

Archbishop John Carroll High School

The Plan To Reopen

Frequently Asked Questions

The Archbishop Carroll Parent-Student Handbook will be updated to reflect the new learning environment. Whether in-person or virtual, all school rules apply.

- How does a student opt in for full virtual learning?

Parents/Guardians can access the form to opt for fully-virtual learning [HERE](#). They will still be responsible for all of the work students who are in the full hybrid environment. However, for certain electives, they may be provided with alternate projects/assessments if there is specific work that cannot be completed at home.

- If a student opts in for full virtual learning, must they remain virtual all year?

No. If a student elects to learn all virtually, they are welcomed to rejoin the school at the beginning of the next marking period if they wish to do so. Their parent/guardian must provide a request in writing, via e-mail to the principal and the assistant principal for Academic Affairs, knowing that the transition may take up to a week to occur. The school will determine the student's first start date of in-person learning.

- When is the first day of school?

There will be one day for each grade to start the school year and orient themselves to the new procedures and layout of the building:

- *Wednesday, Sept. 9 - 12th Grade reports - Dismissal at 12 p.m.*
- *Thursday, Sept. 10 - 11th Grade reports - Dismissal at 12 p.m.*
- *Friday, Sept. 11 - 10th Grade reports - Dismissal at 12 p.m.*
- *Monday, Sept. 14 - 9th Grade reports - Dismissal at 12 p.m.*

We will communicate during the week of August 24th on what busing may or may not be provided for these days. Students are expected to bring their Chromebook with them, fully charged. New students and 9th grade students will be issued their Chromebooks on their day.

The Hybrid schedule will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 15, with the students in Group "A" attending school in person, and Group "B" attending virtually.

- How will classrooms be set up?

Each classroom will contain 17 desks, spaced 6 feet apart, as well as a podium and desk for the teacher. Students will have their masks on at all times, and the teacher will be wearing either a face shield or mask. Rooms with larger tables for seating (Labs, art room, etc.) will have plexiglass barriers to separate students. In the computer labs, students will be spaced apart appropriately. On their first day of school, all students will be instructed on disinfecting procedures for all classrooms.

- What is the procedure for student drop off?

The school building will open to students at 7 a.m. All students who are arriving at school between 7:00 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. MUST report and enter the building through the Cafeteria doors. Students will be checked in by

administration and staff to ensure that their at-home screening has been completed and submitted. They will then be directed to a larger location in the building where they will socially distance until the warning bell rings at 7:35 a.m., for students to move to their lockers. After 7:45 a.m., students should enter through Door "A".

- **What is the pre-screening procedure for students and staff?**

All parents are required to screen their student at home prior to them leaving for school to ensure they are not exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19. Faculty and staff will be conducting a similar check. All students, faculty, and staff must submit their online screening prior to entering the building. More details and instructions on this process will come prior to the start of the school year.

- **Are there any uniform modifications for this school year?**

We have attempted to simplify the uniform for the 2020-21 school year. Students are welcome to remain in the "spring" uniform year-round. Should they wish to dress warmer, they may wear the oxford shirt and/or the school sweater. Seniors will still have the option to wear their Senior fleece once they arrive. Tights for the girls are optional. All other rules for the dress code will still apply and can be found in the school handbook. Questions on dress code should be directed to the Office for Student Services - CHerrera@JCarroll.org or KBuchanan@JCarroll.org.

- **Have there been any modifications to the PE uniform or classes?**

Yes. Fitness for Life still exists as a year-long course for Sophomores-Seniors. Students will be socially distanced and will not share equipment on the days that they will be doing physical activity. Outdoor spaces will be used as the weather permits. On the days when they are doing physical activity, those students are permitted to wear athletic clothing as outlined in the course syllabus. On all other days, they should be in their school uniform.

Freshmen who are taking Health/PE and Fine Arts will alternate quarters between Health and Fine Arts in the First Semester, and then PE and Fine Arts in the Second Semester. Their schedule will reflect which course they are to attend. They are expected to be in their school uniform for the entire First Semester, and PE class guidelines will be sent out at a later date near the end of the First Semester.

- **What will the mask requirement be?**

Students, faculty, and staff are expected to wear a mask at all times. Faculty are also permitted to wear a face shield. All masks must be a solid color or a simple medical mask. No graphics, writing, or lettering are permitted on masks. Bandanas, scarves and gaiters (neck scarves) are NOT permitted.

Masks must remain on at all times, except when a student is seated in the cafeteria, eating lunch. The full mask policy will be shared in the Addendum to the Parent-Student Handbook. Failure to follow the policy will result in students being sent home and possibly not being permitted to come on campus.

- **What is the bell schedule?**

We have increased the time in between classes from 4 to 10 minutes to allow for disinfecting of classrooms and other spaces, and a staggered dismissal from classes to minimize crowding in the hallways. Each class will be 40 minutes in length, except for First Period. Homerooms have been temporarily eliminated and 6 minutes has been added on to First Period to account for prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, and any other

necessary announcements and reminders. The full bell schedule will be included in the Addendum to the Parent-Student Handbook.

Dismissal will still occur at 2:25 p.m., but it will be staggered. Students who ride the bus will be dismissed first, followed by student drivers and students taking other modes of transportation. This will allow for less crowding in the halls at the end of the school day.

- What is required when students are virtual or learning from home on their designated days?

Attendance will be taken in all of the students classes (except for lunch). Students are expected to be logged in and signed on, following the directions that will be provided, by the time class is expected to start. If a student is not signed in for a class they will be marked absent and school protocols for absences as listed in the Parent-Student Handbook will be followed. Any questions on attendance should be directed to the Office for Student Services - CHerrera@JCarroll.org or KBuchanan@JCarroll.org.

While students are learning at home, they should be sitting at a desk or table, and not on their bed or lying on their couch or a chair. Cameras must be turned on. Students are expected to be dressed appropriately. Rules for student dress and other guidelines for virtual learning can be found in the Addendum to the Parent-Student Handbook

- Will students be assigned lockers?

Yes. A locker will be assigned to each student. A student on "A" Day will be placed next to a student on a "B" Day, and then lockers will be left open in between to allow for Social Distance. Students will only be allowed to access their lockers at the beginning and end of each day.

- What will the procedure be for students using Aramark for lunches?

Aramark will provide lunches daily. Lunch choices will be limited and will be of a grab-and-go style. Students are strongly encouraged to use their pre-paid accounts to keep the lines cashless. More information on this system will be sent out via e-mail during the week of 8/24.

- Will Aramark be serving breakfast?

No. Breakfast service has been temporarily suspended. We will communicate with you when this situation changes.

- How will students be distanced at lunch?

Health and Safety guidelines have dictated that students should not be sitting across from each other as much as possible. Therefore, student desks have replaced our cafeteria tables. Each grade will be assigned an area in the cafeteria where they are able to sit during their lunch period, and within the first few days of school, students will be assigned a specific seat in the cafeteria. These seats will be permanent unless otherwise changed by an administrator. The assigned seating will assist if there is a need for contact tracing.

- What about the impact of COVID-19 planning on the use of restrooms?

Students are encouraged to use the bathrooms during their extended pass time between classes and at lunch. Students leaving during class will be limited to emergencies only. It is the responsibility of the student to keep

their mask on at all times, even in the restroom, and to move quickly in and out of the restroom, remembering to wash their hand thoroughly before returning to the school community.

Specific restrooms will be designated for use by students in the classes and by those at lunch. Students are expected to follow the directives given on the first day of school. Restrooms will be sanitized during the school day and overnight.

- Will busing be provided for students?

Busing is based on the decisions of the school districts where students reside or Sague busing for those that have busing provided by Archbishop Carroll. All rules and regulations set forth by the districts or Sague must be followed by all students.

- What procedures need to be followed for my student to attend school in person?

There will be a pre-screening check that must be completed by a parent/guardian at home each day before a student is permitted to attend school in person. More details on this will follow prior to the start of the school year.

All students must also wear an approved mask at all times, except when seated at their desk in the cafeteria for lunch.

- What is the procedure for visitors?

Due to the current climate surrounding COVID-19 and the need to keep our students and staff as safe as possible, no visitors to the school are being permitted at this time. Parents or other visitors who attempt to enter the building without a confirmed appointment will be turned away. Any necessary appointments will be held virtually wherever possible.

Directions for what is required if a student needs to be picked up from school prior to the end of the school day will be sent by the Office for Student Services prior to the start of the school year.

- What happens if a student feels sick when they are at school? What about if they feel sick while at home?

Parents and students should review all of the materials provided by the Chester County Health Department on the symptoms of COVID-19. If a student is feeling ill or exhibiting symptoms, they should remain home. They will be permitted to learn remotely if they were scheduled to be in school on that day, but a parent still must call them out sick. Any student who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or has questions should contact the school nurse at 610-688-7610, or nurse@jcarroll.org.

If a student exhibits symptoms in school and needs to be sent home, the student will be isolated in the Nurse's Office or isolation area next to the Nurse's Office until a parent is contacted to come pick the student up. Once the parent/guardian arrives, the nurse will meet the parent/guardian at Door 'B' with the student and provide further instructions. The parent/guardian will not be permitted to enter the building.

- How will students attend Mass and religious events at school?

At this time, with social distancing measures in place, it will not be possible to place one full cohort in the auditorium for a Mass, assembly, or other religious gathering. The administration is working with the Campus

Ministry Office to still be able to provide Mass and other services for our students in a virtual way that can still keep the heart of our school, our Catholic Identity, strong.

A decision will be made about the status of the daily 7:10 a.m. Mass prior to the start of the school year.

- Will students learning from home be permitted to return to school for sports/activities after school?

Should athletics and activities be able to safely resume in person, a student learning from home will be permitted to return to school for their desired sport or activity. They will be provided directives as to how they must enter the building when they arrive, and they must complete the at-home pre-screening prior to arrival. Students are not to miss any class time to leave to arrive for their sport or activity unless it is pre-approved by the Office for Student Services.

Further directions on sports and activities will be passed along at a later date, and more information on sports can be found in Archbishop Carroll's Return to Play plan on the school website.

- When will the school calendar be released?

The school calendar, complete with the listing of all days for each cohort will be placed on the website during the week of Aug. 24. The first two weeks of school will be:

- Sept. 9-14 - One grade per day, 12 p.m. dismissal.
- Sept. 15 - "A" In school, "B" Virtual
- Sept. 16 - "B" In school, "A" Virtual
- Sept. 17 - "A" In school, "B" Virtual
- Sept. 18 - "B" In school, "A" Virtual

- How will events and other functions (Dances, field trips, retreats, awards assemblies, shows, sporting events) be handled at the school?

The administration at Archbishop Carroll understands the fluidity of the COVID-19 situation, as well as our students' desires to participate fully in the 2020-2021 school year. And while the school wants to accommodate as many events as possible for our students, we will adhere to the guidelines provided to us by the Centers for Disease Control, State of Pennsylvania, and Chester County Health Department, and make decisions with the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff as our number one priority.

At the top of our school calendar, you will see a notification next week that reflects this. Please know that the calendar will be fluid and changing as the guidance around the virus changes. Additionally, per the Office of Catholic Education guidelines for the 2020-2021 school year, there will be no off-campus field trips.

-Will students attending school on A days be permitted to attend club meetings in-person on B days?

