



BISHOP HEELAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

A LIFETIME ADVANTAGE

Return to Learn Plan
2020-2021

Rationale

Return-to Learn plans were required to be submitted to the Iowa Department of Education by July 1, 2020. These plans are designed to help schools meet the challenges of the 2020-21 school year by:

- Integrating public health strategies in to Iowa's schools
- Ensuring that remote learning options are available for all students
- Planning to help students catch-up for the learning they may have missed during school closures
- Enabling schools to move between on-site and remote learning as needed
- Helping the Department and our partners at Iowa's area education agencies (AEAs) understand how best to support schools.

District Leadership Team

John Flanery, President

Jenny Pattee, Curriculum and Enrollment Director

Chris Bork, Principal

Debi Younger, Principal

Kate Connealy, Principal

Mary Fischer, Principal

Greg Steuk, Director of Maintenance

Jacki Volz, Registered Nurse

Genie McGregor, Teacher

Rebecca Wolf, Teacher

Lisa Froelich, Teacher

Mindy Oberle, Teacher

Kelly Kohout, Teacher/Educational Services

Shantelle Bleeker, Resource Teacher

Kathy Lehmann, Counselor

Michelle Cantrell, Counselor

Bob Geary, Counselor

Marla Pluim, Counselor

Fr. Shane Deman, Chaplain

Jon Fields, Technology

Jacque Yaneff, Technology

Andres Villalobos, Student

Avery Nelson, Student

Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools recognizes that the Iowa Department of Education, the Department of Public Health and the Diocese of Sioux City provide guidance and even mandates to our policies, procedures and function. We will always stay within the boundaries of their constraints while trying to best meet the needs of our community.

Please know and understand that this situation will be fluid between now and the start of school and quite possibly all year. For further questions and concerns, please contact your building principal or BHCS President, John Flanery. We are here to help and serve.

PLAN A and preferred method of instruction for the 2020-2021 school year

On-Site Learning

Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools pronounces regular and normal on-site learning as our top priority for the school year 2020-2021. We fully recognize that our teachers, staff, students, families and administrators flourish best while present in person in our buildings and classrooms. This will always be our goal and vision for education without exception. Please know that while we will not ignore deep and true health concerns, we will do everything we can to make full-time on-site learning our ambition.

Routines and procedures for staff and students will be created and adapted as circumstances change to minimize exposure and have students physically distance. Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools will review the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Iowa Department of Health and the Siouxland District Health recommendations regarding wearing face coverings to school daily into the classroom, during passing periods, and/or times when physically distancing is not possible. This decision won't be made until a later date based on these recommendations however students and staff always have the option to wear face coverings for health purposes.

Desks and chairs in classrooms will be adjusted to best accommodate physically distancing and spacing when and where possible. The Iowa Department of Education encourages physical distancing whenever possible but recognizes that each school building and setting is unique and there are times when maintaining or guaranteeing a distance of six feet from others in a school setting may not be possible. It is possible that lunch will be consumed in classrooms as opposed to lunchrooms. In PK-8th grade buildings, it might be that students don't move from room to room for different subjects but that teachers move so as to minimize student interactions across the buildings.

Building principals will work with priests to ensure every student continues to grow in their faith and participate in the liturgy and other spiritual opportunities while physically distancing. Some options may include; viewing mass from their classroom while others are in the church, prayer services, or multiple mass times during the week.

As a safety measure there will be limited access to the building. Parents and volunteers will not be able to visit classrooms. Parents will be asked to notify the office when they arrive to pick up their child for an appointment and the child will be sent outside. Pick-up and drop off procedures will be modified by the building principals to allow for physically distancing.

If deemed necessary or recommended by the aforementioned health entities, temperatures may be taken at the entrance of each building at the beginning of each day before a student comes further into the building. A space for students that exhibit COVID-19 symptoms during the school day has been established at each school. Staff has worked with the school nurse and/or administration to create a flowchart for how to respond when a child exhibits symptoms. School staff will notify and work with the department of health should a student or staff member test positive for COVID-19.

School and church staff have worked together to place additional hand sanitizer stations throughout the building, develop nightly sanitation procedures, and more frequent cleaning of highly touched surfaces. Materials will not be shared between students like they might have been in the past. Masks, gloves and other preventative equipment should be provided by families but will also be available at schools for back-up.

PLAN B for the 2020-2021 school year

Required Continuous Learning

This learning plan can be used in an emergency, such as the resurgence of COVID-19, or under another circumstance in which it is not possible for students to be in the building receiving instruction. Required Continuous Learning ensures that academic work is equivalent in effort and rigor to typical classroom work. All students are required to participate, attendance is taken, work is graded and credit is granted. Typically, instruction is provided through some type of online learning.

Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools recognizes many successes from the end of the 2020 school year that can be capitalized on. We also are aware that improvements can and

need to be made in various areas. We have identified only two learning platforms that will be utilized across the system. For all Pre-K through 2nd grade classrooms, SeeSaw will be the app used and for 3rd-12th grade we will use Google Classroom. This will streamline the delivery of education for our faculty, students and families. The BHCS faculty will have multiple professional development opportunities to grow in late July and August to address needs for online teaching. Steps have been taken to integrate Infinite Campus and Google Classroom to provide for streamlined communication.

PLAN C for the 2020-2021 school year

Hybrid Learning

A hybrid model of Continuous Learning and On-Site Learning may be used for some portion of the 2020-21 school year. This means services are offered both remotely and at physical school locations. The Hybrid model may allow for social distancing while partially reopening school buildings to provide educational services. This may also include students who have been exposed or family members who have been exposed so the student must remain at home in quarantine for a period of time. It also could apply similarly to individual teachers as well. This model is a combination of Required Continuous Learning and On-Site Learning Delivery. The methods may be combined by offering some student groups services on-site at different times or choosing which student groups get each delivery method by matching need. Online learning will be provided in a synchronous manner when possible.

Hybrid schedule could be or similar to:

Grade Level	Delivery Method
PK-5	On-site learning with physically distancing and classroom capacity Mon.-Fri.
6-12	Last name A-M: attend onsite learning M/T; online W/Th/F
6-12	Last name N-Z: attend onsite learning TH/F; online M/T/W

This schedule provides for continuous onsite learning for the youngest of our students . Preschool through grade 5 students would attend school via the onsite instructional model with social distancing and class capacity restrictions. Specials, resource teachers, and possibly substitute teachers would be scheduled to proctor classroom overflow.

All middle and high school students would be required to attend school in person, according to the first letter of their last name. This encourages a reduction in the number of students in the building at any given time.