washing before and after eating. Use paper goods and disposable plastic utensils when possible.
- Clean and disinfect tables after meals immediately.
- Implement outdoor mealtimes if space and weather allow.

Nap Time:

- Mats will be placed 6 feet apart with heads in opposite direction.

We will continue as always to:

- Enforce hand washing guidelines for all staff and children.
- Remind children to avoid contact with eyes, nose, mouth, and use tissue to wipe their nose and to cough and sneeze inside their elbow.
- Keep children's personal items labeled and kept in a separate bag to ensure that they are separated from each other's.
- Stagger indoor and outdoor play and adjust schedules to reduce the number of children in the same area.
- Keep cleaning products out of reach of children.
- Isolate children that become ill and contact parents to pick them up and keep them home until they are fever and other flu-like symptoms for 24 hours.

California Department of Public Health guidelines:

If a COVID-19 case is confirmed on campus, we will:

- Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
- Clean and disinfect areas used by the person who is sick.
- Quarantine the individual for 14 days. Individual will not return until cleared by a doctor or is symptom free (including fever) for 72 hours.
- If 2 or more persons test positive to COVID-19, the entire class will be quarantined for 14 days.
- Support the San Diego Department of Public Health's effort for contact tracing and enforcing quarantine of those infected and their contacts.
- Continue to seek guidance from local health authorities on dealing with cases according to their guidelines.
- Communicate with parents any confirmed COVID-19 cases among children faculty and staff.

Please note that our Re-Open Plan will remain flexible and subject to change in accordance with the most current recommendations and guidance by the San Diego Diocese Office for Schools, San Diego County Department of Health, San Diego County Office of Education, Community Care Licensing Child Care Programs, or other state and local mandates.

We thank you for your patience, understanding, and cooperation during these challenging times. We look forward to seeing you again on August 17 for our first day of preschool.

God Bless,

Eugenia Gomez

Preschool Director