



Sacred Heart Catholic School

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www.sacredheartmorrilton.org

Msgr. Jack Harris

Pastor

Buddy Greeson

Principal

RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

Effective August 4, 2020

THE SACRED HEART VISION

At Sacred Heart Catholic School, our vision is to prepare students for lives of excellence and faith. It remains paramount to our mission to “enlighten minds, enrich souls, and inspire hearts.”

THE SACRED HEART DIFFERENCE

What sets Sacred Heart apart from other schools? Sacred Heart is distinguished by our Catholic faith, by academic excellence achieved through positive student-teacher relationships, and by our safe school environment.

Catholic Education

First, our Catholic faith sets us apart. We pray at the beginning of every class, we attend Mass at school, and we teach the students to have a relationship with Jesus Christ through the practice and participation of the Christian faith as it is transmitted to us through the Catholic Church.

Our plan for reopening school increases the number of Masses each week, so that all students will be able to attend Mass while socially distanced at Sacred Heart.

Excellence Based on Student-Teacher Relationship

The second thing that sets Sacred Heart apart is the positive relationship our students and parents have with their teachers. Sacred Heart teachers model academic excellence and faith in their own lives. “The student is not above the teacher, when fully trained, every student will be like their teacher” (Luke 6:40).

This positive student/teacher relationship fosters Sacred Heart graduates who are fully prepared for college. Also, Sacred Heart’s academic excellence is demonstrated by our ACT scores consistently being well above state and national averages. Not many schools our size can say they graduated three Arkansas Governor’s Distinguished Scholars in the same academic year!

Safe and Secure Environment

The third thing that sets Sacred Heart apart is safety and security. Sacred Heart's low student-teacher average ratio of 13:1 and our culture of mutual respect create an environment where students are free to learn without fear and anxiety, supported by classmates, teachers, and administrators who are there to help them.

Our plan for reopening school adds practices and procedures to help keep students and teachers safe from catching a virus at school and spreading it to their families. The plan increases safety through social distancing, effective use of masks, remote learning, and modifications to greatly reduce opportunities for exposure.

Discipline

Sacred Heart students already practice disciplines and behaviors that promote learning, such as completing homework assignments and wearing uniforms. Our plan calls for additional disciplines and behaviors that students will follow to participate effectively in off-site learning and to attend school while lowering the risk of transmitting illness to one another. Students will be trained in safe behaviors, and parents will be informed on expectations for students while on-site and while learning at home.

ACADEMICS

School starts for the Fall semester on August 19, 2020. We will have a full schedule for all students every day.

Parents have two options for their student:

- **Physically Present On-Site.** Students will learn on-site while adhering to the ADH guidelines.
- **Virtually Present Off-Campus.** Students will learn off campus via live stream class instruction and Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI).

Both options will always be employed simultaneously. Lessons will be recorded during presentation to classes and made available to students through Google Classroom.

Parents will be asked to commit to the type of instruction they want for their student by **July 27**, so that we can plan for proper social distancing based on the correct number of students.

- **Physically Present On-Site Classes**

If a parent chooses for their student to attend classes on-site, that student will be expected to be in class every day, except due to illness, quarantine, or other excused absence. During any absences, that student will be expected to participate in learning via the off-campus AMI method.

- **Virtually Present Off-Campus AMI**

If a parent chooses for their student to do off-campus AMI, that student will follow along with the regular classes from home. That student will remain off-campus for the duration of the nine weeks unless extenuating circumstances warrant change.

- **Expectations for Students who Choose Virtual Enrollment**

Any student joining a “live” virtual classroom through Google Meet is expected to adhere to the normal school dress code and behavior policies. They should be seated at an appropriate workspace and attentive to the virtual lesson.

Elementary will live stream and record lessons. The recorded version will be posted by 4pm. Work that is considered “in class work” that was completed by students at school will be due by midnight. Any “homework” will be due by midnight the following day, mirroring what is expected in the classroom.

High school students are expected to log into and be present for their live classes as they occur, consistent with the daily in-person schedule. Work will be due at the same time as if a student were in the classroom. If a virtual student is sick, they need to notify the teacher via email that they will not be able to virtually attend that class; they will be able to watch a recorded version and work will be due in accordance with the “Make Up Work” policy in the handbook (one more day than the total number of days absent).

In-Person enrolled students: If a student who is enrolled in in-person instruction is unable to attend school for illness, they can view virtual (live or recorded) classes as able and work will be due according to the “Make Up Work” policy outlined in the school handbook (one more day than the total number of days absent). If a student is quarantined at home for potential exposure concerns, they are expected to follow the virtual policy above and participate in virtual classes with work due accordingly.

In the event of an extended school closing, as occurred in Spring 2020, all students will participate in off-campus AMI according to their regular class schedule via Google Meet, and supplemented means of instruction.

SAFETY & SECURITY

- **Screenings**

1. All staff members will be screened before they enter the main school building each day.
2. Elementary students will be screened before exiting their vehicle in front of the elementary building each day.
3. High School students, who are dropped off by parents, will be screened before exiting their vehicle. Students who drive will be screened before entering the main school building each day.
4. All elementary visitors will be asked to go to the elementary office. High school visitors will go to the high school office.
5. All visitors must be screened before they can enter. They will also be required to wear a mask when entering the building. This includes the gym.
6. Only those with essential business will be admitted into the main school buildings.

- **Classrooms**

1. Students will wear masks when entering or exiting all classrooms.
2. Student desks will be distanced at 6 feet when possible.
3. Students will be allowed to remove their masks when in classrooms if they remain distanced at 6 feet.
4. Staff will wear masks when entering and exiting all classrooms.
5. Staff will be distanced from students at 12 feet when teaching in most cases.
6. Staff will be allowed to remove their masks when in the classroom if a 12-foot distance is maintained while teaching. When moving around the classroom, teachers will wear masks.
7. Some parents have asked about purchasing plexiglass desk cubbies. The guidance from the CDC and Department of Health states that these may provide additional protection, but they do not eliminate the need for masks. Parents may purchase these for extra protection and send these to school, but masks will still be required in grades K-12. We will be implementing mask breaks throughout the day and they will not be required when outside for PE and recess. Please also note that masks should adhere to the “free day” dress code. There are not restrictions on colors or patterns.

- **Restrooms**

1. Students and staff will wear masks when using the restroom.
2. Restrooms will be cleaned throughout the day.
3. Handwashing is required. Students will be instructed on proper hygiene.

- **Hallways**

1. Students and staff will wear masks any time they are in the hallway, including in the morning before school and in the afternoon when school has been dismissed.

- **Lunch**

1. Students will eat lunch in a designated classroom or the cafeteria.
2. Elementary students will go outside for recess after eating.
3. High School parents will be informed later with what high school students will do after eating.

- **Recess/PE**

1. Each teacher will walk their own class to the playground.
2. Students and adults will wear face coverings when transitioning to and from recess/PE. K-3 teachers will collect face coverings during recess/PE (Student masks will be kept in individual baggies to guard against contamination). 4-6 Students will keep up with their own face covering during recess/PE.
3. All outdoor equipment (Jungle Gym, Swings, etc.) will be sanitized daily.

4. Individual playground equipment (balls, jump ropes, frisbees, etc.) may be used and will be sanitized daily.
- **Outdoors**
 1. When outdoors, students will maintain distancing, but masks will not be required if distancing is feasible.
 - **Mass**
 1. Students and staff will be distanced and masked as directed by Bishop Taylor when going to Mass each week.
 2. Two Masses weekly will be celebrated to allow all students and staff to attend Mass weekly in a socially distanced environment.
 3. High School students/faculty/staff will attend Mass each Wednesday at 9am. Unfortunately, numbers will not allow for any outside visitors.
 4. K-3 grade students/faculty/staff will attend Mass every other Friday at 9am. Visitors may attend this Mass. (Kindergarten will not attend Mass until later in the year.)
 5. 4-6 grade students/faculty/staff will attend Mass on the alternating Friday at 9am. Visitors may attend this Mass.
 - **Buses**
 1. At this time, public school buses will not be available to Sacred Heart students.
 - **Drop-off Plan**
 1. Students may be dropped off by 7:30am as they have in past years. Specific details will be released in the Open House video August 13th.
 - **Pick-Up**
 1. Elementary students will dismiss at 3:05. Teachers will walk their students to the sidewalk in front of school.
 2. Parents should park in the East Parking Lot (closest to church) and walk up to get their child(ren). MAKE SURE THE TEACHER KNOWS YOU HAVE YOUR CHILD.
 3. Students remaining at 3:25 will be sent to After-School Care.
 4. High School students will dismiss at 3:25. Students will be picked up at the rails.
 - **After-School Care**
 1. After-School Care will begin at 3:05 in the church to maintain social distancing.
EXCEPTION: The elementary students being picked-up by a high school sibling at 3:25 will still go to Mr. Taylor's room at 3:05 and remain there for pickup.
 2. On nice days, students will go outside at 3:45. Once a feasible number of students remain to social distance, students will go to Mr. Taylor's classroom.
 3. After-School students can be picked up in the church until 3:45.

- **Water Fountains**
 1. Automatic water stations will be installed. Students and staff must bring their own CLEAR water bottles for water.

- **Cleaning**
 1. Highly touched areas will be cleaned routinely throughout the day.

- **School Calendar**
 1. Enclosed
 2. Additional dates will be added as they become available.

- **Registration**
 1. Parents/guardians are encouraged to register online at sacredheartmorriton.org. All tuition/registration fees are posted. All necessary forms are also available online.
 2. If unable to register online, parents/guardians MUST CALL the school office (501-354-8113) to schedule an in-person appointment.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information on Sacred Heart Catholic School, refer to our website at www.sacredheartmorriton.org, and contact Mr. Buddy Greeson, Principal, at bgreeson@sacredheartmorriton.org.