



Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic School

Our Lady of Guadalupe School
COVID-19 Reopening Plan 2021-2022 School Year

Prepared by: Perrotta Consulting LLC
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COVID-19 Secure Reopening Plan

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Intended dates of Fall term:	9/9/2021
Changes and updates will be found at the following link:	https://olgschools.org/covid-plan

The following plan will evolve and is expected to be a fluid document based on changing needs of our students and teachers, as well as the changing conditions of the pandemic and revisions to New York State Guidelines. Any increase or decrease in safety measures will be communicated to parents and faculty.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline how Our Lady of Guadalupe School has developed our school reopening plan and prioritized the safety and effectiveness of the school environment for faculty, staff, students, and stakeholders. We have worked together with other schools in the Diocese of Rockville Centre to develop a secure reopening plan to return students and teachers to the classrooms amidst the ongoing pandemic. After working diligently with Perrotta Consulting, a threat mitigation and emergency operation planning company specializing in COVID-19, and the Diocese of Rockville Centre, we have developed a systematic way to safely continue our full time learning and instruction at Our Lady of Guadalupe School 2021-2022 school year. So long as we are permitted to reopen and remain open by the State of New York, we will use every available resource to:

- Provide the safest environment possible for our students and teachers
- Keep our extended school families healthy
- Communicate with our families and faculty
- Ensure equal access to education for all students
- Provide means of support for our students’ and faculty’s social and emotional wellbeing

ATTENDING SCHOOL SAFELY IN PERSON

Attending school in person is no small challenge. Through extensive studies of data and research

collected from the New York State Department of Health, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization, Federal Emergency Management Agency, American Academy of Pediatrics, and several other private and public-sector resources from across the globe, we have identified how to safely return teachers and students to the classroom. Some of the safety protocols that we will follow can be found below:

Classrooms

- While in classrooms, students will be distanced based on industry precedent and State guidelines.
- Ventilation in classrooms has been increased by use of fans, keeping classroom doors and windows open to maintain adequate air circulation.
- Classrooms on the first floor have air conditioning units in the windows with filters.
- Teachers are encouraged to use outdoor spaces for alternative class settings.
- Students are permitted to change classrooms throughout the building.
- Seating charts will be kept by each teacher for contract tracing purposes.
- Any singing or use of woodwind instruments will occur in the largest and most well ventilated area possible with limited numbers of students.

Dining Areas and Food Service

- Students will eat lunch in the lunchroom where there is a higher volume of air and improved ventilation and circulation over the standard classrooms to reduce the risk of aerosolized transmission while unmasked.
- Students and teachers will maintain six feet from one another while eating.
- Any food will be served by a masked and gloved individual.

Common Areas

- Non-essential visitors, including parents, are prohibited from entering the building unless there is an emergency or there is a scheduled meeting.
- Refillable water bottle stations will be available to students. Water fountains are not to be used. Students will be told to bring their own water. An emergency supply of water will be kept at the school.
- Classrooms, bathrooms, shared spaces, and high contact surfaces will undergo regular

cleaning throughout the day.

Hygiene

- Regular disinfection of classrooms, bathrooms, and high contact surfaces around the building using EPA certified disinfectants.
- Developing a culture of healthy habits in which students and teachers sanitize their hands and personal space frequently throughout the day.
- Implementing hand sanitizing stations strategically throughout the building.
- Nursery and pre-kindergarten students will not have access to hand sanitizer. Teachers will dispense hand sanitizer as needed and utilize sinks for hand hygiene with soap and water.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Regardless of vaccination status, universal masking is mandated in schools by NYSDOH, effective 8/27/2021.
- Our Lady of Guadalupe School will require all students, teachers, staff, and visitors to arrive at the facility wearing masks and continue to wear them indoors regardless of vaccination status. This policy will be reviewed on a monthly basis in coordination with the Diocese of Rockville Centre, state and local legislation, and our consulting firm.
- Anyone who arrives without a mask will be provided one upon arrival before they are permitted to enter the school.
- An adequate two-week supply of PPE for all students and faculty will be kept onsite at all times.
- Masks will be required at all times indoors except while eating or drinking.
- Mask breaks will be provided throughout the day.
- Students and staff are not required to wear masks when outdoors.
- Students with medical or developmental conditions that prevent them from wearing a mask may be exempted from mask requirements, as documented by a medical provider.

Quarantining and Close Contacts

- A close contact is defined as any person who has been within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15 (cumulative) minutes over a period of 24 hours. This definition of a close contact applies to teachers, in any school setting, and students not in a

traditional classroom.

- Students are not considered to be a close contact when they have been within 3-6 feet of an infected student when they were both wearing well-fitting masks, consistently.
- Any student or faculty member that is identified as a close contact of a person that has tested positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for 10 days from the last day of their exposure to the COVID-19 positive individual, unless that person is fully vaccinated.
- Teachers will provide instructional materials via Google classroom for students who are under quarantine.
- Fully vaccinated persons who are identified as a close contact do not need to quarantine, unless they are symptomatic, but are encouraged to be tested for COVID-19 3-5 days after exposure.

Persons Positive for COVID-19

- Students or staff members that have tested positive for COVID-19 must notify the main office immediately.
- Internal contact tracing will be conducted and those who have been identified as a close contact will be notified and required to quarantine.
- Confidentiality for COVID-19 positive individuals will be strictly upheld.

Reporting

- The school will submit the COVID-19 School Report Card to the New York State Department of Health daily.
- Suffolk County Health Department will be notified of each positive test result as it is reported to the school.

Screening

- Unvaccinated teachers and staff must be tested for COVID-19 once a week.
- Each faculty and staff member will answer a series of questions daily to affirm they are healthy and in compliance with current executive orders.
- Staff and students who are not feeling well are encouraged to stay home.
- Regardless of vaccination status, a COVID-positive student or staff member must remain out of school for ten days from symptom onset AND be fever-free for 24 hours before returning.

Symptoms

Symptoms for COVID-19 include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Fever or chills

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Any student or staff member with new or worsening symptoms of COVID-19 must be excluded from school, regardless of vaccination status. In order to return to school, the person must provide either a negative PCR test or a note from a doctor with an alternative diagnosis . A note with a diagnosis of an upper respiratory infection, viral illness or other non-specific diagnosis will not be accepted in lieu of a PCR test. In the absence of a negative PCR test or a doctors note with an alternate diagnosis, the person may return to school after a period of 10 days as long as they are no longer symptomatic and it has been more than 24 hours since they have had a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Teachers will be trained in syndromic surveillance and identifying students who may be developing the onset symptoms of COVID-19 so that they can direct students to the nurse as early as possible. Students who present to the nurse with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will be isolated immediately and the parent will be notified to pick up the student.

Physical Education

- Physical Education will continue in an adapted capacity.
- As weather permits and as much as feasible, gym classes will occur outside with masks optional.
- Gym classes will be modified to not permit any sustained, close contact if occurring indoors.

Shutdown

- Our Lady of Guadalupe School will constantly be prepared for an immediate shutdown.
- Shutdown as a result of an outbreak will be communicated immediately to all faculty, parents and stakeholders via the School Messenger system.

Transportation

- Carpooling is discouraged.
- While on a school bus, all drivers and passengers are required to wear a mask.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

After school activities and outside groups attending Our Lady of Guadalupe School will be subject to the same standards as during the regular school day.

CONTINUITY PLANNING

Our Lady of Guadalupe School will reopen in a constant state of high alert. Every student, family and teacher will be prepared to immediately shift to remote learning should a whole class quarantine or executive order force students and teachers to do so.

INDIVIDUAL AND EVOLVING APPROACH

Each school, faculty member, family member, and student has a role to play in safely returning students to the classroom. Individual social responsibility and adherence to our new guidelines and procedures cannot be carried out solely through the creation of this document and the risk does not end at the dismissal bell. We ask each member of the school community to continue to be socially responsible and most importantly stay home if you do not feel well.

PROFESSIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Perrotta Consulting has collaborated with Our Lady of Guadalupe School to develop and guide our individual threat mitigation and COVID-19 secure operations planning and development initiative. In addition to helping develop our individual reopening plans, they will remain a resource to us throughout the year to guide us as pandemic conditions change and assist in changing procedures, contact tracing, threat mitigation, and decontamination.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

We recognize the stress and emotional toll this year has taken on not only students, but also faculty and parents. Our teachers, guidance counselors and social workers will be attuned to the realities of the physical, mental, and economic hardships our families have faced over the last several months and trained to support them to the best of our ability. Resources will be available for anyone struggling with mental health through counselors and the local school district.

THREAT MITIGATION

Our Lady of Guadalupe School is united in its mission to reopen schools safely and at full capacity. Successful operations this school year will require constant reassessment of policies and procedures. We have fully established a modular COVID-19 command structure to rapidly identify needs and execute operating plans to protect students, teachers, and families at Our Lady of Guadalupe School.

Conclusion

Our Lady of Guadalupe School is actively working to implement the safest and most operationally successful school reopening plan possible amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic. Together with our partners, we will establish a culture of health within Our Lady of Guadalupe School. We fully anticipate this operating plan being fluid and evolving over the course of the school year. Changes will be made in consultation with our partners and conveyed to all stakeholders as quickly as possible.

Limitations

No guarantee is implied by this plan of incident management system. As pandemic conditions may change and overwhelm resources and personnel, Perrotta Consulting and this partnered facility can only endeavor to make every reasonable effort to manage the situation with the resources and information available at the time.

Authorization

This document was created specifically for Our Lady of Guadalupe School and duplication or modification of any portion for another facility or workspace is prohibited without express written consent and invalidates all compliance measures and procedural recommendations developed by Perrotta Consulting LLC.