

Introduction

Cathedral has no higher priority than the health and safety of our community, which includes all students, faculty, and staff.



As we prepare to begin the 2020-2021 school year deeply rooted in our Catholic values; our mission of faith, academic excellence, and service; and a tradition of over 100 years of providing a superior college preparatory education that helps form the mind and soul of each student. At the heart of this mission is our focus on Forming Men for Greatness.

When we open our doors, we fully expect our community to remain grounded in our values, stay true to our mission, and be ready to meet and overcome any challenges we may face.

Overview

Committed to the ideal of *Forming Men for Greatness*, the health and safety of each member of the Cathedral family is our top priority.

Our reopening plan is focused on a full, in-person learning experience for all students. Cathedral Prep will begin the school year with in-person instruction.

In order to help mitigate viral spread, all students, faculty, and staff will be required to perform a health screening each day before their arrival. In addition, Cathedral will implement physical distancing mandates throughout our building wherever possible and require all students, faculty, and staff to wear face masks at all times, except when eating lunch.

Cathedral Prep's reopening plan is based on the most recent guidance from the [New York State Department of Health \(NYSDOH\)](#), the [New York State Education Department \(NYSED\)](#), the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), the [New York State Association of Independent Schools \(NYSAIS\)](#), and the Diocese of Brooklyn.

If and when conditions change and New York State releases new guidance, and as any further details of our plan become available, Cathedral will update our plan and communicate revisions to our stakeholders.

No plan or set of safety measures can guarantee absolute prevention of COVID-19 transmission or completely eliminate any risk of contracting the virus. However, we have invested significant resources to create a healthy and safe learning environment, and our plan exceeds the recommendations of New York State.

Each September, students and parents/guardians are required to review and acknowledge our student Handbook. This year, the handbook will contain a section on expectations at Cathedral during the pandemic. Complying with these expectations will be a requirement for students and adults to be able to come to our building.

We ask all members of the Cathedral Prep family to embrace the virtues of understanding and patience during the course of the school year.

Additional Resource:

<https://www.osha.gov>

Daily health screenings

Daily health screenings will be crucial information for the school in monitoring the health and safety of all our entire community, teachers and students. We ask parents or guardians to be diligent in performing daily in-home pre-screening. If a student has any symptoms as indicated by the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, they are NOT to attend classes in the building.

Additionally, a digital thermometer will be at entrance to perform temperature checks and mask checks.



Visitors

In an effort to maintain the health and safety of our community, the presence of visitors and guests in the building will be significantly limited, and in general, only faculty, staff, and students will be permitted to enter the building. All faculty and staff will be asked to conduct meetings (including those with parents) through video conference.

Visitors will be limited to only those who must enter the building to perform an in-person task, such as maintenance vendors, who will be required to complete a health screening protocol with a temperature check and wear an appropriate face covering.

**All other visitors must be pre-approved by the President,
Principal or Business Manager.**

Health and Safety

All faculty, staff, and students will be required to wear a face mask or acceptable covering during their entire time in the building, unless otherwise indicated by the administration (for example, lunch, personal breaks, etc.). While all are expected to bring their own masks, the school will also provide masks for anyone who needs one.



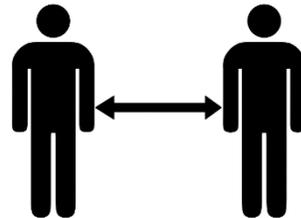
The school will perform thorough cleaning and sanitizing daily and will schedule routine thorough cleaning of high touch surfaces such as bathrooms, handrails, and doorknobs. All procedures and cleaning products will meet CDC standards and guidelines.

Cleaning staff will be equipped with electrostatic sprayers for comprehensive disinfection of the building.



In order to ensure proper social distancing, everyone will be required to keep physically distant (6 feet) from each other at all times.

In addition, when movement in and staircases is necessary, designated signs are posted on staircases indicating only up, and only down usage.



Bathrooms will operate with every other stall/urinal and sinks having newly-installed dividers.

Hand sanitizers will be made available in easily accessible locations throughout the building. Further, all faculty, staff and students will be encouraged to carry a personal bottle of sanitizer.

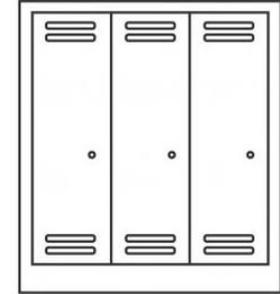


Health and Safety

Classrooms will be reconfigured to ensure proper physical distancing between all persons. All classrooms have operable windows to allow for fresh air ventilation. In addition, the few spaces which are served by air conditioning systems have been cleaned and had new filters installed.



The locker room will be limited strictly for use during one's physical education class. Designated lockers will be available to students only during their physical education period strictly to change clothes.



Procedures for notifying parents and treating suspected cases will be shared prior to the start of school.

Should a student test positive for COVID-19 or be asked to self-quarantine, the school will follow the prescribed protocol from the CDC and the Department of Health. The Assistant Principal for Student Life will ensure proper reporting.



Social and Emotional Support

Throughout the pandemic, the guidance, advisement, and spiritual formation programs at Cathedral have continued to support students in understanding and managing their emotions, setting and achieving positive goals, and feelings, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, making responsible decisions, and serving our communities. As we face the particular challenges of this new school year, Cathedral Prep is prepared to continue providing the mental, social, and emotional space for academic learning to occur. Our Social Worker will continue to offer all students the support needed to reach their fullest potential.

- Students will continue to have access to our school counselors, and they will continue to take Guidance class.
- To support the newest and youngest members of our community, additional group guidance meetings will be scheduled.
- The school will provide professional development opportunities for faculty and staff on how to talk with and support students during and after the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency.
- The school will continue to work to maintain a fraternal environment where students will care for, respect, and support each other.

Spiritual Program

- The spiritual program will continue to provide opportunities for students to grow in their faith and discern God's call.
- Mass will take place in the gym each day.
- Two Adoration periods are scheduled on Thursdays so as to keep social distancing requirements.

Food Service

Cathedral's in-house food service operations will be suspended until further notice. Students will be encouraged to bring their own lunch from home.

The cafeteria will be closed for lunch, and students will eat in their lunch in either the cafeteria or gym where we will be able to maintain 6 feet of separation.

Transportation and Commuting

Students and families should be familiar with the state-issued public transit guidance and continually monitor it for any further requirements on trains, subways, and buses including the wearing of face masks and physical distancing.

Parents who decide to drop off their sons will do so in the same way as in the past. To accommodate parent's work schedule, the building will open at 6:30am.

Students will be encouraged to wash their hands upon arrival at school each morning.

Student Life

Participation in clubs and extracurricular activities is a vital aspect of Cathedral and the formation of our young men. We will continue to offer our students opportunities to participate after school programs and activities while ensuring everyone's safety.

The school recognizes that some clubs may need to be adjusted to allow for proper social distancing. The school will provide guidance for club moderators with regard to any modifications that will be necessary for the club to continue meeting during the school year.

Athletics

The school will provide more information once the CHSAA finalizes its plans for athletics for the 2020-2021 academic year. Considerations and modifications will be made based on which sports will be allowed to run and which will require an adjusted schedule and procedures for practices and games.

Physical Education will continue, hoping to take place outdoors.