

## **St. Benedict School Return to Preschool**

St. Benedict Preschool will begin the 2020-2021 academic year in a traditional classroom setting following all local health department regulations and mandates. St. Benedict Preschool will implement ODE/ODH recommendations for a safe return to the classroom as stated in Appendix A. Additionally, the school will follow all recommended practices and procedures for suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases as explained in Appendix B.

If at any time during the school year there is a state mandated school closure, St. Benedict Preschool will continue the education of students through Remote Learning. The administration and staff have developed a comprehensive Remote Learning Plan that is outlined in Appendix C.

**Under the direction of The Diocese of Steubenville, we have made an adjustment to our calendar. The updated schedule is as follows:**

August 24-31:	Teacher Meetings/Professional Development
September 1:	Students in grades 5-8 will report
September 2:	Students in grades 3-8 will report
September 3:	Students in Grades K-8 will report
September 8:	First day of Preschool

It is the hope of the Diocese that a staggered start of students reporting to school will allow schools to adjust to new procedures and mandates, and allow schools to modify any problems that might arise.

Due to resources and staff restrictions, whereas when instruction is offered in the traditional classroom setting, an online option will not be made available for learning. We understand that parents may be concerned having their student(s) return to the classroom setting in the fall. Please contact the school office if you wish for your student(s) to remain registered at St. Benedict School to discuss a short-term home learning option.

In addition to the St. Benedict School Return to School safety guidelines, the Preschool will implement the following safety precautions:

- Preschool students shall not be required to wear a face covering of any kind while in school. Parents have the option to have their child wear a face covering however the school will not honor this request if the student has trouble breathing or is unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
- Students will social distance 6 feet in the classroom and in all common areas.
- All staff and students will wash their hands upon entering the classroom and prior to leaving for the day, with intermittent hand washing throughout the day.
- Students will eat lunch in the classroom.
- Students will not share toys and the class will avoid using toys that cannot be cleaned. There will be a designated “to be cleaned bin” for toys that have been used.
- All rest mats need to be brought to school in a large closable bag. They will be returned at the end of your child’s school week for home cleaning.
- Preschool dismissal will join the school car pick-up in the back parking lot of the elementary school at the end of the day.