

Saint Paschal Baylon Catholic Preschool

Parent-Student Handbook



Saint Paschal Baylon Catholic School
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**Updates to the parent handbook due to COVID-19 are highlighted in yellow.*

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COVID-19 ADDENDUM-RESPONSIVE RETURN PLAN

End of Handbook

DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND

Philosophy and Goals of the Preschool Program

The first years of life are of vital importance to a child's growth and development. Foundations are laid which influence the ability of a child to accept herself/himself, relate to others and respond positively to the environment. Family relationships provide a young child with the best model for developing attitudes, values and appropriate behavior. Interactions with other adults and children are extremely important and promote ways for a child to relate to the world around him/her.

A Catholic preschool program strives to provide a creative learning environment for the young child. Interaction with other children and adults, in an atmosphere of Christian love and concern, promotes the healthy development of each child. In partnership with the church, parish community, and the family, a Catholic Preschool provides a Catholic Christian education through which gospel values are presented, lived and fostered.

A quality early childhood program promotes a safe and stimulating environment that promotes the spiritual, social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth of a child. Children should be provided with opportunities to investigate and explore their world creatively in a hands-on environment. Children are unique individuals who are eager to learn and we should value their differences, needs, learning styles, experience and interests. Extensive research has shown that children learn through active involvement and play, constructing, demonstrating and representing their knowledge in a wide variety of ways. The social component of learning stresses the importance of interactions, cooperation and collaboration. Early childhood educators recognize that learning opportunities must be age and individually appropriate. A developmentally appropriate program recognizes that:

- Children construct their own knowledge
- Learning activities must be active not passive
- Language develops best in a social context
- Families and communities must be more fully involved as partners with schools
- Appropriate assessment strengthens learning and teaching
- Positive social environments contribute to learning
- Inclusive programs expand opportunities for all children
- Honoring children's cultural backgrounds helps them maintain and build self respect and honor the cultures of others.

ST. PASCHAL BAYLON SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The Eucharistic community of Saint Paschal Baylon Catholic School focuses on Christ-centered values and develops the unique potential of each student through a rigorous and engaging curriculum.

BELIEF STATEMENTS OF ST. PASCHAL BAYLON SCHOOL

- We believe in developing the characteristics of compassion, character, courage, and civility all centered on Christ.
- We believe in the importance of a faith-filled community that inspires Christian witness through service.
- We believe in empowering our students to be critical thinkers and problem solvers through the use of technology and other resources.

- We believe in creating authentic and diverse learning opportunities which maximize our students' potential for success.

PRESCHOOL PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS

The philosophy and goals of the St. Paschal Baylon Preschool Program have been developed based on the guidelines provided by the Diocese of Cleveland. The guidelines include that the child should:

1. Become aware of the fact that he/she is a child of God and will grow in His love.
2. Develop a positive self-image and acknowledge his/her self-worth.
3. Develop basic social skills.
4. Increase independence.
5. Develop a trust in adults other than his/her parents.
6. Enjoy being part of a group and accept the need to share and cooperate.
7. Respect the rights of others and defend his/her own rights.
8. Develop the desire to learn.

ADMINISTRATION PROCEDURES

Admissions/Age And Type Of Program

Admission to the Saint Paschal Baylon Preschool is open to children who have turned 3, 4, or 5 years old by September 30 of the year of enrollment. Admission to Junior Kindergarten is open to children who will turn 5 by January 1 the year following admission. These children must have at least one year of preschool experience. A screening by the junior kindergarten teacher may also be required.

Early Learning Program Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 8:15-10:45 AM; 11:45 AM -2:15 PM-We will not be offering this program for the 20-21 school year.

Pre-K Program Monday through Friday from 8:15-11:00 AM ; Afternoons from 11:30 AM-2:15 PM

Jr. Kindergarten Program Monday through Thursday from 8:15 AM to 2:15 PM; Friday 8:15-11:00 AM

All children entering the preschool class must be toilet trained.

Admission Priority

Children will be considered for admission to St. Paschal Baylon Preschool based on the following priorities:

- 1. Current students and siblings:** Children who are currently enrolled in the preschool program and siblings of day school or preschool students.
- 2. Parishioners:** Children of families who are registered and supporting parishioners of St. Paschal Baylon parish as determined by the Rectory (Application date, regular contributions).
- 3. Non-Parishioners:** Children will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis, depending on the available space in the program of your child's age level.

Attendance Policy

Due to safety reasons, parent(s)/guardian(s) are asked to notify the school between 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM each day their child will be absent from the preschool program. Following any absence a child is expected to bring a written excuse to the teacher. This note should be dated and give the reason for the absence. If the illness is of a **contagious nature**, please notify the school immediately. (Please see Preschool Responsive Return Plan COVID-19 policy)

Calendar

The St. Paschal Baylon Preschool will begin in September and conclude in May. On days St. Paschal Baylon School is closed the preschool will also be closed. A yearly calendar is sent home to parent(s)/guardian(s) at the start of the school year, at which time parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified of specific calendar dates.

Emergency Closing Procedure

If the Mayfield City Schools close, St. Paschal Baylon School and Preschool is also closed. Please listen to the radio or TV for this announcement. If there is an emergency affecting **only** St. Paschal Baylon School, parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified.

Family/ Custodial Situations

Relationship With the School

St. Paschal Baylon School is finding an increasing number of families experiencing transitions in parental custodial relationships. For this reason we find it necessary to clarify and re-state the usual procedures followed by the administration and faculty in dealing with parents in such situations.

In two-parent families it is assumed that both parents are living at the same address unless we have been notified otherwise. St. Paschal Baylon School personnel will, therefore, send home notices, communications, etc. with the child. It is assumed that both parents are communicating regarding the child and that all information is shared by and between the parents. This information includes but is not limited to conference appointments, report cards, mid-quarters, discussions with school personnel, and tuition statements.

In families experiencing separation of parents, or pending divorce, the above information will be sent home with the child to whichever parent currently has custody of the child. It is assumed that this information is shared *by* the parents and *between* the parents. Since this situation frequently impacts on a child's achievement and interactions at school, parents are asked to inform *both* the principal/preschool director and teacher of this fact so that appropriate support can be given to the child. St. Paschal Baylon School personnel cannot proceed on hearsay, rumors, or demands of a parent, but only with the appropriate documentation detailed below.

In case of an actual divorce decree involving clear *custody by one parent*, the principal is to be informed by the custodial parent of this fact. A copy of the entire decree bearing the case number, with the pages referring to custody and the relationship with the school, and the final page bearing the judge's signature are to be submitted to the principal. Unless the decree indicates otherwise, school communications will be sent home to the *custodial parent*. Custodial parents should understand, however, that unless the divorce decree specifically limits the non-custodial parent's right to access to records, the non-custodial parent has a right to the same access as the custodial parent. St. Paschal Baylon School will, unless instructed by a Court Order, release such records upon request to the non-custodial parent. "Records" include official transcripts, report cards, health

records, referrals for special services and communications regarding major disciplinary actions. It does not include daily casework and papers, or routine communications sent through the children to the home of residence. In these cases the custodial parent is asked to cooperate with the school and share this information directly with the non-custodial parent. This avoids time-consuming duplication of services.

Further, parents should realize that unless restricted by Court Order, any non-custodial parent has the right to attend any school activity of their child which includes sports activities and class programs. Parents should keep each other informed as to these activities to avoid duplication of communications and to allow the school to better attend to the duty of teaching your children.

In cases of 'joint custody' (shared parenting agreements) entitling both parents access to school personnel and activities, it is assumed that one copy of communications and information will be sent home with the child and that this will be shared *by* and *between* the parents.

Regarding parent conferences in all custody situations: It is preferred and will be the general procedure that *one* conference appointment be scheduled 'jointly' if both parents wish to be present. It is assumed that parents are able to set aside differences and to come together on behalf of their child for this time period. A joint conference further insures that both parents are given the same information at the same time, thereby avoiding misunderstanding, misinterpretations.

In cases where joint conferences are *clearly* neither possible nor desirable by all parties involved, alternate arrangements may be discussed with the principal, subject to the approval of both parents, and further reviewed by St. Paschal Baylon School's legal counsel. Every effort will be made to keep communications open with both parents while at the same time avoiding duplication of services and excessive demands on the teacher's time.

Visitation should generally begin at the home of one of the parents and not at school. It is hoped that visitation arrangements would reflect the sensitivity of both parents to the consistency and routines that foster security in a child and allow for school responsibilities and homework to be taken care of during the school week.

If there are questions concerning this re-statement of procedure; or circumstances you feel necessitate other arrangements, please contact the principal personally.

Office Hours

Phone messages for teachers will be accepted from 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) may also email the teachers. Teachers will return your call or email during the day when they are free or after school.

Parent/Guardian Participation And Communication

Parents are the first educators of their children. Their participation in the preschool program is needed and welcomed. Preschool families receive all of the communications prepared for the families with children in Grades K-8. In addition, they receive the special handbook for the preschool program and a monthly preschool newsletter prepared by the preschool teacher will be posted to our class webpage on the school website, www.saintpaschal.com. This newsletter will also contain a monthly calendar.

The school year will begin with a **virtual** meeting at which time the parent(s)/guardian(s) will receive a full orientation to the preschool program and have the opportunity to assist the teacher in orienting their child to the preschool classroom and school building. Throughout the year when dropping them off and picking them up,

parent(s)/guardian(s) have an opportunity for daily communication with their child's preschool teacher.

Registration

Re-registration of children attending St. Paschal Baylon School: Families whose children attend preschool will be required to re-register each year. This re-registration will take place in January. A non-refundable registration fee is due at this time.

Registration of New Children: Registration of new children will take place in January after the re-registration of the current preschool students. New families will complete registration materials. A non-refundable registration fee is due at this time.

Tardy Policy

Any child who is late for school must report to the school office with their parent/guardian before proceeding to the preschool classroom.

Withdrawal Policy

The preschool reserves the right to assess all incoming students to determine readiness for the preschool program. Every child will be assessed after 6 weeks of school to determine school readiness. If needed, a conference will be held to assess the child's needs and a course of action. If a student is asked to withdraw, a pro-rated refund of their tuition will be made.

If we do get to the point of distance learning or if you do not feel comfortable sending your child to school, tuition that is paid will be refunded should you decide to keep your child at home for the school year.

If you pay tuition and your child begins the year in preschool and distance learning is required later in the school year, tuition will be prorated on a monthly basis. A refund of tuition will mean that you give up your child's spot in that class. Spots cannot be held. Please note that the respective registration fee is non-refundable as there are costs related to staff and materials and equipment that have been purchased.

FINANCES

Non-Payment Policy:

If your tuition has not been received (FACTS/ANNUAL), your child may not attend the preschool program.

NSF Checks

It is the policy of Saint Paschal Baylon Parish that checks returned from the bank identified as NSF will be treated as follows:

First Offense: NSF check writer will be assessed an amount similar to the charges assessed to the parish for

handling such NSF checks (currently \$25.00).

Second Offense: NSF check writer will be assessed an amount similar to the charges assessed to the parish for handling such NSF checks, and required to pay tuition and other fees only by cash or certified check.

Tuition/Fees:

Tuition and fees are determined yearly by the St. Paschal Baylon Finance Council. There are only 2 payment options:

FACTS: Monthly Payment (call school office for additional information).

ANNUAL: Due no later than the first day of school.

REGISTRATION FEE: A non-refundable registration fee is due at the time of registration.

CURRICULUM

A quality preschool program should be designed to suit the developmental needs of young children, promoting their spiritual, emotional, social, physical and intellectual growth.

Our curriculum is center based, using an integrated approach where learning occurs through active exploration and interaction in a "hands on" environment. Multi-sensory activities that enhance the total development of the child are planned in a sequential manner that follows a theme or is part of a unit. The components comprising the curriculum of a quality preschool program are:

Language

Language is the development of communication skills that enable a child to share his/her world with others. At the preschool level, these skills include listening, speaking and thinking. Transferring thoughts into words is the primary skill upon which future language development is based. Learning experience that promote an understanding of the sense of self, help the child express his/her thoughts and feelings in various ways. An awareness of the five senses will stimulate a child's curiosity as to the different ways his/her body receives information about life around him/her. Visual discrimination and memory, and auditory discrimination and memory are important readiness skills that can be taught through play activities. Listening to and sharing stories, poetry and finger plays as well as writing classroom stories about field trips, events, etc., enhance the love of language.

Personal-Social Development

Personal-social development is the primary goal for the young child entering preschool. A positive self-concept is essential to successful learning. The more a child understands himself/herself, the better equipped he/she is to relate to other children and adults. Basic social interaction between two children, the teacher and a child, and as a member of a group, provide ways in which the child establishes autonomy and learns skills to help him/her relate to his/her world.

Personal development includes knowing name and age, eventually learning address, phone number and birth

date, caring for toileting needs, separating from parent with relative ease, caring for own belongings and respecting others.

Social development includes cooperative play, sharing, following directions, initiating conversations and play situations with peers, entering into group activities, developing a positive relationship with teachers and caring about others.

Religion Readiness

This is an integral part of the Catholic preschool program. It is the preparation time for more formal instruction in the years ahead. Religious readiness involves the development of a positive self-image in relationship to a loving God. This basis for a deep love of God comes from the examples set by the family and spiritual life of the parish community. A child's sense of God comes from the warm atmosphere of love and acceptance in the preschool environment where the child learns about God's wonderful world. Classroom prayer and paraliturgies, appropriate to the child's developmental level, prepare him/her to participate in the celebrations of the Church.

Multicultural Awareness

A positive social development includes awareness on the part of the child of the similarities and differences in family life styles and cultures. Self-concept activities, stories, field trips and holiday customs are a few multicultural activities that enhance the child's awareness that people are alike in many ways but may have different ways of expressing themselves.

Play

"With the young child, his work is his play and his play is his work." Children learn by playing. They need opportunities and experiences to explore, ask questions, test out their theories and draw conclusions. Play is the cornerstone of learning for the young child. What starts out as fun and play gradually turns into a learning experience. All play activities hold the potential for growth and learning. Play teaches children about themselves and their world. Play is a way of life for children. St. Paschal Baylon Preschool offers young children the opportunities to learn and grow through planned developmentally appropriate curriculum that has its roots in play.

Art

Art for the young child focuses on process rather than product. Copying a picture made by the teacher or a friend is not art. Art is a process of exploring and discovering, for example, what happens when two colors are swirled together or you color with crayons on a warming tray. Art is being creative and enjoying the "doing" of the activity. Imagination and materials are the only tools needed to be creative. The preschool program has a variety of materials and medium with which to work. Our emphasis is to encourage discovery and creativity in the young child.

Music and Movement

Music is the channel for creative expression in two ways; the manner in which sounds are communicated by the music-maker and the emotional and physical response that sound evokes from the listener. Singing, listening to music, using rhythm instruments and making instruments, dancing, and other rhythmic activities are ways of developing a love and appreciation for music. Rhythm and movement provide an outlet for creative expression and the joy of using the body in dance, games and organized play.

Motor Skills

Motor skills are a vital part of the young child's development and are crucial to the learning skills he/she will

need in the future. The preschool child learns with his/her body. These motor skills are not to be overlooked in favor of cognitive skills.

Gross Motor:

Body coordination, as appropriate to the child's physical development, is enhanced through large muscle activities of walking, running, jumping and hopping. Hand-eye coordination is attained by throwing a large ball or bean bag, catching and aiming at a target. Games which require adherence to strict and limiting rules, however, are not appropriate for young children.

Fine Motor:

Eye hand coordination is developed through manipulating clay, stringing beads, hammering, and pasting, crayoning, painting, pouring, lacing and using scissors. Dexterity and strength of the small muscles are developing skills that enhance reading and writing readiness. Use of the natural hand preference is observed and encouraged, although hand dominance is not yet achieved.

Eye tracking is another fine motor activity that promotes the left-to-right progression skill required for reading readiness.

Materials Selection Policy

All preschool materials are carefully selected by the principal and preschool teachers and staff to enhance a creative learning environment in which the preschooler can experience age-appropriate developmental experiences and play activities. Materials reflect the philosophy, goals, and curriculum of St. Paschal Baylon Preschool Program. Child safety is always a factor in material selection. Play materials are arranged so that children may select, remove and replace them with a minimum of assistance.

Supplies

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) will be notified of supplies at the Orientation meeting. Students will be permitted to bring only two handled book bags to school.

Parent Conferences

An evaluation will occur after the first 6-8 weeks of school with Progress Reports being sent out. If needed, a parent/teacher conference will be requested. One mandatory conference will be held in November to evaluate the year. A second conference will be held in the spring to make plans for the following school year.

Schedules: *Due to COVID 19, these schedules may be slightly altered.

Early Learning Schedule—Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 8:15-10:45 AM

8:15 AM	Arrival
	Circle Time
	Discovery Time
	Clean Up
	Bathroom Break
	Story Time
	Snack Time*
	Quiet Reading
	Prepare for Dismissal
	Outdoor/ Large Muscle Activities
10:45 AM	Dismissal

Pre-K Schedule—Monday through Friday 8:15-11:00 AM or 11:30 AM-2:15 PM

8:15 AM Arrival
 Circle Time/SmartBoard Activities
 Music
 Discovery Time/Learning Centers
 Clean Up
 Bathroom Break
 Snack Time
 Circle/Story Time
 Group Time
 Prepare for Dismissal
 Outdoor/Large Muscle Activities
11:00 AM Dismissal

Jr. Kindergarten Schedule—Monday through Thursday 8:15 AM-2:15 PM; Friday 8:15-11:00 AM

8:15 AM Arrival
 Circle Time/SmartBoard Activities
 Music
 Discovery Time/Learning Centers
 Clean Up
 Bathroom Break
 Circle/Story Time
 Lunch and Gym
 Group Time
 Prepare for Dismissal
 Outdoor/Large Muscle Activities
2:15 PM Dismissal

Staff

The child staff ratio is maintained according to the guidelines set forth by the Department of Education of the State of Ohio. All staff are specifically trained in Early Childhood Education. Further training is required in First Aid, Communicable Disease Control, Child Abuse Recognition and Prevention, and Hand washing and Disinfecting Procedures.

SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

AIDS Policy Regarding Students (Diocese of Cleveland)

Children with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) enrolled or seeking enrollment in Grades K through 12 shall be permitted to attend school or parish religious education programs in regular classroom settings provided:

1. The health of a child, as documented by his/her physician, allows participation in a regular academic school activities.
2. The child behaves acceptably; in a manner that would not cause spread of the disease or in any way put others at risk.

3. The child does not have open sores, skin eruptions, or any other condition which prevents his/her control of bodily secretions.

4. There are periodic evaluations of the child's physical condition with written certification from his/her physician allowing continuing participation in regular academic school activities.

In Parish Elementary Schools and Parish Schools of Religion, the Pastor and Principal will confer with the appropriate persons and consult with the Regional Superintendent before the Pastor makes the final decision on each case in the parish school. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) have the obligation to report to the school administration when any child has been diagnosed as having AIDS (Acquired Immunity Deficient Syndrome), ARC (Aids Related Complex), or other illness caused by HIV (Human Immune Deficient Virus that causes ADDS, also known as HLTVIII or LAV).

In order to protect confidentiality, when a child with AIDS is admitted to school, personnel who are made aware of the child's condition should be the minimum necessary to assure property care of the child.

Based on the condition of the child and the expected type of interaction with others, the Principal, after consultation with the proper authorities, may limit the child's participation in school activities.

A student with AIDS who is excluded from school or a Parish School or Religious Program shall be provided with an alternate means of catechetical instruction.

Birthday Celebrations

We ask that treats (edible and non-edible) NOT be sent in this year. You are welcome to purchase a book to donate to the classroom library or school library in your child's name to recognize his/her special day.

Child Abuse Policy

We are mandated by the Ohio Revised Code 2151.421 to report any suspected case of physical or sexual abuse of any child.

Communicable Diseases *Please refer to COVID-19 policy in the Preschool Responsive Return Plan

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are asked to contact the school immediately when their child has been diagnosed as having a contagious condition. This includes strep throat, head lice, and chicken pox. **When a child has been home with an illness, the child should not return to school until free of symptoms and temperature has been normal for at least 48 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medication.** A written note from the parent(s)/guardian(s) explaining absences is required for re-admission. Notice of the contagious disease is sent home to parent(s)/guardian(s) of children who are exposed in the preschool. (See Appendix).

Cumulative Record Policy

Pursuant to Section 3319.32 of the Ohio Revised Code, it shall be the policy of this preschool that cumulative records be maintained at the school. These records shall exhibit in addition to other information and data, the names of the students enrolled.

Discipline Policy

The goal of discipline is for each child to achieve self-control. Good discipline is founded on a loving and caring relationship between adults and children. Setting clear and fair behavioral limits that are enforced consistently and regularly are key elements in good disciplinary practice. There are two main reasons for setting limits in a classroom environment:

1. to prevent children from hurting themselves and others,
2. to prevent the destruction of property, materials and equipment.

Limits help define the boundaries of behavior for children. The following developmentally appropriate practices will be used:

1. Children will be guided to appropriate behavior by setting clear and consistent limits for classroom behavior.
2. Positive reinforcement will be used to encourage appropriate behavior, for example, "Thank you for waiting so patiently for your turn."
3. Using their mistakes as learning opportunities.
4. Guiding children to resolve conflicts using their words rather than their hands.
5. Helping children to verbalize the problem and then mediate the situation as they devise solutions to their own problems
6. Redirecting children to more appropriate behavior or to another activity.

If a child continues to have difficulty, the director/teacher will initiate observation times and conference with the parents. If the child's behavior continues to be disruptive to the class and the child is unable to learn self-control after three weeks, a written communication will be sent home. If after six weeks of assistance by teachers and parent(s)/guardian(s), there is no improvement, you will be asked to withdraw the child. If a child is repeatedly disruptive, violent or repeatedly hurts another student, he/she could be asked to not return to school for a select period of time at the discretion of the principal or preschool director.

According to the Ohio Department of Education Guidelines, the following policies shall be met:

- A preschool staff member in charge of a child or a group of children shall be responsible for their discipline.
- There shall be no cruel, harsh, corporal punishment or any unusual punishment such as, but not limited to, punching, pinching, shaking, spanking, or biting.
- No discipline shall be delegated to any other child.
- No physical restraints shall be used to confine a child by any means other than holding a child for a short period of time, such as in a protective hug, so the child may regain control.
- No child shall be placed in a locked room or confined in an enclosed area such as a closet, a box, or a similar cubicle.
- No child shall be subjected to profane language, threats, derogatory remarks about himself or his family, or other verbal abuse.
- Discipline shall not be imposed on a child for failure to eat, failure to sleep, or for toileting accidents.
- Techniques of discipline shall not humiliate, shame, or frighten a child.
- Discipline shall not include withholding food, rest, or toilet use.
- Separation, when used as discipline, shall be brief in duration and appropriate to the child's age and developmental ability, and the child shall be within sight and hearing of a preschool staff member in a safe, lighted, and well-ventilated space.
- The center shall not abuse or neglect children and shall protect children from abuse and neglect while in attendance in the preschool program.

Dismissals Due To Illness

When a teacher suspects a child is ill or when a child becomes ill or injured during the school day and needs to

go home, the child will be isolated until a parent/guardian or other responsible party can be reached to pick them up. If the illness is considered to be communicable, the child will be sent to the clinic to await parent arrival, otherwise, the child will be isolated in the office. If your child is sent home from school due to an illness, **he/she may not return the next day**. The teacher will provide parent with a signed form stating when the child may return to school. ***Please refer to the COVID-19 policy in the Preschool Responsive Return Plan.**

Dress Code

Students may wear casual play clothes and tennis shoes. Children should be dressed comfortably for play and sitting on the floor. Appropriate outerwear for outdoor play is essential.

Grievance Procedure

If a parent/guardian has a grievance, the party involved should first address the individual with whom they have a grievance. If an understanding cannot be worked out between the two parties, a written grievance should be submitted to the director. The director will then speak to both parties and resolve the matter. A copy of this grievance form can be found at the back of the handbook.

Hand Washing Procedure

All children and staff members shall wash their hands when they enter school and prior to leaving for the day. Every classroom will have hand sanitizer pumps near the entrance. Sanitizing stations will also be added to high traffic areas, including the entrance to the school. Most importantly, teachers will build into their schedules opportunities for handwashing.

Health And Accident Procedures

Saint Paschal Baylon is staffed by a health-aide who administers first-aid in cases of injury or illness. The preschool furnishes an emergency authorization form which directs the school's course of action in each individual case. It is essential that the parent notify the preschool of changes of phone number, address or employment throughout the school year so this data is always up-to-date. An accident report will be completed and sent home if necessary.

Health Services

Health and immunization reports are due on or before opening day for all new children.

Lost And Found

Please "name tag" all clothing. Lost articles can be claimed outside the preschool room.

Medications

Saint Paschal Baylon School personnel can administer medications only when a specific procedure is followed. Forms must be obtained from the Clinic to be signed by the parent/guardian and physician requesting medication to be given. Medication must be delivered by the parent/guardian to the school in a properly labeled container from the pharmacy. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) should not send in medications with the child to be administered by the Clinic.

If your child has a health concern that will require leaving medication in the school clinic, or carrying medication with them at all times, please let the teachers know the nature of their health issue. Generally, this is for children with emergency needs such as nut allergies that may require the use of an Epi-pen/Benadryl. This is optional; it is a personal preference that is up to you and your child's physician whether you would like to leave a spare medication set in the school clinic. **Physician forms and medication will need to be in the clinic on the first day of school.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school clinic at (440) 442-6766 Ext. 15. The clinic hours are Monday through Friday, from 7:45am to 3:00pm.

Nutrition

A nutritious snack should be packed for your child each day. A nutritious snack may include one of the following items: fresh fruit or vegetables, yogurt, or string cheese.

School's Right To Amend

The preschool administrator and/or St. Paschal Baylon School retains the right to amend the handbook for just cause and that parent(s)/guardian(s) will be promptly notified in writing if changes are made.

Strep Throat Cultures

If a child has had a throat culture one day, he/she should be kept home the following day until the results of the culture are known.

Student Behavior Code

St. Paschal Baylon Preschool is called to be a community based on the shared acceptance of the message and challenge of the Gospel. Growth in self-discipline, a healthy responsibility for Catholic moral values, and a loving respect for the rights of all persons are encouraged and nourished.

Visitors

All visitors to the school building are required to wear a face mask. During student drop off, parents will be required to wait to leave until the child's temperature has been taken; however, parents will not be permitted to walk their child to the classroom.

TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY

Preschool Arrival and Dismissal

Early Learners AM

Arrival: 8:15 am drop off at the school doors by the parish office horseshoe drive.

Dismissal: 10:45 am pick at the school doors by the parish office horseshoe drive.

Pre-Kindergarten AM

Arrival: 8:00-8:15 am pull down Blue Ribbon Way and drop off at the cafeteria doors.

Dismissal: 11:00 am pick up. Pull down Blue Ribbon Way and pick up at the cafeteria doors.

Pre-Kindergarten PM

Arrival: 11:30 am drop off. Pull down Blue Ribbon Way and drop off at the cafeteria doors. Please be mindful and use caution. This is recess time for older students.

Dismissal: 2:15 pm pick up at the school doors by the parish office horseshoe drive.

Jr. Kindergarten

Arrival: 8:00-8:15 am pull down Blue Ribbon Way and drop off at the cafeteria doors.

Dismissal: 2:15 pm pick up at the Parish Life Center doors.

*Friday ONLY dismissal: 11:00 am pick up.

Pull down Blue Ribbon Way and pick up at the cafeteria doors.

Drop off reminders:

- When dropping off at the cafeteria doors please have your child unbuckled and ready to exit the vehicle. Please pull up to the orange cones and drop off your child.
- If you have an older sibling in the school: You can drop off your older child. Then you **MUST** wait until 8:00 am to pull down Blue Ribbon Way and drop off your Preschool child.

Parish Life Center and horseshoe pick up reminders:

- You must park and walk to the doors to pick up your child.

These procedures have been established for the safety of your child and all the students in our school. Thank you for your cooperation.

Safety Procedures

Simple preschool routines are established for walking through the halls, going to the lavatory, and entering/leaving the building. Fire and tornado drills are discussed and practiced. Fire drills are held once a month. All drills are given with advance notice so preschoolers can be properly prepared by their teacher.

Security System

All school doors will be locked from 8:15 A.M. until 2:30 P.M. It is required by state law for anyone who needs to enter the school building to come to the school office and ring the buzzer and identify themselves. We are limiting visitors to school, and all visitors are required to wear face masks and have a temperature check. A Visitor Self-Screening Form will also need to be completed. We kindly ask that all visitors remain outside our main doors and communicate with our office staff through the security system when possible. A plexiglass shield has been installed in the front office in order to safely serve our visitors. We ask that parents do not deliver forgotten items to school.

Students and faculty are instructed not to open doors for people who want to get in the building. Thank you for your understanding and cooperating as we work together to keep our children safe.

Volunteers Criminal Records Check

Senate Bill 187 (Section 109.575) requires that volunteers who have "unsupervised access to a child" on a "regular basis" may be required at any time to provide fingerprints and a criminal records check may be conducted.

APPENDIX

HEALTH PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

***Please refer to COVID-19 policy in the Preschool Responsive Return Plan**

Please follow these health guidelines to determine if your preschool child should be kept home from school:

1. If a child has more than a runny or stuffy nose, he/she should not come to School.
2. Please keep your child home 24 hours after the break of a fever.
3. If your child is sick during the night or before school, please keep him/her home.
4. If you suspect a strep throat and have a culture taken, please **DO NOT** send your child to school until you receive the result of the culture. (See note #5 below)
5. Children having two or more diarrhea-like-stools should be kept home.

If your child becomes ill while in school, the child's parents will be notified. A staff member will notify the parent or guardian of a child's condition when a child has been observed with the signs/symptoms listed on the communicable disease chart. A child who exhibits symptoms of a communicable disease will be isolated but supervised. No child shall be left alone or unsupervised. Please inform the school if your child becomes ill with a contagious illness. A note will be sent home with the other children to warn parents of contact and incubation of the communicable disease.

If your child is "mildly ill," experiencing minor cold symptoms, or does not feel well enough to participate in activities, but is not exhibiting any of the symptoms specified above, he/she will be permitted to stay at school and will be monitored frequently and observed carefully for signs and symptoms of worsening conditions. If a child's symptoms worsen, he/she will be isolated from the other children and the parent or guardian contacted to arrange for the child to be taken home from preschool.

If a child requires medication of any kind during class time, parents must complete and sign a form giving health personnel permission to administer the medication. No child may carry medication of any kind on their person.

The following is a list of the most common communicable diseases and their symptoms:

***Please refer to COVID-19 policy in the Preschool Responsive Return Plan**

1. Chicken Pox: Feverishness...rash appears in the form of small pimples, which, in a day fill up with a clear fluid. Incubation period between 14-21 days. Isolation period at least 7 days.
2. Measles (Rubella): Head cold, feverish, watery eyes, sneezing. Blotchy red rash appears on forehead, face and body. Incubation period between 7-14 days. Isolation period of at least 5 days from the time rash appears.
3. German Measles (Rubella or 3 day measles): Mild measles...blotchy, fine, red rash on face and abdomen. Swollen glands particularly in the back of neck. Incubation period 14-21 days. Communicable for 48 hours after rash appears.
4. Mumps: Fever, swelling on side effaces and jaws as glands become swollen and tender. Incubation period between 12-26 days. Isolation period until swelling of glands has disappeared.

5. Scarlet Fever and Streptococcus (sore throat): Fever, headache, sore throat, vomiting. A fine rash appears with scarlet fever. Incubation period between 2-5 days. Isolation for 48 hours after start of antibiotic treatment. May be admitted to school upon receipt of a written statement that the child has been treated. The name of the physician should be included.
6. Impetigo: Blister-like lesions which later develop into crusted pus-like sores which are irregular in outline. Incubation period 2-5 days, occasionally longer, communicable from onset of symptoms until sores are healed. Child will be excluded from school until adequately treated and sores are no longer draining.
7. Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye): Redness and swelling of the membranes of one or both eyes with burning and itching, sensitivity to light, and a discharge. Immediate medical treatment needed. Exclusion from school until fully recovered. Communicable during the course of the infection and until discharges cease.

Management of Communicable Diseases in our Preschool

***Please refer to COVID-19 policy in the Preschool Responsive Return Plan**

- A child with any of the following signs or symptoms of illness shall be immediately isolated and discharged to his parent or guardian:
 - ✓ Diarrhea;
 - ✓ Severe coughing, causing the child to become red or blue in the face or to make a whooping sound;
 - ✓ Difficult or rapid breathing;
 - ✓ Yellowish skin or eyes;
 - ✓ Conjunctivitis;
 - ✓ Temperature of 100 degrees
 - ✓ Untreated infected skin patch(es);
 - ✓ Unusually dark urine and/or grey or white stool;
 - ✓ Stiff neck;
 - ✓ Evidence of lice, scabies or other parasitic infestation.
- A child with any of the following signs or symptoms of illness shall be immediately isolated from other children. Decisions regarding whether the child should be discharged immediately or at some other time during the day shall be determined by the director and the parent or guardian. The child, while isolated at the program, shall be carefully watched for symptoms listed above as well as the following:
 - ✓ Unusual spots or rashes;
 - ✓ Sore throat or difficulty in swallowing;
 - ✓ Elevated temperature;
 - ✓ Vomiting.

Healthcheck Services

Healthcheck services are available for families that are eligible for Medicaid. Healthchek is Ohio's Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program. It is a service package for babies, kids, and young adults younger than age 21 who are enrolled on Ohio Medicaid. The purpose of Healthchek is to discover and treat health problems early. If a potential health problem is found, further diagnosis and treatment

are covered by Medicaid. Healthchek covers ten check--ups in the first two years of life and annual check--ups thereafter and offers a comprehensive physical examination that includes:

- medical history
- complete unclothed exam (with parent approval)
- developmental screening (to assess if child's physical and mental abilities are age appropriate)
- vision screening
- dental screening
- hearing assessment
- immunization assessment (making sure child receives them on time)
- lead screening; and
- other services or screenings as needed

If your children are enrolled on Ohio Medicaid, Healthchek services are available to them. If you are younger than age 21 and are also enrolled, you can receive Healthchek services, too.

If you are interested in more information about this service, please visit:

<http://medicaid.ohio.gov/FOROHIOANS/Programs/Healthchek.aspx>

GRIEVANCE

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

Please state the issue and steps you have taken to resolve this issue below:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please submit to the preschool director/principal.



SAINT PASCHAL BAYLON CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Preschool Responsive Return Plan 2020-2021

The Responsive Return Plan outlines the first steps as we prepare to reopen for the 2020-2021 school year. We will continue to adjust and revise this plan based upon guidance from state, local, and diocesan authorities. The ability to adapt and modify our plan quickly and effectively as needed is critical. The plan has been developed in concert with our Responsive Return Plan Committee consisting of parents, medical professionals, educational leaders, faculty/staff members, and administrators and follows the guidelines and recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Department of Education, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, and the Diocese of Cleveland. It begins with five basic layers of protection used to mitigate risk. Our foremost concern is our students and staff members and what we can do to keep them safe and healthy. We are committed to doing all that we can to protect our students, and we pledge to provide you with timely communication regarding any new developments.

VIGILANT SCREENING

TEMPERATURE CHECKS



A self-screening tool will be shared with family members to screen for symptoms at home each morning. It is critical that students not be sent to school if they are exhibiting any of the symptoms listed. Please do not give your child fever-reducing medication and send them to school. Upon arrival at school, students will have their temperatures checked and immediately proceed to their classrooms. Staff members will be stationed at the entrances. Any child exhibiting a temperature of 100° or higher will not be permitted to attend school. Staff members will also complete self-screenings at home and a temperature check before arrival. The individual shall not return to school until he or she has been fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medication for at least forty-eight hours.



ISOLATION ROOM

An isolation room has been identified near the school nurse's office for students and staff who are exhibiting symptoms and are waiting to be picked up from school.



SCHOOL NURSE

Hours for our school nurse have been increased this year so that she is present at the beginning of the school day and at drop off. School administrators and the school nurse will oversee health and safety standards and communication with the local health department regarding updated COVID protocols, testing, and reporting.

HANDWASHING AND SANITIZATION



All children and staff members shall wash their hands when they enter school and prior to leaving for the day. Every classroom will have hand sanitizer pumps near the entrance. Sanitizing stations will also be added to high traffic areas, including the entrance to the school. Most importantly, teachers will build into their schedules opportunities for handwashing, sanitizing, and cleaning of desks and materials.

CLEAN SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT



High touch surfaces (i.e. doorknobs, counters, toys etc.) will be cleaned regularly. All classes will be cleaned and sanitized before students arrive. Our custodial staff will thoroughly clean our school at the end of each school day, and germ foggers will be used more often in classrooms.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING EFFORTS AND COHORT GROUPING

By offering in person instruction to all of our students, we acknowledge that we may not be able to achieve six feet of physical distance consistently. Adjusted classroom practices and routines, however, will decrease the contact and increase the distance typically experienced by students. Preschool students will remain in contact with only their classroom cohort.



- Excess furniture in classrooms has been removed in order to maximize the space used in each classroom.
- Desk shields will be ordered for all preschool students.
- Teachers will be encouraged to take their students outside for class weather permitting. Other areas on campus, such as O'Brien Hall and the Eymard Room, can be utilized when available to allow for physical distancing.
- Signs/floor markings will be used as visual cues to remind students to maintain physical distance.
- Hallway movement will be limited. Hallways will be labeled as one way in certain areas and marked in the middle to aid in traffic flow.

FACE MASKS

STUDENTS

Preschool students are **strongly encouraged** to wear masks, but are not required to do so. **Each preschool student will be required to have a mask in their book bag to be used for hallway transitions as needed.** Face masks have been shown to be more effective than face shields at this time. Face shields can be worn; however, face masks are recommended. Face masks should cover the nose, mouth, and chin.



FACULTY AND STAFF

All staff members will be required to wear face coverings (face masks or face shields) throughout the school day.

VISITORS

All visitors to the school building are required to wear a face mask. During student drop off, parents will be required to wait to leave until the child's temperature has been taken; however, parents will not be permitted to walk their child to the classroom.

ACADEMIC LEARNING AND PLAY

TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM



The traditional learning format model of instruction provides face to face learning for all preschool students.

- All large toys (kitchen sets and dramatic play areas) have been removed from preschool classrooms to discourage children from congregating during play.
- Children will be directed to participate in parallel play.
- Sharing of toys will be discouraged. Each student should have their own supplies and materials.

ADDITIONAL ADAPTATIONS AND PROTOCOLS



SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

We have decided to adjust the calendar and push back our start date one week. The preschool staggered start will be held the week of **August 31**. The first day of preschool will be **September 8** with the last day of preschool on **Thursday, May 27**. A staggered start letter as well as a revised calendar for the year will be shared soon.



SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

We recognize that the social and emotional health of our students is also important. All staff will continue to create a sense of family within the school and their classrooms. While things may look different, our goal is to create an environment that is **safe and secure** while also **warm and welcoming**. We feel strongly that class “meetings” and informal conversations can be used to assess students’ comfort and connectedness.



ABSENCES

Parents are required to report all absent or late students by no later than 8:30 a.m. Parents should provide details as to their child’s symptoms. If the child or immediate family member has tested positive for COVID-19, please share this information with the school. Families will follow the CDC guidelines and the Ohio Department of Health for a safe return to school.



ARRIVAL

Drop-off for arrival will remain the same. During student drop off, parents will be required to wait to leave until the child’s temperature has been taken; however, parents will not be permitted to walk their child to the classroom.

DISMISSAL

Dismissal will remain the same. We ask parents to practice physical distancing while waiting for their child at dismissal. Once your child exits the building, we ask that you refrain from gathering.



PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF OF STUDENTS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Parents/guardians may walk their child to the door, ring the bell, and announce the child who will then proceed to the office. Please do not enter the building. If picking up a student, the procedure can be followed. The office staff will sign the child in/out. If picking up a child early, please remember to send in a note so that the child is waiting in the office.



WATER FOUNTAINS

Students are asked to bring water bottles to school as the water fountains should only be used to refill water bottles. Please be aware that we currently do not have “no touch” refilling stations. Students may bring an additional water bottle to leave in their bags.



SPECIAL CLASSES

Although there will be subject-specific adjustments made to classroom instruction, we will continue to have special classes for preschool. These teachers will move to the classrooms to teach.



VISITORS TO SCHOOL

We are limiting visitors to school, and all visitors are required to wear face masks and have a temperature check. A Visitor Self-Screening Form will also need to be completed. We kindly ask that all visitors remain outside our main doors and communicate with our office staff through the security system when possible. A plexiglass shield has

been installed in the front office in order to safely serve our visitors. We ask that parents do not deliver forgotten items to school.



AFTER CARE/EXTENDED DAY

Due to new licensing guidelines, we will NOT be able to continue our After Care and Extended Day programs for preschool for at least the first quarter. We will share more information about this as the year progresses.



FIELD TRIPS

We are suspending field trips for the first semester and will reevaluate in January for the remainder of the year. Teachers will be encouraged to take virtual field trips or participate in experiences through outside organizations via Zoom, Google Meet, or Skype.



PRESCHOOL EVENTS

We are committed to maintaining our strong faith and school community. Unfortunately, some events may not be held, but our goal is to be innovative in creating meaningful ways for us to continue these events.



COMMUNICATION

Gradelink (emails, text messages, and phone calls), Bloomz, the school website, and the weekly family newsletter will be used to communicate information to families. In order to limit/eliminate the number of papers being sent home, communication folders will be used on a very limited basis. All groups are asked to submit items digitally to the school office, and they will be linked in our family newsletter.

QUARANTINE AND RETURNING TO SCHOOL

SPB will follow the guidance of the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) in the event of an exposure or suspected exposure of a student, staff member, or a member of the immediate household. Below is guidance from the CCBH:

- Anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 should contact their primary care provider and depending on their access to care, they will be given testing instructions. Families and staff members must notify the school if they have been diagnosed with COVID-19, exposed to anyone with COVID-19, or if a member of the immediate household is presumed to have COVID-19.
- If you have had close contact with someone with COVID-19, you must stay home from school for 14 days from the date of exposure. Close contact includes direct physical contact (i.e. touching, hugging, kissing) with a person who has COVID-19 or being within 6 feet of that person for more than 15 minutes.
- Anyone testing positive for COVID-19 is isolated at home and receives a call from the county/city of residence's health department with instructions on how to keep themselves and their family safe.
- The CCBH, not the school, will contact the person diagnosed and conduct the contact tracing.
- All students and staff will follow the CCBH guidelines for school attendance and readmittance to school after a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, including self-quarantine for 14 days, significant improvement in respiratory and gastrointestinal symptoms.





We are grateful to our Responsive Return Plan committee members who gave of their time and shared their expertise and input in the development of these guidelines:

*Mr. Jon Detzel, Maintenance Supervisor
Mrs. Carrie Hanus, Teacher
Dr. Leigh Ann Kerns
Mrs. Sheila Klepcyk, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Katie Klick, Teacher
Mrs. Elizabeth Krogman, Teacher
Mrs. Kelly Kunchik, School Advisory Council
Rev. John Thomas Lane, SSS, Pastor
Mrs. Stephanie Leffler, Technology Coordinator*

*Mrs. Karen Lipstreu, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Fred Mance, Safety Committee
Mr. Paul Martin, Teacher
Ms. Evamarie Mickol, Teacher
Dr. Katherine Myers
Dr. Ross Myers
Ms. Diane Raguz, Principal
Mr. Tim Velotta, Finance Council
Mrs. Nicole Waggle, School Advisory Council*