



The Reopening of GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Procedures to keep students, parents, and staff healthy and safe during the transition.

THE PLAN

Good Shepherd Lutheran School will reopen with the health and safety of all our constituents as a priority. Measures are in place to secure wellness practices, COVID-19 illness standards, increased hygiene procedures, and social distancing practices for the welfare of all. These guidelines align with the national and state recommendations for “Opening Up America Again.”

It appears Florida will be opening soon as our state overall has handled the pandemic of COVID-19 better than expected. We had fewer reported cases, required fewer hospital beds, and thank goodness this resulted in not as many deaths. We knew there was a light at the end of the tunnel, and God would see us through to the end. We must be cautious now with how we proceed.

We are anticipating our school reopening on May 4, 2020. Good Shepherd Lutheran School has taken the criteria under serious consideration in the assembly of this plan. We are confident the safety of all constituents will be met with the reopening of our school. We ask that all parties adhere to the strict guidelines outlined for The Plan to be operational. We appreciate your full cooperation.

NECESSARY ITEMS

Before returning to school, you will need to purchase and prepare the following items for your child:

- *Lunches and snacks need to be brought to school in a plastic lunch box. No fabric lunch boxes will be allowed. We will be wiping them down before they enter the classrooms.

- *Each child will need a Ziploc baggie containing a complete change of clothing, labeled with their name and classroom number on the outside of the bag. These will be left at school in place of a backpack. No backpacks or other personal items at this time.

- *No naptime items temporarily. We have sheets for the cots and will launder them at the school. Infants may bring a “lovie” to sleep with, but it will need to stay at school. If you only have one, please order another so we may keep one as well.

- *No water bottles at this time, we will be using disposable cups to limit and reduce the possible spread of germs. If you would like to donate to the classroom supply of these, that would be great as we know many will be used during this time.

- *Please purchase a pair of slip-on or velcro fastening tennis shoes to be kept at school.

- *Tuition billing will resume on Monday, April 27.

*We also appreciate any donations of Clorox disinfecting wipes, Clorox Anywhere Spray, Paper towels, or Lysol spray. (we use lots and supplies are still limited)

WELLNESS PRACTICES

- *Maintain social distancing of six feet
- *Wear a mask when shopping, working, or in a public place
- *Leave your children at home. Avoid beaches, parks, and crowded public places.
- *Wash your hands vigorously numerous times daily. Handwashing is crucial before and after meals, bathroom times, if coughing and sneezing, and touching high traffic areas even at home.
- *Avoid touching your face, nose, and mouth
- *Remove clothing after work, school, or lengthy outings with others. Leave clothing and shoes in a designated area away from your family, then shower, and change clothing.
- *Always remove shoes upon entering your home. Designate a space for storage, spray the bottoms with disinfectant if you must bring them into your home. It's best to have an inside pair of shoes.
- *Do a daily wellness check with your family. Ask each how they feel while checking for any symptoms. Please remember to check everyone's feet and toes. Report any symptoms to your doctor immediately via teleconference or skype. Do not go to the ER unless you have an extremely high fever, and your doctor has told you to go.

ILLNESS

If your child or any member of your household has any of the following symptoms, they CANNOT come to school. We understand the symptoms may be from another illness or condition; however, during this time, we are not willing to take any chances with the health of the WHOLE for one child. I am sure you would agree if your child were the one without any symptoms. Your child may return following 72 hours of being symptom-free if there are no indications of COVID-19 exposure. Please do not place any at risk if you know this is a possibility.

- *Fever, the guidelines are 100.6 or above, but we will not allow any elevated temperatures during our reopening transition.
- *Coughing/sneezing/respiratory issues/wheezing/runny nose
- *flu-like symptoms or body aches

- *Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- *Rashes/especially on the toes and feet
- *Eye irritations/pink eye
- *Lethargic/or just not feeling like themselves

Please be alert to any indication that your child might not be feeling well. Loss of appetite, poor sleeping, or just laying around are some indicators. These sometimes can give us a “heads-up” when their words fail them.

Children CANNOT attend if a household member has traveled out-of-state within the last ten days.

HYGIENE PRACTICES

Handwashing will take place at the following times and whenever deemed additionally needed:

- *Upon arrival and departure
- *Before and after meals
- *Before and after playground
- *Before and after restroom breaks
- *When touching frequently used items or surfaces
- *When touching faces or body parts
- *Immediately following coughing and sneezing

Frequently used items and surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected as much as possible. All classrooms, floors, restrooms, hallways, doorknobs, surfaces, etc. will be professionally cleaned daily.

Face coverings may be used by staff and students.

DROP-OFF PROCEDURES

1. Please enter the property at 15 mph or slower
2. Take the driveway to the right in front of GSLC; do not enter the main circle of the school.
3. Turn left before the main circle and park on the left side of the parking area only.
4. No parking is allowed on the main circle at this time.

5. Overflow parking is available in the church parking lot on the right side of the main driveway as you enter the front of Mennicke Hall.
6. Take your child by the hand and join the line for check-in. Please watch for traffic as you take a spot on one of the marked distance lines on the circular drive. Move forward as the line progresses, keeping on the lines to keep a safe distance. The line begins by the church side of the driveway.

Please use the carline procedures for 12-noon pick-up if it is raining.

CHECK-IN STATION (ONLY OPEN FROM 7:30-9:15 AM)

1. Everyone must check-in before dropping off their child at school.
2. Please know your child must be symptom-free and in good health.
3. All students must have the “necessary items” listed previously.
4. Only two families are allowed at the check-in station at one time. Keep a safe distance.
5. One child is to exit to the left of the table, the other to the right.
6. Students will be scanned for temperatures and given a once over screening for general health. You must be able to answer “no” to symptoms and travel questions.
7. Parents are to take a “clean” pen from the bucket, sign-in, return the pen to the “dirty” bucket, and return to their car.
8. A staff member will take your child to their classroom to complete the entrance process.
9. Please exit the front check-in area in the opposite direction, stay to your right, and please watch for any oncoming traffic.

DUE TO THE ADDED PROCEDURES TO KEEP OUR CHILDREN AND STAFF SAFE, ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL MUST BE DROPPED OFF BY 9:15 AM.

PLAN FOR EXTRA TIME

TEACHING STRATEGIES

Teaching early childhood using social distancing is the most challenging aspect of reopening Good Shepherd Lutheran School. The general nature of young children is for them to play and interact with each other in their environment. Being quarantined has been very restraining on their age group. The big question is, how do we give them a learning environment that will work yet keep them safe. The staff has been brainstorming on this for this entire quarantine, and we hope we have found the best practices for a solution. We will limit nine children to a classroom (except for those who usually are limited to less) and have one teacher to a group. If the class has more than that registered, the other teacher will take a group to another learning area for activities. This could be another classroom on our campus, such as in the church or an outside class. Centers that house four or five children will be made intentionally smaller where to host two children.

The idea of work buddies is also a desirable option where the children will be limited in their play circles as they rotate stations.

PICK-UP PROCEDURES

CALL AHEAD PROCESS IS A MUST

1. When you are 10 minutes from arriving at GSLS, call the school office at 941.922.8164. Please give your name, child's name, classroom number, and let us know you are on your way.
2. Enter the main drive at 15 mph or less.
3. Follow the driveway staying to the right and enter the main circle. Once in there, stay on the INSIDE of the circle.
4. DO NOT EXIT YOUR CAR; please remain in your vehicle.
5. A staff member will exit the buildings with your child. We will sign your child out at the end of the day.
6. Once your child is to your vehicle, you may assist them with fastening car seats or safety belts. We ask you to please maintain a safe distance from all staff. If you need to speak with someone, please call or email.

12-noon pick-up for VPK parents will use the same procedure, but you don't need to call ahead. Please remember, single lane, on the inside of the drive only. This procedure will also be used for rainy days drop-off procedure.

FOR THE WELFARE OF ALL

COVID-19 has changed our whole way of life currently and perhaps in the future as well. We hope the adjustments made during the transition are only temporary. Still, we are prepared to make whatever amendments are necessary to keep our children and staff healthy and safe now and in the future. We know these guidelines are going to take more time and may be inconvenient. We appreciate you continuing to be our partner and investing in the safety and protection of all. Thank you!