



Gesu School Revised Phased Reopening Plan
(Addendum to “A Path Forward” Reopening Plan)

Gesu School continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and evaluate our reopening plan on a weekly basis. As we approach the end of the fourth month of school, we created a revised plan for moving to in-person learning. During our reopening planning, we evaluated a transition to in-person learning based on health data, the academic performance of students in virtual learning, and the emotional well-being of our students. The health and safety of our students, staff, and families remain our top priority. The phased reopening presented below will begin on **January 11, 2020**. However, should governmental agencies (county, city, or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania) order that schools close, Gesu School will, of course, comply with the order to close school.

Gesu School will open on **January 11, 2020**. Balancing the health risks and educational risks related to COVID-19 is critical to the children, faculty, staff, etc. having a safe and successful school year. We believe that Gesu School is prepared to welcome the students, faculty, and staff back safely, and that the academic performance and social-emotional growth of Gesu’s students dictate the need for in-person instruction.

The CDC emphasized the following mitigation strategies related to COVID-19 and its transmission:

- Consistent and correct use of masks
- Social distancing to the largest extent possible
- Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and disinfectant
- Contact tracing in collaboration with local health department

Gesu School will implement the strategies listed above, as well as additional protocols established in the original plan to open school. We intend to follow the guidance of the City of Philadelphia on the question of school operations. As the City of Philadelphia has not directed elementary schools to close, Gesu School will open on January 11, 2020.

All families (in-person and virtual learners) will be required to read/sign/return the *Gesu School Community Commitment - COVID 19*. The Gesu School community’s health will be maximized if we accept and share the burden of care and wellness together. The shared commitment can best be demonstrated by complying fully with the *Gesu School Community Commitment - COVID 19*.

In particular to travel, the Secretary of Health issued the following order/requirement (eff. 11/25/20):

- The Secretary of Health issued an order requiring **travelers over age 11 entering Pennsylvania** from locations outside the Commonwealth, **including Pennsylvanians who are returning home** from locations outside the Commonwealth, to produce evidence of a **negative COVID-19 test** or place themselves in travel **quarantine for 10 days** upon entering, unless they receive a negative test result during the 10-day travel quarantine period.
- If someone cannot get a test or chooses not to, they must **quarantine for 10 days** upon arrival in Pennsylvania.

- This **does NOT apply** to:
 - Individuals traveling to and from the Commonwealth for the **purposes of work**.
 - Individuals who are returning to the Commonwealth after traveling outside the Commonwealth for **less than 24 hours**.
 - Individuals traveling to and from the Commonwealth for **medical reasons**, including individuals providing comfort and support to a patient.

Revised Phased Reopening Plan

Phase 1: January 11, 2021 - Grades 6, 7 and 8 return to 5 days per week, in-school classes with the following safety pre-cautions:

- Emphasis to be placed on mask wearing, proper hand hygiene, social distancing and regular cleaning and disinfecting of high traffic areas throughout the school day.
- Class day – 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. 2:00PM finish on Wednesdays.
- 2:30PM – 3:00PM, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday - Conference time with virtual students.
- Children will remain with their homeroom or pod for entire day.
- Lunch will be served in the classrooms for grades 6, 7, and 8.
- Recess times will be scheduled allowing only one grade on the playground at a time.
- Specials teachers will come directly to the classrooms.
- Use of hand sanitizer by each child as he/she enters the building.
- Maintain social distance (6 feet apart) in the building; to be enforced by members of the Gesu's staff stationed at the school entrance and monitored throughout the building.
- All students are mandated to wear a face mask upon approaching the building, while waiting in line to enter the building, and at all times while in the building
- Upon entering the building, all students must proceed directly to their classrooms, unless going to the cafeteria for breakfast
- Teachers will conduct visual health assessments of each child throughout the day as a means of detecting signs of illness including, shortness of breath, coughing, and other signs of distress.
- All families will be required to complete the RUVNA health check virtually before children will be admitted into the building. *

Parents who are uncomfortable sending their child(ren) for in-person instruction will be given the option for their child(ren) to participate in class through virtual, live-streaming. **

Phase 2: January 25, 2021 – Grades 3 – 5 return to 5 days per week, in-school classes with the safety precautions listed in Phase 1, except for the following:

- All students, grades 3 - 5 will eat lunch in their classrooms.

Parents who are uncomfortable sending their child(ren) for in-person instruction will be given the option for their child(ren) to participate in class through virtual, live-streaming. **

Phase 3: February 1, 2021 – Grades PK - 2 return to 5 days per week, in-school classes with the safety pre-cautions listed in Phase 1, except for the following:

- All students, grades PK - 2 will eat lunch in their classrooms.

Parents who are uncomfortable sending their child(ren) for in-person instruction will be given the option for their child(ren) to participate in class through virtual, live-streaming. **

Remote Learning Center

At the current time, the Remote Learning Center (RLC) will remain open, with a limit of 35 students, until all grades are phased in for in-person learning through December 23rd. The RLC will not re-open after winter break. RLC students will be expect to attend school virtually from home until their grades come back for in-person learning.

*In accordance with guidance from the CDC and CHOP, Gesu will not conduct temperature checks of students entering the school. Since many children do not present with a high fever as a symptom of COVID-19, it is thought that conducting temperature checks on hundreds of children entering a school would produce long lines and crowding that would ultimately create an unnecessary risk of viral spread.

**Any student opting to remain all-virtual will only be allowed to return to school at the end of the second trimester.

Please refer to “A Path Forward” Reopening Plan dated 09/01/2020 for complete details on health and safety protocols and procedures.