

## HLS Lancaster—COVID 19 Response

We look forward to welcoming you to HLS as we plan to open classes for the fall of 2020 at St John Church. Classes will begin on Friday, September 11th. Our plans for opening are based on common sense and on the CDC guidelines for schools. As the official guidelines or the risk of the virus change, we will adjust.

Please find below our plan:

- Stay home when appropriate, that is if your child has a fever, a cold, or a cough. This is the most important preventative measure. In general, returning to school after symptoms requires:
  - 3 days with no fever and
  - Respiratory symptoms have improved (e.g. cough, shortness of breath) and
  - 10 days since symptoms first appeared.
- Temperature Checks: It is expected that parents take the temperature of each child before leaving home to come to HLS. Our standard procedure is that students stay home if their temperature is above 100 °F. Please be aware that we may have to check your child's temperature in case he is not feeling well. All parents will be asked to sign a release form at the beginning of the year, allowing us to take their child's temperature if needed.
- If a child is sick: If the temperature of a child is above 100 °F, we will call you to come pick him up and will ask him to wear a mask and sit in isolation in the meantime. We will email you the homework.
- There is never too much Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette (wash hands and cover coughs). Washing hands for 20 seconds with soap and water is the most effective defense. Children can wash hands in the bathroom; they will make that trip with a buddy. Hand sanitizer will be available since it may be effective when access to soap and water is limited. We also encourage students to bring their own hand sanitizer in their bag in order to avoid trips across the classroom.
- We will ventilate the classrooms before school and periodically throughout the morning.
- We will begin the day with disinfected surfaces and look for additional opportunities to disinfect throughout the day.
- Reduce Shared Objects, especially those that are hard to disinfect. Every student will be expected to come to school with a personal set of supplies (pencils, crayons, scissors, etc.) for use at HLS. The sets will not be shared with other students.
- Classroom Layouts. We are keeping classes small, well ventilated, and are providing adequate space and seating.
- Changing Classrooms: There will be very few transfers across classrooms and we will ask the students to maintain a certain order. This is especially important since the common area outside the classrooms leads to the Chapel which is open to anyone.
- Snack: Students will eat in their individual classrooms with their classmates and teacher with the snack they brought from home.
- Lunch: We will have the option to eat lunch together and play sports only on Fridays after the elective classes. It will be entirely optional.
- The CDC currently recommends but does not require cloth face coverings. By being able to maintain social distancing we are not requiring our students to wear face masks. However, students should bring to school a mask protected in a ziplock bag in the backpack. That mask will be used in case the child is unwell, during transfers within the church where social

distancing is difficult to maintain, and during some field trips in museums. On those occasions, we will consider wearing a mask to be an act of charity.

Reference:

CDC guidelines for schools:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>

U.S. pediatricians' recommendations:

<https://www.nationalacademies.org/news/2020/07/schools-should-prioritize-reopening-in-fall-2020-especially-for-grades-k-5-while-weighing-risks-and-benefits>