

#### **Our Mission**

# Teaching the Way of Jesus Christ, Holy Family Catholic School empowers students to become joyful disciples, lifelong learners, and compassionate leaders.

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Holy Family Catholic School and to our 2020-2021 academic year; we are celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year! I am looking forward to serving you, and our mission. Our partnership, and your commitment to the mission of HFCS, especially as we navigate all the changes that COVID-19 has brought to us, will ensure another successful school year.

The Family Handbook reflects the policies of Holy Family Catholic School for the 2020-2021 school year. Read this document carefully and review the policies and procedures with your child(ren), and sign and return the Family Handbook Agreement form (page 67), and the COVID-19 PARENTAL/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (page 68) to the school office.

The *Planning a Safe Return to School Document*, which outlines our COVID-19 safety protocol, has been included in this handbook for your reference. Some key excerpts from this document have also been added to the handbook.

The handbook is revised each year and Holy Family reserves the right to add / change or delete policies as warranted due to various circumstances or Diocesan policies. You will be notified of any changes that are made throughout the year; this year's changes will appear in red.

The faculty and staff of HFCS look forward to working with you to promote the Catholic identity, spiritual development, academic excellence, physical growth, and maturing social emotional intelligence of your children.

One of my favorite quotes about Catholic schools, along with our mission statement, helps me to appreciate that Jesus Christ is at the center of all our work together as we support our students' growth,

"Let it be known to all who enter here that Jesus Christ is the reason for this school, the unseen but ever-present teacher in all its classes, the model of its faculty, and the inspiration for its students."

Teaching the Way of Jesus Christ,

Mrs. Ann M. Walters, MPS Principal

#### Holy Family Catholic School 6146 Pershing Avenue Fort Worth, TX 76107 Phone: (817) 737-4201 FAX: (817) 738-1542

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#### HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Holy Family Catholic School is identifiably Catholic in our culture and community spirit. Academic attitudes and instructional programs are built on this strong foundation of Christian principles. Our primary goal for our students is the development of the whole child, mind, body, and spirit in light of his or her own faith journey and responsibility towards society.

Our motto of "*Learn, Serve, and Lead*" exemplifies three traits our students focus on throughout their education. As future leaders, they must first learn their faith by serving as Jesus did.

#### **HISTORY**

Holy Family Catholic School began as St. Alice School in June of 1945. Staffed by the Sisters of Saint Mary of Namur, the school was located at the corner of Locke Avenue and Camp Bowie Boulevard. In January 1961, Monsignor Vincent J. Wolf was appointed pastor of St. Alice Church and in 1962, property was acquired on Pershing Avenue for the relocation of the church and school. The name of the new church and school was changed to Holy Family to emphasize the unique sacredness of family life. Holy Family Catholic School was dedicated on September 27, 1970. At this time, the school was under the direction of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word. Since 1979, the entire faculty has been composed of lay staff. The interior of the school was extensively remodeled in 1984. In 1993, a gym and new 7th and 8th grade classrooms were added. We celebrated our 50th anniversary in October 1995 and our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015.

#### MISSION STATEMENT (Catholic Identity Committee, 2017)

Teaching the Way of Jesus Christ, Holy Family Catholic School empowers students to become joyful disciples, lifelong learners, and compassionate leaders.

#### VISION STATEMENT

Holy Family Catholic School aspires to provide a Christ-centered education focusing on academic excellence enhanced by service opportunities, physical education, fine arts, and current and evolving technology. Led by a passionate faculty and staff, we will support an enrollment that meets our facility's capacity while maintaining our small, nurturing community.

## ACADEMIC INFORMATION

#### Curriculum

The curriculum offered includes religion, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, library skills, health and guidance at all levels. Enrichment classes include music (Band - grades 5-8), art, and physical education. Grades PK4 through 8<sup>th</sup> attend library class once per week. (more detailed information on the school's website (<u>www.hfcsfw.org</u>). This year, due to COVID-19 safety protocol, the librarian will travel to the classrooms rather than the students coming to the library.

#### **Homework Policy**

HFCS follows diocesan homework policy which allows for a total of 30 minutes of core class homework per night. This 30 minutes of core class homework is reserved for 15 minutes of ELA reading and 15 minutes of math. This year, due to COVID-19 safety protocol, students will not be allowed to play their band instruments while on campus, therefore, band students will be assigned instrument practice time at home.

#### Late Assignment Policy

## 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade rubric for late assignments:

First day: 10 point deduction (highest grade possible is 90, additional points may still be taken for inaccurate or incomplete work)

Second day: 10 additional point deduction (highest grade possible is 80, additional points may still be taken for inaccurate or incomplete work)

Third day: zero

ZAP Hall will not be available his year, due to COVID-19 safety protocol. It will resume as soon as the safety protocols are lifted.

ZAP (Zero's Aren't Permitted) Hall meets in the library during lunch period time and attendance is required for students who have not turned in their homework. Students will have the chance to work on their late homework during ZAP Hall but will still be penalized points as per the above rubric. ZAP Hall is a homework safety net for students, not a punishment. A stamp in the student's planner will indicate missing homework point deduction. Parents are encouraged to review student planers on a regularly.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade late assignment policy:

• Students have a grace period on all late work until after Labor Day.

• Once the late work policy begins, each student gets one free pass for late work per year.

 $\cdot$  After this, 10 points will be deducted per day, with the lowest possible deduction of points for late work being a 70, additional points may still be taken for inaccurate or incomplete work.

#### **Preparation for High School**

The HFCS Middle School program is designed to help students gain an edge in college preparation early in their academic careers. Students develop and improve study habits necessary for succeeding in

rigorous coursework while exploring the world from various perspectives. These courses help students prepare to take Honors, Accelerated, and Pre-AP / AP courses when they enter high school.

#### **Middle School Information and Programs**

#### **Science and History Fairs**

Participation in annual science fair and history projects is mandatory in grades 6, 7, and 8 as part of the academic requirements. The Holy Family Catholic School faculty encourages participation in the diocesan and area contests.

#### **Student Service Hours**

Students in grades 6-8 are required to complete a required number of service hours. The goal of the Student Service Hour requirement is that each student will serve by giving back to the community. The following are the number of service hours required by each grade:

- a. Grade 6 a total of 15 hours
- b. Grade 7 –a total of 15 hours
- c. Grade 8 a total of 20 hours

d. Students who are in the National Junior Honor Society must complete an additional 15 hours of community service above the grade level requirement.

#### **Eighth Grade Promotion**

Students will be allowed to participate in graduation exercises and receive a diploma when all fees have been paid, the student has passed all courses required in the eighth grade, and the student has successfully completed all required service hours.

If a student fails one course, he/she may participate in the graduation ceremony but will not receive a diploma until satisfactory completion of the course. If more than one course is failed, the student will not be promoted nor be allowed to neither participate in the ceremony nor receive the diploma.

#### **Promotion Mass for 8<sup>th</sup> Graders**

Holy Family Catholic School provides a navy color, graduation gown for the promotional Mass ceremonies. The following dress applies:

a. Boys must wear dress slacks, a shirt with collar and tie, and dress shoes.

b. Girls must wear skirts or dresses at the most 2" above the knee. All blouses and dresses may not be strapless or spaghetti straps and have a modest neckline. Only clear nail polish will be worn on fingernails and toenails.

\*Note: Any eighth grade student who does not dress properly will not take part in the graduation ceremony. They will be asked to sit in back of the church.

### ACADEMIC HONESTY

At Holy Family Catholic School, we place great importance on original and creative work. An individual's ideas are his/her intellectual property; the ideas of others are theirs. Proper documentation is required for information, ideas and/or images obtained from any resource, including the Internet.

All work must be the student's own. Academic dishonesty or academic irregularity, in any form (sharing work, copying work, plagiarism, etc.) will result in a zero and a Report to Parent via RenWeb.

The term "plagiarism" refers to any materials represented as the student's own which have been paraphrased or copied from another source without proper credit. It may also include citing information not traceable to the document source.

As defined by St. Louis University School of Law:

Plagiarism results from the unacknowledged use of material found in print sources, oral presentations, or visual, electronic or other media sources. Plagiarism does not require an intention to deceive. It can result when a student submits as his or her own work ideas, language, data or other material contained in a source not acknowledged by the student, if the student knew or should have known that such acknowledgement was required. Plagiarism includes, without limitation, the following:

- A. Submitting another author's published or unpublished work, in whole, in part or in paraphrase, as one's own work, without fully and properly crediting the other author with footnotes, citations or other bibliographical reference.
- B. Submitting as one's own original work any material, including data, tables, graphs, charts or other visual material obtained from any source, without acknowledgement and citation of the source.
- *C.* Submitting as one's own original work material produced through unacknowledged collaboration with others, unless such collaboration is permitted by the instructor.

Through the combined efforts of classroom teachers and the school librarian, students at all levels will be thoroughly educated on the expectations for academic honesty within reasonable expectations for their age and will be held accountable for adhering to the guidelines in all HFCS academic activities.

## ACADEMIC PROBATION AND RETENTION

Any student in grades 5-8 with a "69" or below average in any of the five core subjects (ELA, math, religion, science, and social studies) at the end of the school year will be placed on academic probation. Any student who receives a "69" or below in three or more of the five core subjects at the end of the school year, will be automatically retained.

A student in grades 5-8 that is on academic probation must do one of the following to be removed from probation:

The student must complete a summer school program in the failed subject(s) and achieve a grade of 70 or above in such subject(s). A report documenting the achievement must be sent to the school.
 The student must satisfactorily complete a tutoring program in the failed subject(s). Written confirmation of the objectives covered and results must be sent to the school.

The principal must approve all summer school and tutoring programs referred to above in advance.

A student in grades K-4 may be placed on academic probation by the principal based upon teacher recommendation, test and grade report, scores and/or observation by other professionals. A student in grades K-4 that is on academic probation must comply with the school's recommendations to be removed from academic probation. If a student does not satisfy the above requirements, he/she will not be promoted to the next grade. In addition, the student may be refused readmission to the school.

## ACCREDITATION

The school is accredited by the Texas Catholic Conference Education Department, one of the associations recognized by the Texas Education Agency for accrediting non-public schools in Texas. The enriched curriculum exceeds the minimum standards established by the state of Texas.

The school is also governed by the policies and guidelines of the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Fort Worth and holds memberships in the National Catholic Education Association.

## **ADMISSION INFORMATION**

Holy Family Catholic School welcomes any student who seeks to receive an education that is rooted in the Catholic faith and tradition, regardless of racial, economic, religious, sociological, or ethnic background. However, entrance preference is extended to parishioners of Holy Family Catholic Church. Students from other parishes and of other religious beliefs are accepted if space permits.

In accordance with the Texas Catholic Conference accreditation standards, Holy Family Catholic School complies with all age and immunization requirements of the State of Texas and the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth. As a Catholic, non-public school dedicated to academic excellence within a disciplined, value-centered environment, the school actively seeks students and families who have a positive attitude toward the value of a Catholic education.

The most important qualification for acceptance, and retention, into the school is the principal's assessment that the applicant will have a successful school experience. This assessment is made in consultation with the family as well as through examination of the student's past academic and conduct records, which must be provided by the parents prior to admission. All reports from professional assessments (academic, behavioral, emotional or developmental) MUST be provided at the time of application for admission. All new students are admitted conditionally for the first 9 weeks.

As openings become available, the following priorities will be used to accept students to HFCS:

- 1. Current students of HFCS
- 2. Siblings of current HFCS students
- 3. Members of Holy Family Catholic Church
- 4. Members of other Catholic parishes
- 5. Non-Catholic students.

Children entering Pre-K 3 must be three years of age by September 1 of the upcoming school year. Students will be conditionally accepted into Pre-K 3 upon completion of the Early Childhood Screening and a scheduled Meet and Greet with the teacher. Students must be potty-trained.

Children entering Pre-K 4 must be four years of age by September 1 of the upcoming school year. Students will be conditionally accepted into Pre-K 4 with full acceptance contingent on displayed readiness on the Pre-K 4 entrance assessment. Students must be potty-trained.

Children entering Kindergarten must be five years of age by September 1 of the upcoming school year. Students will be conditionally accepted into Kindergarten with full acceptance contingent on displayed readiness on the Kindergarten entrance assessment. Students must be potty-trained.

A legal birth certificate and proof of immunizations must be submitted before prekindergarten, kindergarten, or first grade students will be allowed to register. The Diocesan Physical Examination Form is required of all new students except those transferring from another Fort Worth Catholic school.

All students in grades 1-8 seeking admission to Holy Family Catholic School are evaluated on the basis of an entrance exam, current standardized test scores (when applicable), and report cards.

All new students will be given a trial period of no less than nine-weeks in which to prove himself/herself both socially and academically. This period also allows the school time to assess if the needs of the student are being met. All decisions made by the school in regards to final acceptance are final.

Non-Catholic students whose parents accept the philosophy of Holy Family Catholic School will be accepted on a space available basis. Non-Catholic students are expected to take religion class, and attend all religious observances.

#### **New Students**

New applicant files will be processed and evaluated once all documents are provided. Incomplete applications cannot be processed. In addition to the completed application, the following documents must be submitted:

- Registration fee
- Official county /state issued Certificate of Birth (copy)
- Official Certificate of Baptism (Catholic students only) (copy)
- Two most recent report cards (grades 1-8)
- Copy of most recent standardized test scores (grades 1-8)
- Applicable information regarding psychological/educational evaluations
- Immunization records
- Applicable information regarding special health needs
- Signed release for records from previous school
- Letter of Reference (current school Principal for grades 1-8)

Incoming students will complete an assessment conducted by the grade level teacher and their parents are required to meet with the principal prior to acceptance.

Children with special needs will be admitted if, with reasonable accommodations on the part of the school, they can be successful in the school environment. Under these circumstances, the child will be conditionally accepted and status will be reevaluated if the need arises. Once the application file has been reviewed by the administration, parents will be notified of the student's acceptance status. After the student is accepted the parents will complete the registration process and receive a tuition statement. To receive the reduced Parish Tuition rate, the family must be a registered active member of a sponsoring parish.

By August 1, new students must turn in the Catholic School Health Report form (including immunization record) signed by a physician or nurse practitioner, a copy of Baptismal and First Communion certificates (if applicable), and the Authorization for Release of Student Records Form (Gr. 1-8). Stamped signatures, electronic signatures, and faxed copies will not be accepted.

By the first day of school new students must turn in the Student Emergency Information form, and other forms requested by the administration in the school-wide summer mailing.

#### **Returning Students**

Students returning to Holy Family must provide the following documents:

- Registration forms
- Registration and other fees paid to date
- Updated immunization record for all students and a Catholic School Health Report for Middle School students who might participate in sports. Stamped signatures, electronic signatures, and faxed copies will not be accepted.

The Student Emergency Information Form must be turned in by the first day of each school year. It is the responsibility of the parents to provide up-to-date and accurate addresses, phone numbers, and health information throughout the school year by immediately notifying the School Office of any changes.

## **ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is representative of the school and parish community and functions as a consultative group that share in the education ministry of the school. The Council actively participates in school governance in concert with the Pastor of the Parish and the school principal, using the consensus model.

## **ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION**

Both the architect and the contractor have attested that they have not knowingly installed any materials containing asbestos In the school building. Holy Family Catholic School is in compliance with the requirements of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) and all Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations concerning asbestos in schools. The complete file is available for review in the School Office.

## LIMITED VISITS BY PARENTS AND GENERAL PUBLIC DUE TO COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOL

- Parents and other adults will need to make an appointment prior to visiting HFCS.
- During these visits, parents and other visitors must follow virus prevention and mitigation requirements of the school.
- HFCS will encourage reducing adult visits on campus to only those essential to school operations.
- All visitors must check in at the front desk.

## ARRIVAL AND DROP OFF PROCEDURES

#### ARRIVAL

Students should arrive at school no earlier than 7:30 A.M. except for those who are enrolled in the Before School Care Program. Students who arrive between 7:30 A.M. and 7:50 A.M. will report to their homerooms. At the 7:50 bell, students in the Before School Care Program in the cafeteria will be dismissed to class by grade, and students just arriving should go directly to class. Students must be seated in class and ready to begin work at the sound of the 8:00 A.M. bell, or they will be considered tardy.

#### ARRIVAL AND DROP OFF PROCEDURES HAVE CHANGED DUE TO COVID-19 SAFETY <u>PROTOCOL AND THE ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT. PLEASE ANTICIPATE</u> <u>ARRIVAL AND DROP OFF PROCEDURES TO TAKE LONGER THAN NORMAL.</u>

#### **DROP OFF PROCEDURE**

Drivers should pull up to the sidewalk in front of the school. Pull up to the handicapped parking areas to ensure maximum usage of carpool lane. No parent is to exit his or her vehicle. All students will exit the vehicle on the side closest to the curb. Parked vehicles in carpool lane create congestion and create an unsafe environment for our students. Once all students have exited the vehicle, please pull out and away. Do not put your car in reverse, or back up your car, while in the car line.

#### **Entering the School – Students**

There will be two one point of student entry into the school until the roof replacement project is complete: the back gate, and the front doors. There will be hand sanitizer stations at the front doors, in each classroom and office, the gym, the church, and in the library.

## PLEASE NOTE: ALL STUDENTS WILL ENTER THROUGH THE FRONT DOORS UNTIL THE ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT IS COMPLETE.

#### **First Day of School Arrival**

- Mandatory carpool drop-off (see above "Entering the School Students")
- Parents and caregivers remain in the carline with the exception of PK.
  - PK parents may escort their child/ren into the PK building front hall of the school during the first week of school only.
  - PK parents will maintain 6ft of social distance using the sidewalk and stair distance markers.
  - Parents must wear masks.
- Students will be chaperoned to classrooms
- Virtual morning assemblies and prayer will be viewed or heard in individual classrooms
- Every class will be instructed on appropriate hygiene practices.
- <u>Pre-Kindergarten students:</u>
  - will enter through the back gate front doors and will immediately be escorted to the PK portables.
  - PK students needing before school care will enter through the main front doors.
- <u>Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students:</u>
  - $\circ$  will enter through the main front doors..

#### **BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE (BASC):**

#### **Before School Care**

Before School Care begins at 6:30 am, and is located in the cafeteria.

• A staff member will meet the student in the carline and escort the student into the building.

- Students will use the hand sanitizer station before entering the cafeteria and when leaving the cafeteria.
- The students will be assigned seating that provides 6 feet of social distancing.
- Students will be provided their own labeled supply bag containing craft supplies and writing materials.

#### After School Care

## AFTER SCHOOL CARE BEGINS IMMEDIATELY AFTER SCHOOL DISMISSAL, AND IS LOCATED IN THE CAFETERIA AND THE LIBRARY.

- The students will be assigned seating that provides 6 feet of social distancing.
- Pre-packed snacks and water will be distributed to students.
- Students will use the hand sanitizer station before entering the cafeteria and when leaving the cafeteria.
- Students will be provided their own labeled supply bag containing craft supplies and writing materials.
- PARENTS WILL RING THE FRONT DOOR BELL AND THE STUDENTS WILL BE ESCORTED TO THE FRONT DOOR AND BE RELEASED TO THEIR PARENTS/GUARDIANS.

#### DISMISSAL

Dismissal for the car pool line will begin at 3:15 P.M. on full school days. Students are dismissed from the classroom as their rides arrive.

#### Please note: There will be no walk-up line this year during pick-up.

#### DISMISSAL

- Pre-Kindergarten students:
  - Students will be called to the carline via walkie-talkie and will be dismissed through the back gate near the PK portables the front door and will be escorted to the carline two students at a time.
- Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students:
  - Students will be called to the carline via the intercom system, only six students will be called at a time.
  - Cones will be set up six feet apart at the curb to maintain social distancing.
- After School Care students:
  - The students will be assigned seating that provides 6 feet of social distancing.
  - Pre-packed snacks and water will be distributed to students.
  - Students will use the hand sanitizer station before entering the cafeteria and when leaving the cafeteria.
  - Students will be provided their own labeled supply bag containing craft supplies and writing materials.
  - PARENTS WILL RING THE FRONT DOOR BELL AND THE STUDENTS WILL BE ESCORTED TO THE FRONT DOOR AND BE RELEASED TO THEIR PARENTS/GUARDIANS.

Students who have not been picked up by 3:30 P.M will be sent to the After School Care Program.

SPECIAL NOTE: Parents or children <u>may not return</u> to a classroom after dismissal unless an appointment was made with the teacher in advance. It is the student's responsibility to leave the

classroom at dismissal with all needed books and supplies. Students will not be permitted to return to the classrooms or lockers for forgotten items.

#### PICK UP PROCEDURE

Pre-Kindergarten students are dismissed from the school library at 11:00am in the main building. Pre-Kindergarten parents are asked to wait outside the school upon arrival, practicing social distancing by standing at a cone in the front courtyard, and a faculty member will escort your child to you.

Please observe the following procedures:

All cars must have the NAME SIGNS displayed in the front windshield of the vehicle. These signs are distributed to students at the beginning of the school year. Drivers should pull up to the school along the designated carpool line to the point near the handicapped parking. Then quickly and safely pull out when the student is in the car to accommodate cars waiting in the line. Please do not park or block traffic in the pickup line.

If a student requires assistance into a vehicle, the faculty member will provide help. All parents/grandparents/etc. are to remain in the vehicle. Students must always enter and exit cars in the carpool line only through doors closest to the curb.

Since it is dangerous for children to walk through oncoming traffic to a parked car, we request that all children are picked up at the curb where they will be safely loaded in the waiting vehicle by the staff. Students are not allowed to walk to a parked car without an adult escort.

Homeroom teachers and the school receptionist should be advised in writing if a child is to go home with another person other than a parent, or if a student is to go home by different means on a given day. If permission is not provided to the school, a child will not be released from the school unless it is to his/her parent.

## ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCES

#### **ABSENCE POLICY**

Students are expected to be present and on time every day. A student is responsible for work missed because of absences. Parents are asked to schedule vacations during regular school breaks. Missing several days of classes is detrimental even to the strongest student.

Students who are in attendance less than 90% (182 days) of the school year are in jeopardy of not advancing to the next level. Repeated unexcused absences may be considered grounds for summer school, suspension, retention, or even dismissal. All cases will be reviewed, and the Principal will determine final decision.

#### EXCUSED ABSENCE

An excused absence is one that the family has no control, such as:

- Student illness,
- Serious illness or death in the family
- School-sponsored trips, or
- Emergency

Medical or dental appointments, etc., are to be scheduled outside of school time. Exceptions will be made if absolutely necessary, but only after a note from the parents and an appointment card from the doctor, presented either before going or upon returning from the appointment, have been submitted to the office.

A major goal of any school is to teach responsibility to the student. Students should not be out of school for family vacations, scout trips, etc. If a parent believes that a student should miss school for any reason other than illness or a family emergency (such as a death in the family), the parent must contact the Principal in writing in advance of the absence. These absences may be unexcused.

#### **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES**

Any absence that does not meet the above criteria is unexcused. A student's absence from school due to an out-of-school disciplinary suspension is unexcused. In addition, every five tardies per semester is deemed to equal one day of unexcused absence and is recorded as an absence on the student's permanent school record.

#### ABSENCES AND SCHOOL WORK

Each student is to complete all work missed during an absence. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain and complete assignments covered during the period of absence and to make arrangements with the teacher for make-up tests and other help at a time convenient for the teacher. Students are allowed to make up work for excused absences. A student is allowed one day (not including the day they return) to make up work missed for each day of absence unless the work was due the day of the absence. Make up work for unexcused absences will NOT be given a grade. Teachers will not provide work in advance for students to complete during any absence. In grades 4-8, long-term assignments, such as projects, book reports, research papers, etc., must be brought to school by 8:00 a.m. on the day they are due whether or not the student comes to school.

Books and assignments for a student who is ill may be requested by emailing the homeroom teacher by 11:00 a.m. The email should indicate whether homework should be sent home with a sibling or picked up in the office (after 3:30 p.m.). Emails after 11:00 a.m. cannot be honored because teachers may not view the email or have the free time to prepare the work. Absent work that is not requested to be sent home will be in the homeroom classroom upon the student's return. Students may also check RenWeb and/or call a classmate for the homework missed due to an absence.

#### **Procedures Regarding Absences and Late Arrivals**

If a child is absent, parents must call the school office or email the office before 8:00 a.m. to inform the administration of the nature of the absence.

A written excuse will be required from parents after a student's absence. A note from the physician is required when the child has been absent 3 or more days.

The Public Health Department requires a doctor's note to re-admit students with conjunctivitis (pinkeye) or meningitis. School Administration may also require a doctor's note to re-admit a student who has been ill if they deem necessary.

#### **Appointments and Early Release**

Students arriving after 10:00 a.m. will be counted as a half-day absence. Students leaving before 1:00 p.m. will be counted as a half-day absence.

Unexcused Early Release - Students will have an unexcused early release for reasons unrelated to doctor, dental, or other excused appointments.

#### FAMILY DAYS

Families are allowed 2 full days (or 4 half-days) per school year to be used as needed for personal reasons. The absence(s) will be treated as "excused" absences. Like all excused absence, the parent must submit in writing to the school's receptionist and your child's homeroom teacher the reason for the absence (i.e., Family Day.) The request to use family days must be submitted at <u>least one week</u> in advance of the scheduled absence.

In the event a student's absence extends beyond two days, and would not otherwise be an excused absence, the first two days of the absence will be considered "Family Days," or the balance if less than two days are available.

A "half-day" may be used for absences in which the student returns to school by 11:30am, or leaves school after 11:30am for the remainder of the day.

No Family Day may be taken during Achievement Testing or be used to excuse or delay submission of special projects (e.g., Science Fair, History Fair, etc.). Family Days are not cumulative from year to year and a Family Day taken will apply to <u>all</u> the students in the family. (i.e., Family Days are not granted by individual family member, but to the entire family).

#### TARDINESS

The first bell rings at 7:50am and students begin to make their way to homeroom. Any student not in his/her seat and ready to begin the day by the 8:00 A.M. bell is considered tardy. Prompt arrival at school is strongly encouraged.

Students arriving late must be accompanied by an adult to the front doors of the building and should NEVER be dropped off at the front door. Parents/guardians must ring the front door bell to allow the student access to the building. Parents are not allowed into the building without making a prior appointment. A late arrival between 8:15am to 9:15am on Thursday mornings is not possible due to Mass. Students may not be left without parent supervision if they arrive on campus during Mass or Prayer Service is over.

Tardies will be tracked per quarter in RENWEB, and parents will be notified when a student has 3 tardies. Upon receipt of the 4th tardy, the student will serve a Before School Detention (Grades 4-8: 6:45am to 7:45am; grades PK-3: 7:15am to 7:45am). Each subsequent tardy will result in further non-participation in scheduled field trips. Habitual tardies may result in a referral to the principal for additional disciplinary action.

Call, e-mail, or letter to parents 3 tardies

Equals one day of absence and recorded on permanent record card 5 tardies

Conference with Principal

Subsequent tardies in increments of five (i.e. 10, 15, 20, etc.) will result in one day of absence for every five unexcused tardies and notification to parents at each increment.

An exception would be for a student arriving from a medical or dental appointment verified with a written note from the doctor or dentist. <u>Excused tardy examples</u>: Court appearance (court note required; car accident; doctor/dental (doctor note required); extenuating circumstances with administrative approval. <u>Unexcused tardy examples</u>: oversleeping, car problems, and routine traffic.

## BACKPACKS

Students in grades PK-3 are allowed any type of full-sized backpack.

Students in grades 4-8 may use school bags or backpacks without wheels to carry their books to and from home. Backpacks should be clearly marked with the student's name on the inside of the backpack. Because of safety concerns and the lack of space in the classrooms, backpacks must be able to fit into the classroom cubby. If a doctor prescribes a rolling backpack, the school must have a current prescription on file (updated yearly).

# **BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM** (formerly called Extended Care / Extended Day) **BASC**

Before and after school programs are available on a daily basis for students enrolled at Holy Family Catholic School. This service is only available on days when school is in session. This program is an extension of our school day and works under the guidance of the principal. At the end of dismissal, all students are sent to the cafeteria. At 3:30 all students will be admitted into AFTER SCHOOL CARE and all fees will apply. Fees are charged on a HOURLY basis.

All students enrolled in the program are under the supervision of each and every member of the school faculty and staff and the BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL Program staff and are; therefore, expected to respectfully follow their directives.

#### HOURS

BASC is open from 6:30 to 7:30 A.M. and 3:30-6:00 P.M. Also, on noon dismissal days from 12:00 to 6:00 P.M., with the exception of designated school holidays/event days. All children must be picked up no later than 6:00 pm.

### FEES

- 1. A registration fee of \$75.00 is required of all students who participate in this program:
- 2. A rate of \$5.00 per hour will be charged per child. For any child attending any portion of an hour, the parent will be charged the full hour. The rate for any child picked up after 6:00 P.M. will be \$5.00 per minute, per child.
- 3. Parents will be billed, and the amount will be payable on a semi-monthly basis.

#### **INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSING**

In the event of inclement weather, parents will be notified. BASC will be closed if the school is closed. If school is delayed, Extended Day will open one-hour prior to start of school.

#### HOLIDAYS

Extended Day will not be open during school holidays.

#### SNACKS

A snack is given to each child after school. The snack cost is included in the weekly fee. Children may bring their own snack if they wish; however, the weekly fee is not adjusted for those families who provide their child's snack. We do not serve breakfast nor do we have a morning snack.

#### **ILLNESS**

The health of the children and staff is always a concern at BASC. BASC follows HFCS health guidelines.

**MEDICATION** - Medication can only be given if the parent has met the school's general requirements for medication dispensing. Medications and permission forms will be kept in the nurse's clinic.

#### DISCIPLINE

Each child is responsible for his/her behavior in BASC and will follow all school rules and procedures. All Students are expected to respectfully follow the directives of each and every member of the staff. If a student fails to meet the stated expectations, the following procedures will be followed:

- 1. Counsel the student;
- 2. Exclude the student from certain activities;
- 3. Issue a Behavior Report on RenWeb;
- 4. Conference with parents;
- 5. Temporary or permanent removal from the Before & After School Program.

#### HOMEWORK

There is time and space available for the children to do their homework each day. Each child is responsible to take time to do his/her homework and to bring all books required. The children are not allowed to return to their classrooms after the school day is over.

#### TOYS, RADIOS, ETC.

Electronics may be not used in BASC. BASC is not responsible for toys or any item lost or damaged at BASC. No personal toys may be brought to BASC due to Covid-19 safety protocol.

#### DRESS

BASC students will follow the school dress code.

#### **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

In the event a BASC student participates in after school activities, a signed release form must be on file. Students are required to check in with the BASC staff before going on to the activity. Those students who do not check in with the BASC staff will be counted absent and, therefore, are not the responsibility of the BASC.

#### BULLYING/HARRASSMENT- (Please see our Bullying Policy found on the school website)

### **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

Schoolteachers and administrators who suspect that a child has been abused or neglected are required by law (Texas Family Code, Chapter 34) to report to Child Protective Services.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

#### **CONDUCT GRADES**

Every quarter, students will receive conduct grades from each of their teachers of Excellent (E), Satisfactory (S), Needs Improvement (N), or Unsatisfactory (U). **Excellent** = no behavior reports **Satisfactory** = 1-3 behavior reports **Needs Improvement** = 4-5 behavior reports and/or meeting with principal **Unsatisfactory** = over 5 behavior reports and/or meeting with principal

#### **CYBER BULLYING**

Holy Family Catholic School attempts to provide a safe environment for all individuals. Verbal or written threats made against the physical or emotional well-being of any individual are taken very seriously. Students making such threats (seriously or in jest or online) face detention, suspension, and/or expulsion.

#### **BLOGS/SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS**

Engagement in online blogs or participation in social media sites such as, but not limited to, Facebook, Instagram, etc. may result in disciplinary actions if the content of the student or parent's social media site includes defamatory comments regarding the school, the faculty, other students or the parish. In addition, any photos and/or captions on a student or parent's social media account that depict the school, the faculty, other students, or the parish in a defamatory way may result in disciplinary action.

#### **OFF-CAMPUS CONDUCT**

The faculty/staff of Holy Family Catholic School reserve the right to discipline its students for offcampus behavior that is not in line with behavior expectations of its students during the course of the school day. This off-campus behavior includes, but is not limited to, cyber-Ebullying and social media sites.

#### SEVERE MISBEHAVIOR

In case of serious misbehavior, the student will be sent to the principal and issued a Misconduct Slip. Blatant misbehavior includes: disrupting class, improper behavior outside class or at a school sponsored activity held on/off campus, obscene language, student harassment, fighting or rough-housing (pushing, shoving, boxing, karate kicking, etc.), insubordination, intimidation, abusive language or behavior, defacement of school property, obscenity-written or drawn, and other conduct or actions, regardless of where or when such actions take place or if they are of a nature to bring discredit to the school or if they conflict with Christian values. Suspension or expulsion may be invoked for blatant misbehavior.

#### **DEFINITION OF CONDUCT RELATED TERMS**

*Time-Out* / Recovery is temporary removal of a student from normal class activities and may occur within the classroom itself or in a supervised area outside the classroom. Following a specified period, the student is allowed to return to the activity in progress if his/her behavior has improved.

*Lunch Detention* takes place after the student finishes eating. He/she reports to the faculty member who will monitor him/her in a designated place. Lunch detention is not an option while following COVID-19 safety guidelines.

*School Detention* will not exceed 30 minutes (7:15am-7:45am) for students in grades K-3 and 1 hour (6:45am-7:45am) for students in grades 4-8. The teacher will notify the parent at least one day in advance of the detention via RenWeb. If a student does not serve a detention, 10 points will be deducted from his/her conduct grade in grades 5-8. In grades 1-4, if a student fails to return a detention slip or to serve a detention, his/her conduct grade will be negatively affected.

**Probation** is the status of a student whose conduct indicates a serious lack of cooperation with school policies and philosophy. Such a student and his/her parent/guardian must sign a personal contract with the principal which spells out his/her responsibilities as a student. While probationary status is a pledge of the student's renewed cooperation, it implies the individual will withdraw immediately if there is one, additional, or significant infraction of school policy. While on probation, a student is not eligible to participate in the school's extracurricular activities.

**Suspension** is the temporary prohibition of a student's attendance. In-school suspension requires the student to do all class work and have lunch in an isolated setting. Restroom breaks will be provided. All privileges are withdrawn during the period. Out of school suspension means a student cannot be on campus during a given period of time. Students will be allowed to complete their schoolwork while on suspension; however, the maximum points a student can receive for class work completed is a 70. While on suspension, a student is not eligible to participate in the school's extracurricular activities.

*Expulsion* is the permanent termination of a student's enrollment. Students who have been expelled will not be allowed to return to the school without prior permission from the Principal.

\*SPECIAL NOTE: Students whose parents have violated the Parents as Partners agreement in this handbook may also be excluded from Holy Family Catholic School.

#### SPECIAL CONDUCT RULES

Academic Dishonesty / Irregularities - The first offense for a student found to be academically dishonest (testing irregularities, failure to follow procedures, lying, forgery, plagiarism, etc.) is a zero on the assignment for all parties willfully involved and a Misconduct Report with a 10-point deduction in conduct and notification will be sent to parents. The second offense is a zero on the assignment for all parties willfully involved, a mandatory parent conference, and another misconduct report with a 10-point deduction in conduct. The third offense in the same class carries the penalty of failure of the class for the quarter.

**Plagiarism** – As defined by St. Louis University School of Law: "Plagiarism results from the unacknowledged use of material found in print sources, oral presentations, or visual, electronic or other media sources. Plagiarism does not require an intention to deceive. It can result when a student submits as his or her own work ideas, language, data or other material contained in a source not acknowledged by the student, if the student knew or should have known that such an acknowledgement was required. Plagiarism includes, without limitation, the following:

a. Submitting another author's published or unpublished work, in whole, in part, or in paraphrase, as one's own work, without fully and properly crediting the other author with footnotes, citations or other bibliographical reference.

b. Submitting as one's own original work any material, including data, tables, graphs, charts or other visual material obtained from any source, without acknowledgement and citation of the source.

c. Submitting as one's own original work material produced through unacknowledged collaboration with others, unless such collaboration is specifically permitted by the instructor"

The consequences for such actions will be a 10 point conduct deduction for grades 5-8, and all students will receive a zero for assignment/quiz/test/project.

**Vandalism/Theft -** The first offense requires a conference with parents, restitution, and detention and/or suspension. A malicious or second offense carries the same consequences and further disciplinary action as determined by the principal.

**Gum** - Gum chewing is not allowed. Any offense is a 5-point deduction in the conduct grade and a detention for each offense after.

Search - The school has the right to search desks, lockers, and any bag/sack.

#### **PROHIBITED ARTICLES AT SCHOOL**

Articles which are hazardous to the safety of others or which interfere in some way with school procedures may not be brought to school. Items such as weapons, knives, BB guns, tobacco products, illegal drugs, real or simulated drug paraphernalia, and alcohol are strictly prohibited and will be confiscated. Bringing such articles to school is cause for suspension or expulsion.

#### Due to COVID-19 Safety Protocols, students will not be permitted to bring toys, etc. to school.

Items such as stuffed pets, toys, radios, tape/CD players, playing cards, etc. must remain in the student's backpack until final dismissal. These items if found out of the student's backpack, will be taken up and returned to the parent/guardian at his/her request or retained until the end of the school year. Teachers, with the principal's approval, may give special permission for such items to be brought to his/her elassroom as part of a special display or activity. In such cases, the item is permitted for that specific display/activity only.

**CELL PHONES, E-READERS & OTHER TECHNOLOGY:** Cell Phones must be turned off and in the student's backpack at all times while on campus. They are only for use before and after school if a parent chooses to send them with a child. While on campus, students should request to use the school phone if a need arises.

If a student's cell phone is seen or heard during the school hours, the following hierarchy of consequences will occur:

1st Violation: A Behavior Report (RenWeb) will be issued and the cell phone will be confiscated and picked up by the parent. The student will serve a lunch/recess detention.

2nd Violation: A Behavior Report (RenWeb) will be issued and the parent will pick up the phone after school on the following school day. The student will spend one day in In-School Suspension.

3rd Violation: A Behavior Report (RenWeb) will be issued and the parent and principal will meet to discuss further steps. The student may lose privileges, including that of having a phone on campus and may be subject to suspension.

Any 1st offense intentional misuse of a phone or electronic device such as playing games, taking photos or video, or voice recording may be treated minimally as a 2nd or 3rd violation, depending on the circumstances and at the discretion of administration.

E-readers are allowed in school in grades 4-8 only when they are used <u>as a replacement for an</u> <u>independent reading book.</u> Students may not download information while at school or use the device for playing games, etc. Parents are responsible for the content on the e-readers. If a student uses an e-reader for any other purpose while on the school campus, he/she will receive a Report to Parent and any appropriate consequences at the discretion of administration. These include the loss of privileges including that of bringing the e-reader to school and possible suspension. Holy Family Catholic School is not responsible for the loss or theft of cell phones, e-readers or any other electronic devices brought to school by students, with or without permission from their parents. Students are encouraged to always exercise the utmost caution when participating in any form of social media or online communications, both within the HFCS community and beyond. Students who participate in online interactions must remember that their posts reflect on the entire HFCS school community. As the student is a Holy Family Catholic School student at all times, if he/she engages in conduct, whether inside or outside the school, that is detrimental to the reputation of the school, he/she may be disciplined by school officials. In addition to the Diocesan Social Media Policy and regulations found in this Family Handbook, students are expected to abide by the following:

To protect the privacy of HFCS students and faculty, students may not take a picture of someone without their permission. Posting pictures of others on social media sites is discouraged. Posting disparaging or inappropriate pictures is prohibited.

Students may not, under any circumstances, create digital video recordings of HFCS community members either on campus or at off-campus HFCS events for online publication or distribution.

Students may not use social media sites to publish disparaging or harassing remarks about HFCS community members, athletic or academic contest rivals, etc.

Students who choose to post editorial content to websites or other forms of online media must ensure that their submission does not reflect poorly upon the school.

Failure to abide by this Policy, as with other policies at HFCS, may result in disciplinary action as described in the Family Handbook, or as determined by administration.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS**

#### STUDENT SERVICE HOURS

Students in grades 6-8 are required to complete a required number of service hours. The goal of the Student Service Hour requirement is that each student will serve by giving back to the community. The following are the number of service hours required by each grade:

- a. Grade 6 a total of 15 hours
- b. Grade 7 –a total of 15 hours
- c. Grade 8 a total of 20 hours
- d. Students who are in the National Junior Honor Society must complete an additional 15 hours of community service above the grade level requirement.

Note: All service hours are to be completed outside of the school day, before 8:00 A.M. and after 3:00 P.M. Students who are in the Liturgical choir, Yearbook Committee, or Student Council may count the time spent in these organizations towards their service hour requirement.

#### PARENT/FAMILY SERVICE HOUR REQUIREMENT

**Due to COVID-19 Safety Protocols, this requirement is waived for the 2020-2021 school year.** Each family is responsible for thirty (30) required service hours each year. If this time is not possible, a monetary fee (\$10) per hour or a combination of time and money will be the required option. This participation program enlists adults to assist with tutoring, typing, the sports program, field trips, the making of teaching materials, and all Home and School Association activities including development and fundraising.

The principal is responsible for the total school operation; thus, the principal supervises all who serve in any capacity in the school. *VIRTUS Keeping Children Safe* is a requirement by the Diocese of Fort Worth for those who have regular contact with children.

#### **CUSTODY ISSUES**

Special legal considerations that affect the custody of a student must be given to the principal and are maintained on file with the school. Communication with the school regarding legal decisions related to custody arrangements is very important. Upon request, the non-custodial parent may receive a family packet and other school information. Upon request, a teacher will set up a separate parent conference for the non-custodial parent. A parent whose parental rights have been legally terminated is not sent a family packet or any other school information if the school is given a copy of the court order terminating those rights.

#### DISCIPLINE

Realizing that self-control is essential to good classroom order and to effective education, Holy Family Catholic School expects from students a sense of responsibility for their own behavior. Discipline policies set loving, consistent, firm, and reasonable limits for school behavior. The primary purpose of Holy Family Catholic School is to prepare students to live effectively in the present as Catholic young people, and in the future as Catholic adults.

### **DRESS CODE**

Holy Family Catholic School's dress code provides a level of formality suitable for serious academic performance. The rationale behind this dress code includes encouraging dressing for success, providing uniformity, promoting discipline and fostering a better learning environment.

Students are expected to wear the complete school-approved uniform with pride and dignity every day of the school year. All uniforms must be properly fitted, clean and in good repair. All students are expected to be in complete compliance with the dress code from the time they enter the building in the morning until they exit the building at the end of the day.

#### **UNIFORM PURCHASES**

The official school uniform must be purchased from Mills Uniform Company.

#### Year Round Store

5460 E. Loop 820 S. Fort Worth, TX 76119 Phone: 817-563-7100 Retail Manager: Sherri Klassen

#### Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Mills is offering curbside pick-up only or ordering online.

#### **Online Site**

https://www.millswear.com/school.jsp?path=-1|29675&id=412382

#### **HFCS School Code**

3367

#### HORNET STORE (Donated Uniforms)

#### Due to COVID-19, The Hornet Store will be closed until further notice.

The Hornet Store, located in the Loaves and Fish closet in the Dining Hall, offers, free of charge, gently used uniforms. Hornet Store inventories are solely dependent on recent donations. Donations may be dropped off at the school at any time during normal operating hours. Parents may access the Hornet Store on any normal school day from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

#### **GENERAL UNIFORM GUIDELINES**

- All students in K-8 must have at least one complete formal uniform for Mass and other announced days. Components of the formal uniform are designated as "Required for Dress Day" in the Uniform Program chart.
- Only the navy v-neck and cardigan sweaters embroidered with the school logo are permitted as outerwear for Mass.
- Students are not permitted to wear the navy fleece jacket or sweatshirt embroidered with the school logo or navy hoodie printed with the school logo during Mass.
- All students in PK-8 must have at least one red polo shirt embroidered with the school logo. This is the standard shirt worn for field trips.
- Jumpers, skirts, and skorts must be no shorter than 2" above the kneecap.

- Modesty shorts must be worn under the jumper and skirt and must be solid navy in color.
- All shirts must <u>always</u> be neatly tucked into pants, shorts, skorts and skirts and not rolled under sweatshirts or sweaters.
- Only solid white undershirts may be worn with the formal uniform and the sleeve cannot extend past the uniform shirt sleeve.
- Navy, white or black undershirts may be worn under the red polo and the sleeve cannot extend past the uniform shirt sleeve.
- Socks must come above the ankle bone.
- Shoelaces must be the same or similar to the shoelaces original to the shoe.

#### UNIFORM FOR BOYS AND GIRLS - PK 3 and 4

Pre-K students are not required to wear a uniform; however, they must have at least one red polo shirt embroidered with the school logo and must comply with the guidelines detailed in the sections "Hair", "Jewelry/Accessories", "Makeup" and "Non-Uniform Dress". They are encouraged to wear Holy Family Catholic School spirit shirts/sweatshirts at least one time per week (Friday's).

### **UNIFORM PROGRAM FOR BOYS AND GIRLS – PK THROUGH 8TH**



Holy Family Catholic School 2018-2019 Uniform Program School Code: 3376



Your Mills Store: Fort Worth Location Details and Hours of Operation: <u>millswear.com/locations</u>	= Approved for select grade range         N/A         = Not Approved for select grade range
SHOP ONLINE	CUSTOMER SERVICE
<u>millswear.com</u>	1-800-541-1850

## Girls:Tops Uniform Program

Item	Part Number	Colors	Price Range (\$)	Description	PK	K-5	6-8
alle a	A211	White	17.50- 22.00	Girls' Broadcloth SS Peter-Pan Blouse	N/A	Required for Dress Day - Long- or short-sleeve	N/A

	A212	White	20.50	Girls' Broadcloth LS Peter-Pan Blouse	N/A	Required for Dress Day - Long- or short-sleeve	N/A
Ter	B331	White	22.50- 31.00	Unisex Oxford Short-sleeve Shirt	N/A	N/A	Required for Dress Day - Long- or short-sleeve
()	B332	White	27.00- 35.00	Unisex Oxford Long-sleeve Shirt	N/A	N/A	Required for Dress Day - Long- or short-sleeve
	C7053376	Red	24.25- 28.75	Unisex Cotton/poly Pique Short-sleeve Polo with Holy Family Catholic School logo	Required for Field Trip Day - Style is Optional	Required for Field Trip Day - Style is Optional	Required for Field Trip Day - Style is Optional
	C7253376	Red	27.75- 30.75	Unisex Cotton/poly Pique Long-sleeve Polo with Holy Family Catholic School logo	Required for Field Trip Day - Style is Optional	Required for Field Trip Day - Style is Optional	Required for Field Trip Day - Style is Optional

## Girls:Athletic Wear Uniform Program

<b>T</b> .	Part		Price Range		DV	T7 6	
Item	Number	Colors	(\$)	Description	РК	K-5	6-8
	F7213376	Navy	25.00- 27.00	Unisex Cotton/poly Crew Sweatshirt with Holy Family Catholic School logo			

## Girls:Bottoms Uniform Program

			Price				
	Part		Range				
Item	Number	Colors	(\$)	Description	PK	K-5	6-8
	M098	Navy Green Red Yellow Plaid		Girls' Front-zip Jumper - Child Size	N/A	Required for Dress Day	N/A
	M150	Navy Green Red Yellow Plaid		Girls' Box-Pleat (reg) Skirt	N/A	N/A	Required for Dress Day
	M422	Navy Tropical	43.75- 46.75	Girls' 2-in-1 Skort	N/A		

## Girls:Outerwear Uniform Program

Item	Part Number	Colors	Price Range (\$)	Description	PK	K-5	6-8
M.°	E6413376		( <b>\$</b> ) 34.00- 40.00	Unisex Acrylic V-neck Sweater-vest with Holy Family Catholic School logo	N/A	<b>K</b> -J	For Grades 6 to 8 Only - Required for Dress Day
	E6613376	Navy	46.25- 52.25	Unisex Acrylic V-neck Cardigan Sweater with Holy Family Catholic School logo	N/A		
	G8423376	Navy	40.00- 47.75	Unisex Fleece Front-zip Jacket with Holy Family Catholic School logo	N/A		

## Girls:Accessories Uniform Program

	Part		Price Range				
Item	Number	Colors	(\$)	Description	PK	K-5	6-8
	F665	Navy	15.75- 19.75	Girls' Stretch Modesty Short	N/A	To be worn under skirt/jumper	under
IMAGE COMING SOON!	H903	Navy Green Red Yellow Plaid		Girls' Crossover Tie	N/A	N/A	Required for Dress Day
	H930	Navy	4.00	Girls' Anklet Socks	N/A		
	H938	Navy	5.00- 5.50	Girls' Flat Knee-Hi Socks	N/A	Required for Dress Day	Required for Dress Day
4	H944	Navy	7.00- 9.00	Unisex Three-Pack Crew Socks	N/A		
	H950	Navy	6.00- 9.00	Girls' Tights	N/A		

## Girls:Shoes Uniform Program

			Price				
	Part		Range				
Item	Number	Colors		Description	PK	K-5	6-8

	\$902	Linen Oat	90.00	Women's Suede Top-Sider Shoes	N/A	N/A	
- Contraction of the second se	S968	White/Navy	37.50- 38.00	Girls' Leather Saddle Medium Width Shoes	N/A		N/A

## Boys:Tops Uniform Program

	Part		Price Range			
Item	Number	Colors	(\$)	Description	PK	K-8
The	B331	White	22.50- 31.00	Unisex Oxford Short-sleeve Shirt	N/A	Required for Dress Day - Long- or short-sleeve
Ø	B332	White	27.00- 35.00	Unisex Oxford Long-sleeve Shirt	N/A	Required for Dress Day - Long- or short-sleeve
	C7053376	Red	24.25- 28.75	Unisex Cotton/poly Pique Short-sleeve Polo with Holy Family Catholic School logo	Required for Field Trip Day - Style is Optional	Required for Field Trip Day - Style is Optional
	C7253376	Red	27.75- 30.75	Unisex Cotton/poly Pique Long-sleeve Polo with Holy Family Catholic School logo	Required for Field Trip Day - Style is Optional	Required for Field Trip Day - Style is Optional

## Boys:Athletic Wear Uniform Program

Item	Part Number	Colors	Price Range (\$)	Description	РК	K-8
	F7213376	Navy	25.00- 27.00	Unisex Cotton/poly Crew Sweatshirt with Holy Family Catholic School logo		

## Boys:Bottoms Uniform Program

			Price			
	Part		Range			
Item	Number	Colors	(\$)	Description	PK	K-8
	D125	Navy	32.00- 36.50	Men's Cotton/poly Twill Flat-front Shorts	N/A	

	D126	Navy	26.50- 31.50	Boys' Cotton/poly Twill Flat-front Shorts	N/A	
	D903	Navy	37.00- 42.00	Men's Cotton/poly Twill Flat-front Pants - Short and Long Inseam	N/A	Required for Dress Day
Ä	D904	Navy	30.50- 36.00	Boys' Cotton/poly Twill Flat-front Pants	N/A	Required for Dress Day
Ā	D905	Navy	37.00- 52.00	Men's Cotton/poly Twill Flat-front Pants - Medium Inseam	N/A	Required for Dress Day

## Boys:Outerwear Uniform Program

	Part		Price Range			
Item	Number	Colors	(\$)	Description	PK	K-8
•	E6413376	Navy	34.00- 40.00	Unisex Acrylic V-neck Sweater-vest with Holy Family Catholic School logo	N/A	For Grades 6 to 8 Only - Required for Dress Day
	E6613376	Navy	46.25- 52.25	Unisex Acrylic V-neck Cardigan Sweater with Holy Family Catholic School logo	N/A	
	G8423376	Navy	40.00- 47.75	Unisex Fleece Front-zip Jacket with Holy Family Catholic School logo	N/A	

## Boys:Accessories Uniform Program

	Part		Price Range			
Item	Number	Colors	(\$)	Description	РК	K-8
b	H820	Black	19.75	Unisex Leather Braided Belt	N/A	
.t.	H9003376	Navy	15.75- 17.75	Unisex Poly Classic Tie with Holy Family Catholic School logo	N/A	Required for Dress Day
-	H944	Navy	7.00-9.00	Unisex Three-Pack Crew Socks	N/A	

## Boys:Shoes Uniform Program

Item	Part Number	Colors	Price Range (\$)	Description	PK	K-8
	S213	Black	50.00	Kids' New Balance Athletic Lace Shoes	N/A	Grades K to 5 Only
Š	S901	Sand	95.00	Men's Leather Sperry Boat Shoes	N/A	Grades 6 to 8 Only

#### UNIFORM FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS

Grades K-5: Students will wear the school uniform and shoes for P.E.

#### Due to COVID-19, students will not be required to dress out for P.E.

**Grades 6-8:** Students are required to suit out for P.E. daily, even on "non-uniform dress days". Students will wear the following:

- any solid color "basketball length" gym shorts;
- the official HFCS t-shirt as designated by the administration;
- and, athletic shoes of their choice.

#### MASKS – Please refer to page 61 of the Back to School Safe Protocol.

#### HAIR

Students' hair must be neatly arranged and groomed. The dress code excludes fad hairstyles and color/highlights for boys or girls. Cuts and styles must be conventional and in good taste. The staff and principal will make the decision regarding what is acceptable. Boy's hair must be conservatively cut. Ponytails are not allowed for boys. Students whose hair is unacceptable will be sent home until the hair is acceptable to the principal.

#### JEWELRY/ ACCESSORIES

Students are allowed to wear <u>one</u> religious or Holy Family medal and chain under the uniform. This includes wearing a small cross and other religious symbols. **Students may wear a watch and one religious bracelet, and one religious ring.** Alarms, calculators and/or audio-visual remote controls on watches may not be used during the school day.

Only girls may wear earrings. One earring may be worn in each ear lobe. For safety reasons, these must be small stud earrings that do not protrude below the ear.

Only girls are permitted to wear **conservative-colored** hair bows, headbands, and simple hair clips. Students may not wear hats, bandanas or sunglasses inside the school/church buildings.

#### MAKEUP

Nails must be short and clean at all times. Only girls in grades 6-8 may wear clear fingernail polish on school days. All girls may wear any color nail polish on non-uniform dress days, Wearing artificial nails is never allowed.

Eighth grade girls are allowed to wear **ONLY** natural looking light foundation during school and this must be a minimum amount. If the principal or staff determines that the foundation is excessive or any other student is wearing make-up the student will be asked to wash their face.

#### **SPIRIT DRESS**

- Students may wear HFCS spirit wear tops with their uniform.
- Student who pay \$2.00 may wear "silly socks" on HSA Silly Sock Day
- Jackets, coats, hats, bandanas, and sunglasses may not be worn in the school or church buildings.

**Birthdays** – Students may follow the spirit dress policy. Summer/holiday birthdays may pick a day. Students must always be in formal uniform for Mass or other announced days requiring a formal uniform..

**Spirit Days** - Students are allowed to replace the uniform shirt with an official HFCS t-shirt which must be worn appropriately as would a uniform shirt. Students may wear the shirt with uniform skorts/skirts/jumpers or shorts/pants only. Students who attend weekend Mass at Holy Family Catholic Church in their school uniform may wear Spirit Day (Holy Family Catholic School) shirts on the following Monday.

**Fiesta Day** - Students may dress in Hispanic costume or the school uniform. It is not a non-uniform dress day. If no fiesta attire, then the student must wear formal dress due to Mass on this day.

**Scout Days** - Students may dress in their **formal** scout uniforms the day of their scout meetings as long as it does not coincide with a Formal Uniform day (e.g. Mass Day).

\*Note: Failure to be dressed appropriately on Non-Uniform Dress days will result in the student's exclusion from participation in class and/or activities until he/she is dressed appropriately with the time spent away from the classroom considered unexcused, and/or the loss of future non-uniform dress privileges.

#### **ENFORCEMENT OF DRESS CODE**

Dress code compliance will be checked by the homeroom teacher at the beginning of each day and by the P.E. teacher at the start of P.E. class. Each teacher throughout the day will monitor compliance with the Dress Code policy. As such, any teacher will send home a Behavior Notification through RenWeb indicating that the student failed to comply with the Dress Code Policy.

For major uniform infractions or repeated infractions, the parent will be notified by phone through the school office, and the student may be detained from class while the problem is being corrected and additional disciplinary action may be taken by the principal. The time spent away from the classroom will be considered unexcused.

The administration reserves the right to amend this and any school policy guideline as needed. Changes will be communicated in advance to all families.

### EMAIL GUIDELINES

The following guidelines have been established for email between teachers and parents:

E-mails should be limited to brief and school related subject matters.

Junk or joke e-mails should not be forwarded to the teachers/staff.

E-mails should not take the place of parent/teacher meetings or conferences.

Information that includes grades or medical issues will not be transmitted via e-mail.

Because of assigned duties, teachers will not be able to answer e-mails right away. Turnaround time may be 24-48 school hours (1-2 school days).

### **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

#### **Emergency Closing / Delayed Opening**

- When the Ft. Worth ISD announces that it will be closed or opening late due to hazardous weather conditions, Holy Family Catholic School will generally follow the same procedures.
- If the FWISD closes for any other reason, Holy Family Catholic School will be open unless a specific announcement to close is made.
- Circumstances may result in a decision to close Holy Family on a day the FWISD remains open.
- HFCS will communicate via RenWeb Parent Alert for school closing or delayed opening information.
- On days when the school closes or opens late due to bad weather, the Before & After School Care program will follow the same hours. If afternoon activities are cancelled due to bad weather, the Before & After School Care program will close at 4p.m. Parents will be notified to pick up their children by 4p.m.
- If HFCS closes early for any reason, students must be picked up at the time the school requests the Parent Alert.
- In the event that we are under a "Tornado Warning" or extreme weather conditions, we will not dismiss the students to the parents. Parents are welcome to come in the school building and seek shelter at the school. If the sirens go off, we will have the students seek immediate shelter as designated during our drills. Once the storm has passed, the students will be dismissed.

## **EVALUATION OF ACHIEVEMENT AND TESTING**

#### The quarterly report grades are based on:

- a. The degree of mastery of the course objectives;
- b. Daily work and class participation;
- c. Contributions beyond assigned tasks; and
- d. Quizzes, tests and projects.

#### GRADING

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalent
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A	94-100

- В 86-93
- С 76-85 D
- 70-75
- F Below 70

#### **GRADE CHANGES**

A teacher may not change a grade on a report card at the request of a parent. Inaccuracies may occur and will be corrected after the teacher and the principal have reached such determination.

#### **PROGRESS REPORTS**

RenWeb is a very useful tool in monitoring student progress. Parents with concerns about their child's progress are encouraged to communicate with teacher via phone, email, or make an appointment to meet with the teacher. Parents have 24/7 access in order to check RenWeb for grades.

Midway through each quarter each student with a grade average in any class at or below 80 will receive a progress report that details his/her progress in the classroom via email. Parents may request a progress report with their child's teacher.

#### **REPORT CARDS**

A report card is issued each quarter for all students and sent home via email. Included in the report card is information regarding the student's academic achievement, conduct and attendance.

#### ACT ASPIRE ASSESSMENT TESTING

HFCS will be using ACT Aspire this year to benchmark student progress. Parents will receive a written report of their child's test results and teachers will be available to discuss those results.

#### ACRE TESTING

An assessment of religious education, the Assessment of Catechesis/Religious Education will be administered to each fifth and eighth grade student in the spring.

#### **ASSIGNMENT NOTEBOOK**

Students in grades second through eighth are responsible for copying assignments into the "assignment notebook" on a daily basis. These notebooks are purchased through the school.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

#### Eligibility

A student must be passing all subjects with at least a grade of 70, and have Conduct grade no lower than "S" in order to be eligible to try out and/or participate in extracurricular activities. Students who do not maintain these requirements will not be allowed to participate until the next eligibility verification period. HFCS will abide by all Diocesan extracurricular activity eligibility guidelines.

#### **Interscholastic Sports Program**

Holy Family Catholic School follows the guidelines set forth by the Diocese of Fort Worth. This year the diocese has mandated "Play Like a Champion" for all interscholastic sports programs across the diocese. This program was developed at the University of Notre Dame. The program is research based, child-centered and designed to do four basic things:

- 1. To lead all involved, students, coaches, teachers and parents, in recognizing the spiritual nature of sports as play;
- 2. To help train youth sports coaches to be effective ministers;
- 3. To promote moral and character development in our youth through participation in

sports activities; and

4. To create the safest sport environment for all our young people.

All coaches in all diocesan schools, both junior high/middle school and high school, must attend a Play Like A Champion training before they will be allowed to coach for any diocesan Catholic school. In addition, as a part of student eligibility for a student to participate in school athletics, at least one parent per family must attend a PLC training meeting.

Each member of the school team and the parents represent the school and must abide by all school rules, even though sports activities occur after regular school hours. Behavior must reflect Christian values and good sportsmanship. HFCS follows the guidelines outlined in the Diocesan Interscholastic Sports Handbook.

#### **Sports Offered**

#### Participation in sports is pending Diocesan approval.

Sports offered may differ somewhat from year to year; all are contingent on getting volunteer coaches. Examples of sports: basketball, volleyball, track and field, soccer, softball, baseball, etc. Students who have been issued school-owned athletic uniforms or equipment are responsible for returning school property or making restitution for it.

#### Personnel

An interscholastic sports coordinator is employed by the Diocese to implement and supervise the overall program. Although the principal is responsible for the sports program, he/she works with campus sports coordinators and coaches. The sports coordinators handle individual sports sign up, physical examination forms, uniform distribution/return, and communication between the diocese and coaches.

#### Practices

The volunteer coaches will be responsible for all team members at practice. Therefore, no other students will be allowed in the gym to watch or participate. Siblings or other students left at school must check in the After School Program. Students are not allowed in the church foyer or use the church restrooms during after school activities. Failure to comply is a serious use of facilities violation and may result in a student's temporary or permanent expulsion from the team.

#### **Physical Exams**

It is required that students who participate in the Interscholastic Sports Program must provide the school with evidence of a complete, satisfactory physical examination.

**Student Council** is available for students in grades 6-8. Elected class representatives organize school events and service projects with a teacher sponsor.

#### **Liturgical Choir**

**Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be no Liturgical Choir for the 2020-2021 school year.** Is available to all students to join and practice is in the church on Monday after school.

#### **Running Club**

Due to COVID-19, there will be no Running Club for the 2020-2021 school year.

Students in all grade levels may join Running Club that practices one day a week on the field.

#### NJHS (National Jr. Honor Society)

8th graders who meet the requirements as set by our local Chapter are eligible to apply for admission.

#### FAMILY DIRECTORY – Can be found on RenWeb.

### FIELD TRIPS (and car seats)

#### Only virtual field trips will be allowed this year due to COVID-19 safety protocol.

#### **Background and Purpose**

Field trips are designed to correlate with teaching units and to achieve curricular goals. Field trips are re-evaluated each year to determine the trips compatibility with curricular goals. There are no "traditional" field trips. Class participation in a particular field trip over consecutive years does not mean that the trip has become a school tradition. All grades do not always have the same number of field trips, and teachers, in consultation with the principal, reserve the right to restrict or deny student participation of any field trip due to, but not limited to, poor academic performance and/or poor conduct.

#### **General Field Trip Information**

#### Only virtual field trips will be allowed this year due to COVID-19 safety protocol.

Field trips are a privilege. Students may be denied participation if they fail to meet behavioral and /or academic requirements. A student who has a conduct grade below "90" may not participate. This decision is at the discretion of the teacher and principal.

Parent volunteers provide transportation. A field trip request form must be signed for each trip and turned in at least two days prior to the day of the trip in order for the child to be included. A telephone call will NOT be accepted in lieu of the proper field trip permission slip. Parents may refuse to permit their child from participating in a field trip by stating so on the proper form. Students who do not attend a field trip will be placed in another classroom for the day and provided with alternative assignments.

Parent participation on field trips is greatly appreciated and needed for supervision, transportation, and specific needs determined by the teacher. Parents who are not "official" chaperones may not drive their car to a field trip destination with the plan of accompanying the class on the field trip.

Per Diocesan Policy, siblings are not permitted to accompany the class, and the teacher will limit the number of parents accompanying the class. Parent drivers and/or chaperones are not to give refreshments to children. Even though field trips take place off campus, all volunteers MUST have a current Keeping Children Safe training certificate on file in the school office in order to be eligible to serve as a field trip chaperon or driver. The Diocese mandates that training must be updated every 3 years.

The Diocese of Fort Worth also requires all drivers on school fieldtrips to carry a minimum limit of liability of:

• \$100,000 bodily injury

• \$300,000 each accident

• \$25,000 property damage

The school must have a copy of the current policy detailing these limits (\$100,000/\$300,000/\$25,000) on file. Please keep in mind the liability card is not sufficient. Should the insurance expire during the school year, please provide up to date policy information.

#### CAR SEATS

Each year nearly 1,600 children die in motor vehicle accidents. Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of unintentional, injury-related death among children ages 14 and younger. Unrestrained children are more likely to be injured, to suffer more severe injuries, and to die in motor vehicle crashes than children who are restrained.

HFCS will enforce the Transportation Code of the state of Texas. Effective: September 1, 2009, the legislation aims to strengthen the current, child passenger safety protections by providing children younger than eight years old, unless they are four feet nine inches in height, are to be properly secured while riding in an operating vehicle in a child passenger safety seat system in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer of the safety seat system.

Amends Sections 545.412(a) and (b), Transportation Code, as follows:

a. "Provides that a person commits an offense if the person operates a passenger vehicle, transports a child who is younger than eight, rather than five, years of age, unless the child is taller than four feet, nine inches, rather than less than 36 inches in height, and does not keep the child secured during the operation of the vehicle in a child passenger safety seat system according to the instructions of the manufacturer of the safety seat system.

b. Provides that an offense under this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$25.00, rather than not less than \$100.00 or more than \$200.00. Requires a municipality or county, notwithstanding any other law, to remit each fine collected under this section to the comptroller of public accounts for deposit in a separate account in the general revenue fund that is authorized to be appropriated only to the Texas Department of Transportation and used to purchase child passenger safety seat systems and distribute them to low-income families. Provides that Chapter 133 (Criminal and Civil Fees Payable to the Comptroller), Local Government Code, applies to a fine collected under this section."

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### **ELIGIBILITY FOR PARISH-RATE TUITION**

To qualify for parishioner tuition rate a family must be Catholic and a registered, participating, and contributing member of Holy Family Catholic Church. Each year parents must submit "Approval for Receiving Parish Tuition Rate" form. Parents are responsible for acquiring the Pastor to complete.

Families that belong to other Catholic parishes will qualify for parish rate by submitting a letter from their pastor defining the family as active.

#### FINANCIAL AID

In order to provide tuition assistance for families who require it, parents must complete an application through FACTS to be considered. All tuition assistance programs, whether through the Diocese and/or local school, will require the completion of this assessment.

The school has a tuition assistance program for Holy Family parishioners that provide limited assistance on the basis of need. Tuition assistance is generally awarded in May for the following school year.

Should circumstances arise during the school year, parents can apply. The Diocesan process for the financial assessment is required before local consideration can be given.

#### TUITION

Tuition will be paid through the FACTS tuition payment program in one of the following ways:

- 1. In full no later than July 1st; or
- 2. In semi-annual installments in July and January; or
- 3. In 10 monthly installments from July through April.

Tuition must be paid for each month a child attends at least one school day in that month. Tuition payments are considered delinquent if not received by the tuition management company by the 30th day of the month in which it is due. If tuition is not received by the due date, the student(s) will not be permitted to attend class. No records, transcripts or report cards will be issued to families who owe tuition, library fines or other fees.

Parents, who are unable to make timely tuition payments due to unforeseen, exigent circumstances, must address these concerns with the principal. A payment plan will be established and if the approved payment plan is not followed, the student will not be permitted to attend class.

A family may not pre-register for the following year if they have delinquent tuition. Additionally, if a family becomes delinquent after it pre-registers, the student will lose one's spot and the fee will go toward the delinquent tuition.

#### REFUNDS

Registration fees and other fees are non-refundable. Under all payment plan options, tuition is non-refundable when:

- It represents the July monthly portion; or
- It represents the monthly portion for which a child has attended at least one school day during that month.

When tuition has been paid under the "in full" or "semi-annual" payment plan, any unused tuition will be refunded if:

- The student moves a distance that prohibits attendance at Holy Family Catholic School; or
- The principal determines that the student is unable to meet the demands of HFCS through no fault of the student; or
- The student is unable to attend classes due to prolonged illness, injury, or death.

No refund is available for the first month of school and no refund is due for any month in which a child attended at least one school day during that month. Any delinquent tuition payments or fees will be deducted from the amount of refund

## **GENERAL STUDENT INFORMATION**

#### WEEKLY FOLDERS

To keep parents better informed with regard to student work, all students in grades kindergarten through eight will take home a folder each week. This folder is to be sent home on the first day of instruction of the week and will contain the student's work from the previous week. Parents of students in the lower grades (PK3 - 5) are asked to sign the folder, take out the work, and return the folder on the next day. In the upper grades (6-8), individual papers will require a signature and be returned to the various subject teachers.

#### HOMEWORK

#### **Homework Policy**

HFCS follows diocesan homework policy which allows for a total of 30 minutes of core class homework per night. This 30 minutes of core class homework is reserved for 15 minutes of ELA reading and 15 minutes of math. This year, due to COVID-19 safety protocol, students will not be allowed to play their band instruments while on campus, therefore, band students will be assigned instrument practice time at home.

#### HOMEWORK

Formal home study is assigned to help student become self-reliant and self-directed. Assignments are designed to reinforce daily lessons, to supplement and enrich class work, and to prepare for certain lessons through various experiences.

**TESTS** will not take place immediately after a holiday period. Students should be given at least 3 days' notice for all tests.

No more than three core class (ELA, math, religion, science, history) tests may be given in a day. Specials classes such as physical education, art, or band/music may give a test at any time, and it does not count as one of the three.

A project can also be due on a day where there are multiple tests.

Students are notified in advanced of a test and should study on going throughout the unit of study. There is does not need to be a formal notice of quizzes.

**NO WRITTEN** homework will be assigned on holidays but may be assigned on professional development days. This does not apply to long-term projects/assignments.

#### What can Parents/Caregivers Do to Help?

- a. Take an active interest in your child's homework.
- b. Support your child in setting aside time each day for homework.
- c. Provide a dedicated place for homework and study if possible.

d. Assist teachers to monitor homework by signing completed work if requested and be aware of the amount of homework set.

e. Communicate with teachers any concern about the nature of homework or your child's approach to homework.

f. Encourage your child to read and take an interest in current events.

g. Alert the school to any domestic circumstances or extracurricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or marked.

h. Check your child's agenda/planner and initial that the work is completed. Please provide a reason if the homework is not completed.

#### LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY

## 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade rubric for late assignments:

First day: 10 point deduction (highest grade possible is 90, additional points may still be taken for inaccurate or incomplete work)

Second day: 10 additional point deduction (highest grade possible is 80, additional points may still be taken for inaccurate or incomplete work)

Third day: zero

## 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade late assignment policy:

- Students have a grace period on all late work until after Labor Day.
- Once the late work policy begins, each student gets one free pass for late work per year.
- After this, 10 points will be deducted per day, with the lowest possible deduction of points for late work being a 70, additional points may still be taken for inaccurate or incomplete work.

#### MAKE-UP WORK

Each student is to complete all work missed during an excused absence. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain and complete assignments covered during the period of absence and to make arrangements with the teacher for make-up tests and other help at a time convenient for the teacher.

Students are allowed to make up work for excused absences. A student is allowed one day to make up work missed for each day of absence.

Make up work for unexcused absences will not be graded and a grade of "0" will be assigned.

Books and assignments for a student who is ill must be requested by emailing the teacher by 10:00 A.M. After 10:00 A.M contacts may not be honored, as teachers may not have the opportunity to prepare the work. Books and assignments may be picked up at dismissal time in the front office.

#### **TELEPHONE USE**

Telephones are used by staff for school business and are available for student use only in the case of an emergency. Parents are asked to communicate with children at home before they arrive at school. The telephones must be free for school business. Emergency calls will, of course, be handled as quickly as possible. (For personal cell phone policy, refer to the "Prohibited Articles" section in this handbook.)

#### **BACKPACKS / BACKPACKS WITH WHEELS**

Teachers will be working with students to be more organized and take home only what is needed. Tote bags and backpacks (with or without wheels) are permitted for transporting homework and communications. These bags will be emptied out each morning in class.

#### CARE OF TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS

Students are expected to:

• Take proper care of textbooks;

- Keep textbooks neatly covered at all times;
- Write in workbooks or other materials only under the direction of the teacher;
- Keep all book covers, homework, books and binders free of graffiti;
- Pay for damaged or lost books.

The student's teacher to record any damage incurred on an issue textbook will conduct periodic textbook checks.

#### SOLICITATION/SELLING

Students may not sell any items at school or on the campus. Permission must be obtained to sell Girl Scout cookies, Campfire candy etc. Students are not to be asked to purchase items unless the principal has approved the sales project.

#### LOST AND FOUND

Articles that have been found are collected on a "Lost & Found Rack" in the hallway west of the cafeteria. Valuables are kept in the office. Placing the child's name in clothing will aid in the return of lost items.

\*Note: ALL uniform and non-uniform articles of clothing MUST BE LABELED with the student's name.

Unclaimed articles will be sorted monthly and either sent to the Hornet Store, donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, or thrown away.

#### **CLASS PARTIES**

Class party policies may change this year due to COVID-19 safety protocol. The principal must approve a class party prior to the event.

School/Home and School Association (H.S.A.)- sponsored parties are Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Fiesta Day during the last 45 minutes of the school day. Parents are responsible for set-up, hosting and cleanup.

The teacher MUST approve all food and/or activities in advance.

Both the teacher and principal in advance of announcements to the students must have approved any and all other class parties for rewards etc.

## **GENERAL PARENT INFORMATION**

#### CALENDAR

The annual and monthly school calendar is available on the HFCS website. Any changes with regard to event dates will be communicated as needed. School holidays may or may not coincide with the Fort Worth I.S.D.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

A weekly work folder with an electronic newsletter will go home on the first day of instruction of each week. If there is a concern regarding the child's work, the parent should contact the teacher via email and the teacher will respond within 24-48 hour period. Parent may also use the Monday folder return for communication with the teacher.

Should a parent have a concern, it will be determined if the concern relates to a school or classroom matter. With a classroom matter, the parent is to see the teacher first. If the teacher and parent cannot resolve the matter, or if there is continued concern, the principal will then meet with the parent. If appropriate, the teacher may choose to be present. After these steps have been followed, a parent may contact the Pastor. In all matters, the teacher will keep confidentiality as long as no one's life, health and safety are at stake. RenWeb, the school information website, provides parents with student progress. The web site will make other information available to parents.

#### PARENT ALERT

The Parent Alert service through RenWeb delivers automated phone calls, texts, and emails in the event of emergencies.

In the event of inclement weather, parents will be alerted through the Parent Alert Program. Prekindergarten students are not required to attend class if the start of school is delayed to 10:00 A.M. or later.

#### DIRECTORY

For the convenience of students and parents, a directory that includes names, addresses, and telephone numbers of pupils, can be accessed through RenWeb. Permission for Publication form will be given to each family.

#### NOON DISMISSAL DAYS

School is dismissed at 12:00 P.M. as indicated on the school calendar. Teachers have professional meetings or parent conferences planned on those days. Extended Day is offered.

#### HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (H.S.A.)

H.S.A. membership is open to all families of the school. HFCS benefits measurably from the involvement of parents and parishioners, creating a true sense of community in a Christian environment. The H.S.A. supports the school in numerous ways, including fundraising, hospitality, extracurricular activities, and tutoring and special projects. Meetings are posted on RenWeb and on the school calendar if dates are available at the time of publication.

#### DADS' CLUB

The Dads' club promotes fellowship and provides support and assistance to Holy Family Catholic School. It is open to all men who have or have had children at HFCS. Meetings will be announced via the Monday Memo, school website, and RenWeb.

## PARENT/FAMILY SERVICE HOUR REQUIRMENT

#### Due to COVID-19, this requirement will be waived for the 2020-2021 school year.

Each family is responsible for thirty (30) required service hours each year. If this time is not possible, a monetary fee (\$10) per hour or a combination of time and money will be the required option. This participation program enlists adults to assist with tutoring, typing, the sports program, field trips, the

making of teaching materials, and all Home and School Association activities including development and fundraising.

The principal is responsible for the total school operation; thus, the principal supervises all who serve in any capacity in the school. *VIRTUS Keeping Children Safe* (Safe and Sacred) is a requirement by the Diocese of Fort Worth for those who have regular contact with children.

#### LIMITED VISITS BY PARENTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC DUE TO COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOL

- Parents and other adults will need to make an appointment prior to visiting HFCS.
- During these visits, parents and other visitors must follow virus prevention and mitigation requirements of the school.
- HFCS will encourage reducing adult visits on campus to only those essential to school operations.
- All visitors must check in at the front desk.

#### WITHDRAWALS

The parents of any student who is withdrawing during the school year should complete an Application for Withdrawal. The parent may also complete an Exit Survey. Teachers and staff will summarize the student's file for forwarding to his/her next school of enrollment. A 24-hour notice must be given.

## PARENTS AS PARTNERS

As partners in the educational process at Holy Family Catholic School, we ask parents:

- To set rules, times, and limits so your child:
  - Gets to bed early on school nights;
  - Arrives at school on time and is picked up on time at the end of the day;
  - Is dressed according to the school dress code;
  - Completes assignments on time; and
  - Has lunch (or purchases lunch) and a nutritional snack every day.
- To actively participate in school activities such as, but not limited to, parent/teacher conferences
- To see that the student pays for any damage to school books or property due to carelessness or neglect on the part of the student.
- To notify the school with a written note when the student has been absent or tardy.
- To notify the school office and update RenWeb with changes of address or important phone numbers.
- To meet all financial obligations to the school.
- To inform the school of any special situation regarding the student's well-being, safety, and health.
- To complete and return to school any requested information promptly.
- To read school notes and newsletters and to show interest in the student's total education.
- To support the religious and educational goals of the school.
- To attend Mass and teach the Catholic faith by word and example.
- To support and cooperate with the discipline policy of the school.

- To treat teachers with respect and courtesy in discussing student concerns.
- To treat other parents and community members with positive respect and courtesy.

#### Parents' Roles

We at Holy Family Catholic School consider it a privilege to work with parents in the education of children because we believe parents are the primary educators of their children. Therefore, it is your right and your duty to become the primary role models for the development of your child's life-physically, mentally, spiritually, emotionally, and psychologically. Your choice of Holy Family Catholic School involves a commitment and exhibits a concern for helping your child to recognize God as the greatest good in his/her life.

A good example is the strongest teacher. Your personal relationship with God, with each other, and with the Church community will affect the way your child relates to God and others. Ideals taught in school are not well rooted in the child unless these are nurtured by the example of good Catholic/Christian morality and by an honest personal relationship with God in your family life.

Once you have chosen to enter into a partnership with us at Holy Family Catholic School, we trust you will be loyal to this commitment. During these formative years (Pre-K through 8), your child needs constant support from both parents and faculty in order to develop his/her moral, intellectual, social, cultural, and physical endowment. Neither parents nor teachers can afford to doubt the sincerity of the efforts of their educational partner in the quest of challenging, yet nourishing, the student to reach his/her potential. It is vital that both parents and teachers remember that allowing oneself to be caught between the student and the other partner will never have positive results. **To divide authority between school and home or within the home will only teach disrespect of all authority.** If there is an incident at school, you as parents must make an investigation of the complete story your first step. Evidence of mutual respect between parents and teachers will model good mature behavior and relationships. Talking negatively about a child's teacher or any faculty member at home will only create an attitude of distrust toward the teacher, the school, and the parent.

Students are naturally eager to grow and learn. However, sometimes in the process of maturation, new interests may cause them to lose focus. As this natural process occurs, the student needs both understanding and discipline. At times, your child may perceive discipline as restrictive; however, it is boundaries and limits which provide a young person with both guidance and security.

It is essential that a student takes responsibility for grades he/she has earned and be accountable for homework, long-term assignments, major tests, service projects, and all other assignments. Parents are encouraged to let their child experience a logical consequence for an inappropriate action or behavior. This responsibility also extends to times of absence.

Together, let us begin this year with a commitment to partnership as we support one another in helping your child to become the best person he/she is capable of becoming.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

## PLEASE READ THE *PLANNING FOR THE SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOL* DOCUMENT CONTAINED IN THIS HANDBOOK FOR FURTHER COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOL, Page 57

# **\*\*\***Holy Family Catholic School follows all health and safety guidelines as set forth by the Diocese of Fort Worth.

Accident or Illness - In the event of accident or illness requiring more than minor first aid, parents will be notified. It is essential that parents have 3 current emergency phone numbers on the Emergency Care form. Please notify the school office of any changes.

The school is responsible for first aid only (immediate care for sickness or injury). If, in the opinion of the principal, a child is in need of immediate medical attention and the parents cannot be contacted, the principal will have the student taken to the family doctor or to the hospital *AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PARENTS*. Release is signed by parent/guardian on the Student Emergency Care form. It is imperative that this form contains "up-to-date" information. The school does not carry accident insurance to cover students; however, family medical insurance policies cover injuries, which occur at school.

**Medication -** The parent must sign a permission form, obtainable in the school office, and the doctor for any medication dispensed at school. A new permission form is required at the beginning of each school year for all medication. Each student's medication must have affixed a prescription label including his/her name, the name of the drug, the directions concerning dosage, and the instructions about the duration of the medication. All medications will be safely stored in the clinic and dispensed through the nurse's office.

At no time should students have medication, including cough drops, in their possession. Parents are responsible for bringing in and picking up all medications.

#### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE** -

- Immunizations required by the State Department of Health must be observed.
- Students should remain at home when they exhibit the first symptoms of a disease.
- When a student in school is suspected of having a communicable disease, he/she should be separated from other students until he/she can be sent home

Exclusion Guidelines	Return to School Guidelines
Oral temperature of 100° or above	Fever free for 24 hours
Vomiting, nausea or severe abdominal pain	Symptom free for 24 hours
Marked drowsiness or malaise	Symptom free
Sore throat, acute cold or persistent cough	Symptom free
Red, inflamed or discharging eyes	Written physician release
Acute skin rashes or eruptions	Written physician release
Swollen glands around jaws, ears or neck	Written physician release
Suspected scabies or impetigo	Written physician release

#### **Guidelines for Excluding Students from School**

Any skin lesion in the weeping stage	Covered and diagnosed as non-infectious
Earache	Symptom free
Pediculosis	Lice and nit free
Other symptoms suggestive of acute illness	Written physician release

**Health Records** - Health data is maintained for all students. A copy of the student's health record must accompany him/her when transferring to or from another school.

#### Screenings

Vision, hearing, and scoliosis screenings are conducted in school following state laws and Diocesan policy. Checks for head lice are conducted on a periodic basis.

#### **Policies and Requirements**

<u>Health Examination</u> A health examination is required for all new students within twelve months before admission.

<u>Health Personnel</u> The diocesan health coordinator, in cooperation with the school nurse, has the responsibility for health services.

<u>Infectious Diseases</u> If a student contracts an infectious disease or condition, he is not allowed to attend school and parents are asked to notify the school immediately. The school nurse, if necessary, will notify the Health Department.

#### **Immunizations Requirements**

Every student enrolled in a Catholic School in the State of Texas shall be immunized against vaccine preventable diseases caused by infectious agents in accordance with the immunization schedule adopted by the Texas Department of State Health Services. A student who fails to present the required evidence shall not be accepted for enrollment. The **only exception** to the foregoing requirement is a medical exemption signed by a licensed physician (M.D. or D.O.) authorized to practice in the State of Texas, including the physician's license number.

Immunizations are not in conflict with the Catholic faith. Conscientious objections or waivers, which may be permissible for attendance in public schools, do not qualify as an exemption in Catholic Schools in Texas. (Atty. Gen. Op. GA-0420)

## This policy was adopted by Texas Catholic Conference Education Department, December 2008 and voted on April 3, 2017 to keep as written with no changes by the Bishops of Texas.

All students entering school must have received immunizations according to the following schedule: **Diptheria/tetanus/pertussis** containing vaccine:

- <u>Ages 3 and 4 years</u>: 4 doses
- <u>*Kindergarten entry*</u>: 5 doses required, one dose on or after 4th birthday or 4 doses if the 4th dose was given on or after the 4th birthday

- <u>7th grade entry</u>: Required to have one booster of tetanus/diptheria/pertussis containing vaccine, if at least 5 years have passed since the last dose of a tetanus-contiaining vaccine or when the 5 year interval has lapsed (Tdap booster).
- <u>8th grade entry</u>: One dose (**Tdap booster**) when 10 years have passed since the last dose **Hepatitis A:** 2 doses
- o <u>1st dose</u> is to be given on or after age 1 for children in grades PK 8th
- 2nd dose is to be given a minimum of 6 months after the 1st dose, grades PK 8th
- Hepatitis B: 3 doses required for all students grades PK 8th

**HibCV:** Minimum 1 dose required for students younger than 5 years after 15 months or a primary series with a booster on or after age 1

Meningococcal Conjugate (MCV4): One dose for students for entry into grades 7th and 8th on or after the student's 11th birthday.

## MMR:

• <u>Ages 3 and 4 years</u>: One dose required on or after age 1

• <u>*Kindergarten through 8th entry*</u>: Two doses required with the 1st dose on or after age 1

**MMR/M:** Students vaccinated prior to 2009 with two doses of measles and one dose each of rubella and mumps will satisfy this requirement.

**Pneumococcal:** Minimum 1 dose required for students 59 months and younger, given after age 2. (Unless a primary series of 2 doses was received under the age of 1 with a booster given after age 1.) **Polio:** 

- Ages 3 and 4 years: 3 doses required
- <u>*Kindergarten entry*</u>: 4 doses required, one dose on or after 4th birthday unless the 3rd dose was given on or after the 4th birthday. (Required for grades K-8th)

## Varicella:

- <u>Ages 3 and 4 years</u>: 1 dose required
- o Kindergarten through 8th entry: 2 doses required

**Safety Plan** - Holy Family Catholic School has a detailed emergency plan, which includes the response to fire, tornado, flood, personal injury, threats, storms, utility failure, bomb threat, chemical spill, and unauthorized entry. Holy Family focuses on keeping our children safe by conducting fire drills, tornado drills, evacuation procedures, lockdowns, and controlling entrance into the school building. The faculty and staff are trained yearly in CPR and First Aid as well as all dismissal procedures.

In the case of a school wide evacuation, the children will go to a designated location away from the school. Although the students may return to the school building when the crisis is over, this may not always be the case. In some emergencies it may be necessary for parents to pick up their children from that location. All parents will be notified via Parent Alert as to the location.

The classroom teacher takes the children to a designated location off campus. The Nurse will accompany them and is in charge of the evacuation site. The Principal remains at the school, if possible, to keep communication lines open and will be in contact with the Nurse and the off-site location.

In the case of Parents' Pickup, the RenWeb Parent alert will be put in effect and parents will be alerted by phone, text, and email.

## HONOR ROLL / RECOGNITION

## ACADEMIC HONOR ROLLS

At the conclusion of each semester, HFCS announces the names of those students (gr. 5-8) who have met the following honor roll requirements in all core classes (ELA, Math, Religion, Science, and Social Studies):

"HIGH HONORS" are earned by those students with a combined numerical average of 95 or above in all core classes for the semester with a Conduct grade of Satisfactory or above.

**"HONORS**" are earned by those students with a combined numerical average of 90 or above in all core classes with a Conduct grade of Satisfactory or above.

#### **CONDUCT GRADES**

Every quarter, students will receive conduct grades from each of their teachers of Excellent (E), Satisfactory (S), Needs Improvement (N), or Unsatisfactory (U). Excellent = no behavior reports Satisfactory = 1-3 behavior reports Needs Improvement = 4-5 behavior reports and/or meeting with principal Unsatisfactory = over 5 behavior reports and/or meeting with principal

## **"HORNET" AWARDS**

Hornet Awards are given for random acts of kindness above and beyond the expected courtesy, respect, kindness, and sharing. The "Hornet" award is a hornet lapel pin given by faculty and staff members who are "stung" by a student's dedication to behaving in a Christ-like manner. The student will be able to wear his/her pin (on uniforms) with pride and save them at home to inspire them to continually walk the path of Christ. These students will be recognized at Monday assemblies.

## CHRIST BEARER AWARD

The student is expected to be a consistent example of living in the way of Jesus Christ. He/she exhibits an example of unselfish behavior or has a dramatic self-initiated example of self-sacrifice. HFCS students are to be courteous, polite, respectful, and share nicely. Christ Bearer students must go above this expectation and behave with Christian humility, not a reward- seeking attitude.

Nominations for Christ Bearer awards will be kept to faculty and staff. The principal will evaluate all nominations. As the school's Advisory Council suggested this award's creation, the Advisory Council Chair presents this award to all recipients.

## LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

At Holy Family Catholic School, we believe that the liturgy is the center of Christian life. The students actively participate in the liturgical celebrations and great effort is made to make these celebrations

especially meaningful to children. Generally, the student body celebrates Mass in the main church every Thursday at 8:15 A.M. Exceptions to this are on Holy Days or other service days. Participation and a sound understanding in liturgical services are fundamental teachings at HFCS. Students will remain seated with their classes during all celebrations. Parents are always welcome, and asked to sit on the east and west areas of church. Prayer services are held occasionally when no liturgy is celebrated as noted on the school calendar.

## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held virtually as long as we are following the COVID-19 safety protocol. Scheduled conferences are very valuable to the overall education program. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled and required during the midpoint of the first quarter of the school year. After the third quarter, conferences will be scheduled as needed or requested by the parent, teacher, or administration.

Parents and teachers are encouraged to schedule their own conferences throughout the year if there are concerns about the student's academic progress or conduct. Parents are asked to schedule an appointment with the teacher before or after school. Parents are not allowed to visit with teachers during class periods or to contact teachers at home. Parents may not enter a teacher's classroom before or after school without a previously scheduled appointment with that teacher. All parents must sign in at the front office when visiting school for a conference.

## **RETENTION AND SUMMER SCHOOL**

In grades 4-8, students who receive a final failing grade in a core subject will be required to attend an accredited summer school in that subject in order to be promoted to the next grade level. The principal, prior to enrollment, must approve the summer school program. If a student fails two or more core subjects, the student will not be promoted to the next grade level.

#### If a student fails to meet the attendance requirement he/she may not be promoted to the next grade level.

When a student is retained it may not in the best interest of the child to remain at Holy Family Catholic School.

## **SCHOOL HOURS**

The school office is open on all school days from 7:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Before and After School Care is available before school from 6:30 A.M. - 7:30 A.M. and after school from 3:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. (See Before and After School Care section for more information).

## **STUDENT RECORDS**

Holy Family Catholic School adheres to the Buckley Amendment (Family Education Rights and Privacy Act) in regard to student records and the rights of non-custodial parents. It is the responsibility of the parents to share any/all official custodial information determined through the courts. Official custodial agreements will be kept in a confidential file in the office.

In the absence of any court document, the school will view each parent as having full legal custody of his/her child. In the absence of a court order to the contrary, non-custodial parents have the right to receive records about their child's academic progress or lack thereof.

The school reserves the right to charge a shipping and processing fee for extra records sent to more than one home address. Be advised that if a teacher is subpoenaed to testify in a child custody case, the parent will need to pay the cost of a substitute teacher and any other costs associated with the testimony.

A cumulative record is maintained for each student including personal and family data, achievement records, test data, and health record. All material in the cumulative folder is confidential and is accessible only to members of the professional staff and to the parents or guardians. Requests for records to be copied must be made at least 24 hours in advance.

Medical records may be obtained at any time upon request.

Diocesan policy states that all student records must carry the legal names of students as shown on their birth certificates or the files must contain copies of court orders showing name changes.

Any teacher evaluation or report requested by an outside source must be mailed or faxed to that source. We do not allow parents to hand carry these reports. Parental permission is needed to obtain this information.

# HANDBOOK - The school administration retains the right to amend the handbook for just cause and will notify the parents of changes made.

## ADDENDUMS

## DIOCESAN POLICY 1265 VIOLENCE AND WEAPONS

The school is concerned with providing students and employees with a safe and productive environment. As such, the school expressly prohibits any and all acts or threats of violence by or against any student, employee, family member of a student, vendor, or other visitor to the school facilities. This policy applies to all students and employees, whether or not they are engaged in business on behalf of the school, and whether or not they are on school premises.

In addition, the school strictly prohibits the possession of, exhibiting or threatening to exhibit or to use, or use of any and all weapons, including handguns on school premises by any student or employee, family member of a student, vendor, or other visitor, whether licensed or unlicensed and whether concealed or visible. The school premise includes not only the main facilities, but also the parking lots, entrances and exits, break areas, etc. Students and employees are further prohibited from the possession of, exhibiting or threatening to exhibit or to use, or the use of any and all weapons while conducting business on behalf of the school off school premises.

The school is required to post signs containing the written statutory notice prohibiting bringing concealed weapons onto the school property. Contact the Diocese for the specific wording and statutory requirements for the written notice.

## DIOCESAN POLICY 1290 DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT REVIEW PROCESS

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a Federal statute that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. The purpose of this Complaint Review Process is to provide a structure for bringing about resolution and reconciliation when disagreements arise between a school family and the School arising out of a student's physical or mental impairment or disability.

Everyone involved in the Complaint Review Process is to be free from restraint, coercion, discrimination, or retaliation in any form. The Complaint Review Process should be used when issues arise at the School relating to your child's disability that have a significant impact on your child and you have been unable to reach a resolution with your child's teachers or other members of the School staff.

## I INITIAL COMPLAINT PROCESS

- 1. If you have a complaint or disagreement regarding your child's disability, you should first try to resolve your complaint by discussing it promptly with the person(s) involved.
- 2. If you cannot reach a resolution, or you are not comfortable with discussing the issue with the person(s) directly involved, you may bring the matter to the principal of the school. Notification to the principal must be written and within fifteen (15) days of the event which is the subject of your complaint. If you do not submit a written complaint to the principal within the fifteen (15) day period, your complaint will be considered untimely.
- 3. The principal will conduct an investigation as promptly as possible. The scope and nature of the investigation will depend on the nature of the issue presented. The goal is to achieve a just resolution and reconciliation with everyone concerned. The parties are advised to maintain confidentiality. The principal will advise you in writing of the outcome of the investigation and his or her decision of submission of your written complaint.

## **II. REVIEW LEVEL**

- If you disagree with the decision of the principal, you may appeal the decision in writing to the next level for review within fifteen (15) days from the date of the principal's written decision or your appeal will be considered untimely. The request for review must be sent to the Superintendent of the Catholic Schools of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth. The Superintendent can be reached at the address of The Catholic Center, 800 West Loop 820 South, Fort Worth, Texas 76108-2919, and telephone number (817) 560-3300.
- 2. The Superintendent will set the date, time, and location for the review. Your review may be conducted by a single person or by a representative committee, as the case warrants. All persons involved in the complaint may select someone to help in preparation for the review, to attend the hearing, and to provide support during the process. No attorneys are allowed to appear at or participate in the hearing. The hearing will be set after receipt of your request for review, giving consideration to the schedules of all persons involved.
- 3. At the Review Hearing:

a. You explain your complaint, present relevant documentation, and answer questions the reviewer(s) may have.

b. The reviewer(s), interview(s), or other parties involved in the case, giving each an opportunity to respond to the complaint

and present relevant facts and documentation.

c. The reviewer(s) will encourage the parties to reconcile their differences and come to a mutual agreement on some or all issues.

d. If the complaint cannot be resolved at the review hearing, the reviewer(s) will prepare a final, binding decision, which will be communicated to all parties, in writing, within ten (10) days of the hearing. The decision of the reviewer(s) is final and is not to be subject to any other grievance, arbitration, review, or reconciliation procedure of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth.

Your participation in this Complaint Review Process does not prevent you from making a complaint to an applicable government agency.

## HOW TO REQUEST A MINOR ADJUSTMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

If you feel that your child with a disability needs a minor adjustment to enable him/her to participate in the general education curriculum of the School, please talk to your child's teacher and/or Principal of the school. Be prepared to submit medical documentation to verify both your child's disability and the nature and extent of the requested minor adjustment.

## STUDENT NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The School, mindful of its mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students regardless of race, color, nationality, and/or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the School

The School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, sex, nationality, and/or ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies and practices, scholarship programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs, although certain athletic leagues and other programs may limit participation.

While the School does not discriminate against students with special needs, a full range of services may not always be available to them. Decisions concerning the admission and continued enrollment of a student in the school are based upon the student's emotional, academic, and physical abilities, and the resources available to the School in meeting the student's needs.

# DIOCESAN POLICY 5217 STATUTORY NOTIFICATION OF A SCHOOL OF THE ARREST OF A STUDENT

Article 15.27 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure requires the police to give a private school, in which a child is enrolled, oral or written notification that the child has been arrested for a felony or certain misdemeanors.

"(h) This article applies to any felony offense and the following misdemeanors:

(1) an offense under Section 20.02 [Unlawful Restraint], 21.08 [Indecent Exposure], 22.01 [Assault], 22.05 [Deadly Conduct], 22.07 [Terroristic Threat], or 71.02 [Engaging in Organized Crime], Penal Code;

(2) the unlawful use, sale, or possession of a controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, or marihuana, as defined by Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code; or

(3) the unlawful possession of any of the weapons or devices listed in Sections 46.01(1)-(14) or (16), Penal Code, or a weapon listed as a prohibited weapon under Section 46.05, Penal Code."

The oral or written notification required by Article 15.27 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure or any other statute, to a school, that a student has been arrested for a felony or misdemeanor that the law requires the police to notify the school of the arrest is grounds for the expulsion of the student from the school.

## DIOCESAN POLICY 5218 REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS

No individual, who is required to register as a sex offender under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure, or any other statute, may be a student. Any student, who is required to register as a sex offender, shall be expelled from the school.

## **Diocesan Policy 6200. USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

Access to the technology resources in the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Fort Worth, including the Internet, shall be made available primarily for instructional and administrative purposes. Access to the school's computers, network, and Internet resources is a privilege, not a right. All users shall have the responsibility to use the equipment and software with care and to comply with the Diocese's Acceptable Use Policy. Teachers may grant students access to the school's technology as deemed appropriate by the teacher. Users of the school's technology shall not purposefully access materials that are considered an Unacceptable Use as defined hereinafter. Individuals making an Unacceptable Use of the school's technology will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include, but not be limited to, termination of employment or expulsion from the school.

## ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

## INTERNET TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND REGULATIONS

It is the policy of the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Fort Worth to require the Acceptable Use of the Internet and related technologies by all employees, volunteers, patrons, guests, and students as set forth below. Access privileges may be revoked, disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action taken for any Unacceptable Use of the school's technology.

1. Acceptable Use—The use of the Internet and related technologies must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Fort Worth. Use of other organizations' networks or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for the networks.

2. Unacceptable Use — The term "Unacceptable Use" as used herein shall include, but not be limited to, the following prohibited acts:

- a. transmission or the receipt of any material in violation of any U. S. or state regulation including, but is not limited to, copyright material, threatening, violent, or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret;
- b. use for commercial activities, product advertisement, political lobbying, game playing, unauthorized "chat," or chain letter communication;

- **c.** pornography, information on bombs, inappropriate language and communications, and flame letters;
- d. acts of vandalism, any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data or another user or to damage hardware or software, the uploading or creation of computer viruses, and
- e. unauthorized use of another's computer, access accounts, and/or files.

3. Privileges—The use of the Internet and related technologies is a privilege, not a right, and Unacceptable Use may result in cancellation of the privilege and may subject the individual to disciplinary action, which may include, but not be limited to termination of employment or, expulsion from the school. Each user who is provided access to Internet and related technologies will participate in a training session with assigned staff person(s) concerning the proper use of the network. The faculty, staff, or parent/guardian may request the administrator or designee to deny, revoke, or suspend a specific user's access to the Internet and related technologies.

4. Copyright—It is the policy of the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Fort Worth that all employees, volunteers, patrons, guests, and students will abide by the federal copyright laws. Employees, volunteers, patrons, guests, and students may, with the school's permission, copy print or non-print acceptable use materials allowed by:

\* Copyright law

\* Fair use guidelines

\* Specific licenses or contractual agreements

\* Other types of permission

Employees, volunteers, patrons, guests, and students who willfully disregard copyright law are in violation of the policy of the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Fort Worth; they do so at their own risk and assume all liability.

## 5. Other

\*\* Network accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purpose.

\*\* Users shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data or passwords belonging to other users,

or misrepresent other users on the network.

\*\* Malicious use of the network to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer or computing system and/or

Damage the software or hardware components of a computer or computing system is prohibited. \*\* Prior approval is required from the school for List serves use by or for Employees, volunteers, patrons, guests, and students.

## ELECTRONIC AND/OR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

Electronic and/or digital communications with students, and staff members should be conducted for educationally appropriate purposes using school sanctioned communications methods. The school sanctioned communications methods are: teacher school web pages such as the school website, Moodle, or School Notes, teacher school email, teacher school phone and educationally focused networking sites such as Churchwerks. The term "Staff member" as used herein shall mean all employees of a school.

Staff members in their normal responsibilities and duties may be required to contact parents outside of the school day. A staff member is free to contact parents using e-mail, a home phone, personal cell phone or other appropriate electronic or digital devices. Staff members are to contact parents, not students, when they need to disseminate information for the student's benefit. Staff members should not purposely distribute a home phone number or a personal cell phone number to students.

Staff members are not to contact students directly by electronic and/or digital communications. If a staff member contacts a student, other than by a school sanctioned communications methods, using electronic devices, including, but not limited to, personal phone or cell phone, email, texting or networking sites, the student shall immediately notify the student's parents about the contact, and the student's parents shall immediately reported the contact to the principal or to other proper school authorities.

Students are not to contact a staff member, other than by school sanctioned communications methods. If a student contacts a staff member, other than by school sanctioned communications methods, using electronic devices, including, but not limited to, personal phone or cell phone, email, texting or networking sites, the staff member shall immediately report the contact to the principal or to other proper school authority who shall immediately notify the parents of the student concerning the communication by the student to the Staff member.

## 6205 ONLINE SOCIAL MEDIA

Although this policy closely mirrors the Diocesan policy on social media, due to the special, privileged and powerful relationship between a Catholic school and its parents and students, sections of this policy are more restrictive. The first legal duty of a Catholic school is to keep those entrusted to them safe.

The Catholic schools of the Diocese of Fort Worth acknowledge the right of employees to use personal websites, social networks, wikis, weblogs and other emerging technologies not only as a form of self-expression, and, in their individual capacity, as a means to further the work of the Church. Additionally, the same rules that apply to school employee's messaging and communications in traditional media apply in the online social media space. This specifically means that teachers and all school staff, including substitutes and volunteers, are never to use social media to directly communicate, interact or respond directly to students unless that social media is operated, controlled and directed by the school itself. Simply because the development and implementation of an online social media program can be fast, easy, and inexpensive does not mean that different rules apply. School employees should bear in mind that posting of certain comments, photos, links or references to third party websites and information on websites, social networks, wikis and weblogs may have a harmful effect on the Church and its schools, its reputation, and its employees.

In light of this possibility, school employees are required to adhere to the following policy regarding the use of personal and professional websites, social networks, wikis, weblogs and other emerging technologies. This policy supports other related Diocesan and school policies, including Acceptable Technology Use and the Code of Conduct & Behavior Standards for All Clergy, Religious and Lay Ministers.

School employees may only access websites, weblogs, wikis and social networks for legitimate professional job-related purposes during the workday with the approval of their direct supervisor. School

employees are not to create, post or otherwise access weblogs, personal social networks, wikis or personal websites for personal use during normal school working hours. Employees should exercise sound judgment and common sense to prevent online social media sites from becoming a distraction at work.

If you identify yourself as an employee of a Catholic school on a personal website, weblog or social network, you must make it clear to your readers that the views you express are yours alone and that your views do not necessarily reflect the views of the Diocese or its schools. In the event that you identify yourself as an employee of a Catholic school on a personal website, weblog, wiki or social network, to help reduce the potential for confusion, you are required to put the following notice in a reasonable prominent place on your site (e.g., at the bottom of your personal profile page) in at least a size 12 font bolded:

"The views expressed on this website/weblog/social network are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of my employer."

School employees are prohibited from disclosing on personal or professional websites, weblogs, wikis or social networks, any information that is confidential or proprietary to the Diocese, its schools or to any third party that has disclosed information to the Diocese or its schools.

The school has exclusive ownership rights with respect to certain concepts and developments you produce that are related to school business. Employees may not use school trademarks on their site or reproduce any school materials or logos. Please consult with your principal if you have questions about appropriateness of publishing anything that may be related to the school on your site.

School employees may not use the copyrights, trademarks, rights of publicity, and other third-party rights in the online social media space, including with regard to user-generated content (UGC), without the necessary permissions of the rights holder(s).

School employees are prohibited from providing a link or otherwise referring to the school website on their personal website, social networks, wikis or weblogs without consulting with and obtaining the approval of the principal of the specific school.

School employees shall not allow any obscene, harassing, offensive, derogatory or defamatory comments and images which reflects/discredits or causes embarrassment to the Diocese and its schools, its employees, patrons, vendors, partners, affiliates, agencies, students, and others on personal, the school's and professional websites, any other social networks, wikis or weblogs.

• All social media being used by Catholic entities must be clearly branded in order provide institutional authority as well as avoid confusion. Unless you have been officially authorized in writing to speak or act on behalf of a Catholic entity, employees are prohibited to use such brandings or create secondary social media sites that give the illusion of being authoritative.

All social media used by Catholic entities must comply with the Minimum Social Media Requirements contained in Policy 6210.

The school reserves the right to regularly monitor any and all schools based computers. In addition, it is the policy of the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Fort Worth that every portable information/data storage device used by a school staff member or student may be examined at any time because it may contain something dangerous.

The school reserves the right to monitor professional websites, social networks, wikis or weblogs created on school computers during the course of a normal workday, or on school computers on personal time.

Once information is published online, it is essentially part of a permanent record, even if you "remove/delete" it later or attempt to make it anonymous. If your complete thought, along with its context, cannot be squeezed into a character-restricted space (such as Twitter), provide a link to an online space where the message can be expressed completely and accurately.

The school requires that you confine your personal website, social network or weblog commentary to topics unrelated to the Diocese or its schools (or in certain cases, that you temporarily suspend your website or weblog activity altogether) if it believes this is necessary or advisable to ensure compliance with this policy or federal and state laws.

School employees will comply with all aspects of the Children's Online Private Protection Act (COPPA). Employees are forbidden to post or distribute personal identifiable information including pictures on any child under the age of eighteen without parental consent. Personal identifiable information includes name, home address, email address, telephone number or any information that would allow someone to identify or contact a child. If written verifiable consent is obtained from a parent, it is important that the parent has approved the information that is to be provided and has full knowledge of its use, purpose and how the information is going to be provided. Likewise, parents should be made aware that the school is making use of only school controlled websites, social networks, weblogs and other emerging technologies to communicate with students.

School employees will model safe and effective use of technology for students including developmentally appropriate instructions on responsibility associated with the use of technology and the possible dangers associated with technology. School employees who violate this Online Social Media policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination. If you have questions about this policy or any matter related to your site that this policy does not address, please consult with the principal of your school.

## 6210 THE MINIMUM SOCIAL MEDIA REQUIREMENTS

The following guidelines are required for schools wishing to establish social media. These requirements apply to all current and future social media, including but not limited to websites, wikis, Facebook, Twitter, blogs and other emerging technologies.

- Site administrators must be adults and/or approved employees of the school
- There must be at least two site administrators for each site to allow for rapid response and continuous monitoring and updating of the site.
- All social media must be reviewed by the principal or the pastor before implementation to ensure it is not in conflict with current standards, policies and Catholic teachings.

• Personal sites shall not be used in connection with school programs or to communicate with students. Students are defined as any and all students enrolled in a Catholic school in the Diocese of Fort Worth.

• Passwords, names of the sites and the site addresses or site location information shall be registered in a central location in the school and at least two (2) adults must have access to this information.

In establishing a school site, know and abide by these key "Rules of the Road": • Abide by all diocesan, parish and/or school guidelines

- All communication by school employees reflect on the Church and the school
- Do not claim or in any way give the impression or the appearance representing the official position of the school or the teachings
  - of the Church, unless you have written authorized to do so.
- All school social media sites shall be clearly branded and identified to provide institutional authority and to avoid confusion.
- Abide by all copyright, fair use and financial disclosure laws.
- Never divulge confidential information.



## PLANNING FOR A SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOL

## **PROCESSES AND OPERATIONS**

#### Health and Safety

This guidance document is being provided based on the public health situation as we understand it today and is intended to support planning for school year 2020-2021 activities and instruction beginning August 1, 2020. Changes to the public health situation over the course of the summer may necessitate changes to this guidance, including additional restrictions to school operations.

The health, wellness, and safety for all HFCS students, staff, parents, and supporters is a priority. As new information arises, Holy Family Catholic School administrators will continue to monitor the suggestions and recommendations posted by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), American Association for Pediatrics (AAP), Texas Education Agency (TEA), University Interscholastic League (UIL), Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS), Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops Education Department (TCCB ED) and our diocesan support team. Updates will be adapted and implemented as necessary and shared with the HFCS community.

The Holy Family Catholic School COVID-19 Response Team includes the following administrators and staff:

Fr. Hoa Nguyen - Pastor Ann Walters - Principal Tracy Head – Business Manager Lisa Bothwell, RN – School Nurse Jan Barker – PE Teacher Mirna Vasquez - Receptionist

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#### UNDERSTANDING OF COVID-19

#### Symptoms of COVID-19

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms or combinations of symptoms may have COVID-19.

• Cough, chills, shortness of breath, new loss of taste or smell, shaking or exaggerated shivering, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, diarrhea, vomiting, fever > 100 or feverish

## **Disease Transmission**

The virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages, and school system leaders should do everything feasible to keep students safe. Research from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), among others, has found that while children do get infected by COVID-19 and some severe outcomes have been reported in children, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized or have severe symptoms. That being said, a child with a mild or even asymptomatic case of COVID-19 can spread the infection to others. The same is true for adults. Even if an infected person is only mildly ill, the people they spread it to may become seriously ill or even die, especially if that person is 65 or older with preexisting health conditions that place them at higher risk. While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, teachers, staff, and their families significantly.

## **Preventative Practices**

The prevention and mitigation practices recommended in this document are designed to significantly reduce the likelihood that a coronavirus outbreak occurs on campus. HFCS will take local public health context into account throughout the year as prevention and mitigation recommendations are determined and implemented.

- Frequent Handwashing
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth
- Properly cover coughs and sneezes
- Socially distance at least six feet from others
- Wear a mask to cover mouth and nose when around others
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- Stay home if feeling sick

## **Health and Hygiene Practices**

- Hand sanitizer stations will be available, and will be utilized, at each school entrance and in every classroom.
- Students, teachers, and staff, and campus visitors will wash or sanitize hands frequently, including before eating and after bathroom visits, using proper handwashing protocol (wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds).
- Students, teachers, and staff, and campus visitors will be reminded and strongly encouraged to use proper protocol regarding coughing and sneezing:
  - Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, tissues should be thrown in the trash after use, and hands should be immediately washed with soap and water for 20 seconds.
  - If no tissue is available, cover coughs and sneezes with your elbow, wash garment before returning to school the next day.
- Holy Family Catholic School has arranged for additional cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces.
- Students and staff may clean their own spaces before and after they are used, in ways that are safe and developmentally appropriate. Students will wash their hands with soap and water when completed.
- Whenever possible, windows will be opened to improve airflow by allowing outside air to circulate throughout the classroom and/or building.

## Individuals Confirmed, Suspected, or Exposed to COVID-19

- Any individuals—including teachers, staff, students, or other campus visitors—who themselves either: (a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, chills, shortness of breath, new loss of taste or smell, shaking or exaggerated shivering, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, diarrhea, vomiting, fever > 100 or feverish) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school screens the individual to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:
- In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:
  - at least three days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications)
  - the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)
  - at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the same three-step set of criteria listed above.
- If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above stay at home period, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis or (b) receive two separate confirmations at least 24 hours apart that they are free of COVID via acute infection tests at an approved COVID-19 testing location found at <a href="https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/">https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/</a>.
- Individuals including students, teachers, staff, or other campus visitors—who have had close contact with someone who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, as narrowly defined in this document and as determined by the appropriate public health agency, should stay at home through the 14-day incubation period, and should not be allowed on campus.
- School personnel will screen individuals after the incubation period has concluded, and if the individual did not experience COVID-19 symptoms during that period, the individual can be allowed back on campus.
- If the individual experienced symptoms, they must stay at home until the conditions outlined above have been met.

## Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus

- The school administration or nurse will immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian.
- The school staff will clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as is feasible.
- Students who report feeling feverish should be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.

## **Response to Confirmed Cases in the School**

• If an individual who has been in school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, Holy Family Catholic School will notify the local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

- School staff will close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 3 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
- Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, HFCS will notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate on any on campus activities.

## On Campus and Virtual Instruction

• HFCS will offer traditional on-campus classroom instruction, as well as virtual/distance learning instruction.

## ATTENDANCE AND ENROLLMENT

- Per Texas Education Code (TEC) 25.092, students must attend 90% of a course (with some exceptions) in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade. This requirement remains in force during the 2020-21 school year.
- Given the public health situation, student attendance may be earned through the delivery of virtual instruction.

## Start of School Procedures

## Meet the Teacher Night and Parent Meetings

HFCS will inform families of upcoming venues/protocols for school year events via email. Most meetings will be virtual.

## Curb-side Pickup Back to School Bash/Supply Pick-up

Families will be assigned times to pick up school supplies, yearbooks, and other items typically distributed at Back to School Bash. Families will stay in their cars and staff will bring the items to the car. Date TBD.

## Staff Screening

HFCS will require teachers and staff to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day. Teachers and staff will report to the school administration if: (a) they have come into close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19; or (b) they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms.

## **Initial Student Screenings**

HFCS will pre-screen all students for COVID-19 symptoms prior to the start of the school through a survey sent out to parents/guardians. Before coming onto campus at the beginning of the year and at the start of every week of on-campus instruction, HFCS will screen all students to determine if: (a) they have the COVID-19 symptoms; or (b) they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19. All students will wear masks upon arrival to school.

## **Ongoing Student/Staff Screening**

On the first day of each school week screening will be completed by use of a third-party application.

All students will wear masks upon arrival to school.

Students and employees will be encouraged to self-monitor and self-report throughout each week.

## **Visitor Screening**

Persons who have made appointments to visit the school will be screened with a temperature and symptom check before they may enter the building. Staff are permitted to prevent any individual who fails the screening criteria from being admitted to the campus until they meet any of the criteria for re-entry to the campus. All limited visitors to school will wear masks for the duration of their visit.

## **Entering the School - Students**

There will be two points of student entry into the school: the back gate, and the front doors. There will be hand sanitizer stations at the front doors, in each classroom and office, the gym, the church, and in the library.

- Pre-Kindergarten students:
  - $\circ$  will enter through the back gate and will immediately be escorted to the PK portables.
  - PK students needing before school care will enter through the main front doors.

## • Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students:

• will enter through the main front doors.

## **Before School Care**

Before School Care begins at 6:30 am, and is located in the cafeteria.

- A staff member will meet the student in the carline and escort the students into the building.
- The students will be assigned seating that provides 6 feet of social distancing.

## First Day of School Arrival

- Mandatory carpool drop-off (see above "Entering the School Students")
- Parents and caregivers remain in the carline with the exception of PK.
  - PK parents may escort their child/ren into the PK building during the first week of school only.
  - PK parents will maintain 6ft of social distance using the sidewalk and stair distance markers.
  - Parents must wear masks.
- Students will be chaperoned to classrooms
- Virtual morning assemblies and prayer will be viewed or heard in individual classrooms
- Every class will be instructed on appropriate hygiene practices.

## Masks, Shields, and Face Coverings

- For the purposes of this document, masks include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Face shields may be superior to cloth face coverings in many circumstances, given improved ability to see mouth movements and improved air circulation.
- HFCS will require all employees and visitors wear masks or face shields. This could be especially important where staff congregate in relatively close settings, for example, during staff meetings or in employee break rooms, or where visitors may congregate.
- Specific Mask/Face Shield Requirements Teachers
  - o Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> and under: face shields are acceptable to allow younger students to read lips
  - Grades 4<sup>th</sup> and above: traditional masks must be worn
- Specific Mask Requirements Students

- Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> and under: must wear masks during arrival, dismissal, and transitional periods such a bathroom visits
- Grades 4<sup>th</sup> and above: must always wear masks on campus

## Student-Teacher Groupings & Social Distancing

Where feasible without disrupting the educational experience, students will practice social distancing.

In classrooms where students are regularly within six feet of one another, such as PK/K we have planned for more frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizing and will increase airflow from the outdoors when possible.

## PK-K:

- Students will be in a self-contained classroom for the entire day (lunch included).
- Specials teachers will travel to the classrooms.
- Centers/toys/games will be removed from the classroom.
- Individual supplies required NO sharing of any kind.
- All items must be labeled with the student's name for easy identification.
- On-line learning will be provided for families opting for distant learning.

## 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades:

- Desks will be six feet apart for social distancing.
- Students will be in a self-contained classroom for the entire day (lunch included).
- MS and specials teachers will travel to the classrooms.
- Centers/toys/games will be removed from the classroom.
- Individual supplies required NO sharing of any kind
- All items must be labeled with the student's name for easy identification
- On-line learning will be provided for families opting for distant learning.

## Hallways & Transitions

- Students will use designated hallways to reduce contact.
- Physical guides, such as tape and signage, will be placed on floors or sidewalks to create student transition routes.
- The use of student lockers will be eliminated, other storage that allows for social distancing will be provided.
- Teachers, rather than students, will rotate to classes.
- Outdoor spaces will be utilized for instruction when possible, weather permitting.
- Teachers will maintain 6 feet from students when possible and if not disruptive to educational process.

## Lunch and Dining

- Students will eat in classrooms.
- Catering and microwaves will not be available.
- Students must bring their own lunches in lunch containers that are labeled with the student's name.
- Students must bring their own water bottles that are labeled with the student's name.

## Playgrounds and Recess

Emphasis should be placed on cohorts of students and limiting the size of groups participating in playground time.

A recess schedule, which includes designated campus play areas, will be created for each class/grade level.

- Outdoor playgrounds and natural play areas only need routine maintenance, and hand hygiene should be emphasized before and after use of these spaces.
- Outdoor play equipment with high-touch surfaces, such as railings, handles, etc. should be cleaned and disinfected regularly if used continuously.
- UV light kills viruses and bacteria and is used in some controlled settings as a germicide. UV light-emitting devices should not be used in the school setting, because they are not safe for children and adults and can cause skin and eye damage.

## Weekly Mass

## **HFCS** will follow all protocol regarding safe social distancing for regularly scheduled Masses.

- School Mass will not be open to the public or to visitors.
- Handwashing before and after Mass will be required.

## BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE (BASC):

## **Before School Care**

Before School Care begins at 6:30 am, and is located in the cafeteria.

- A staff member will meet the student in the carline and escort the student into the building.
- Students will use the hand sanitizer station before entering the cafeteria and when leaving the cafeteria.
- The students will be assigned seating that provides 6 feet of social distancing.
- Students will be provided their own labeled supply bag containing craft supplies and writing materials.

## AFTER SCHOOL CARE

# AFTER SCHOOL CARE BEGINS IMMEDIATELY AFTER SCHOOL DISMISSAL, AND IS LOCATED IN THE CAFETERIA AND THE LIBRARY.

- The students will be assigned seating that provides 6 feet of social distancing.
- Pre-packed snacks and water will be distributed to students.
- Students will use the hand sanitizer station before entering the cafeteria and when leaving the cafeteria.
- Students will be provided their own labeled supply bag containing craft supplies and writing materials.
- PARENTS WILL RING THE FRONT DOOR BELL AND THE STUDENTS WILL BE ESCORTED TO THE FRONT DOOR AND BE RELEASED TO THEIR PARENTS/GUARDIANS.

## DISMISSAL

## • Pre-Kindergarten students:

- Students will be called to the carline via walkie-talkie and will be dismissed through the back gate near the PK portables and will be escorted to the carline two students at a time.
- Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students:
  - Students will be called to the carline via the intercom system, only six students will be called at a time.

• Cones will be set up six feet apart at the curb to maintain social distancing.

## Limited Visits by Parents and the General Public

- Parents and other adults will need to make an appointment prior to visiting HFCS.
- During these visits, parents and other visitors must follow virus prevention and mitigation requirements of the school.
- HFCS will encourage reducing adult visits on campus to only those essential to school operations.

#### Use of Non-Classroom Spaces

- When feasible and appropriate (for example, in physical education classes as weather permits), it is preferable for students to gather outside, rather than inside, because of likely reduced risk of virus spread outdoors.
- Participation in extracurricular activities on campus should align with UIL and non-UIL activities guidance.
- At this time HFCS will not be opening the facilities to the public.
- If and when HFCS opens the campus to the public, the operation of the facilities will be consistent with governor's executive orders for similar activities.
- Student bathroom visits will be monitored to eliminate crowding and to provide social distancing.

#### Staffing

- Employees of schools, like employees of any organization, must continue to meet the work expectations set by their employers, subject to any applicable employment contract terms.
- School teachers and staff should be trained specifically on the protocols outlined in this document and the practices adopted by the Catholic Schools Office.

## EXTRACURRICULAR SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES:

All plans for extra-curricular activities will come from the CSO before the start of school. At this time, no plans should be made for any extra-curricular activities (to include, but not limited to clubs, sports, or any other activity) until you receive guidelines from the CSO.

## EXCLUSION AND RE-ADMITTANCE CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES Exclusion and Re-admission Criteria

Our Catholic schools adhere to the <u>Communicable Disease Exclusion Criteria for Schools and</u> <u>Childcare Settings</u> as outlined by the Texas Administrative Code. This chart is found in the TCCB ED School Health Manual. We anticipate either a revision to this document to include considerations for COVID-19 or a new stand-alone guidance document for COVID-19. The information listed is consistent with current recommendations from the CDC and Texas DSHS, subject to change.

 Immediately isolate and send home any employee or student who has any of the following new or worsening signs or symptoms of possible COVID-19: Cough -Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing - Chills - shaking or exaggerated shivering -Muscle pain - Headache - Sore throat – New loss of taste or smell - Diarrhea - Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit - Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19

- Do not allow employees or students with new or worsening signs or symptoms listed above to return to work/school until: In the case of an employee or student who was diagnosed with COVID-19 the individual may return to work/school when <u>all</u> <u>three</u> of the following criteria are met:
  - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery including resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications
  - The individual has improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)
  - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

In the case of an employee or student who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and does not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, the individual is assumed to have COVID-19. The individual may not return to work/school until the individual has completed the same three-step criteria listed If the employee or student has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to work/school before completing the above self-isolation period, the individual must

obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis.

3. Do not allow an employee or student with known close contact to a person who is labconfirmed to have COVID-19 to return to work/school until the end of the 14 day selfquarantine period from the last date of exposure.

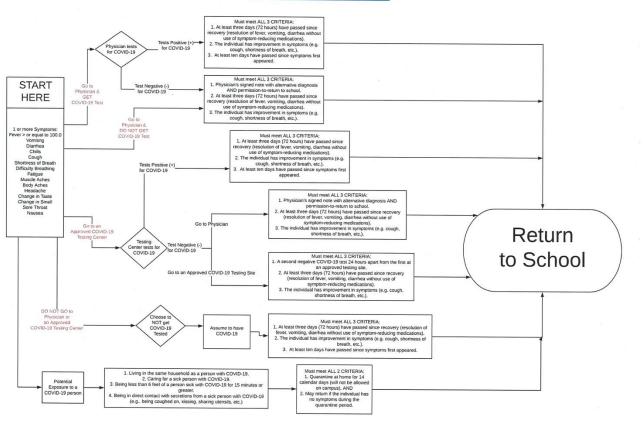
## Emergency Response for COVID-19

When a school identifies that a confirmed case of COVID-19 has entered a school building, the following procedures should be observed:

- Notify the Catholic Schools Office.
- Notify and coordinate with the local health department the local health department will be abreast of the latest required guidance for appropriate response to COVID-19.
- Be prepared for dismissal of students and staff for a 2-5 day minimum. The local health department will likely advise an initial short-term dismissal to allow time for tracing and required cleaning. Partial school closures are possible if affected areas are limited and can be closed off. Longer term dismissals may be advised. Partial or full closure would apply to the Before and After School Program. Extra-curricular activities, events should be cancelled as well in the event of required school dismissals.
- **Communicate with staff, parents, and students.** Communication should be well designed and respectful of the confidentiality of the student or staff member. Communications should be done in consultation with the Catholic Schools Office and the Office of Communications and should be consistent with your school Crisis Communications Plan. Media inquiries should be routed to https://fwdioc.org/communications.
- Transition to Remote Distance Learning.

Schools should wait as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection to minimize potential for exposure to respiratory droplets. If possible open outside doors and windows for a period of time and if possible wait up to 24 hours before beginning cleaning and disinfecting. Specific CDC instructions can be found here: <u>CDC - Interim Guidance for Administrators</u>





## **COVID Related Handbook Policy Additions 9/10/20**

1. In order to prevent the spread of disease, we ask that you do not send your child to school if he/she is exhibiting any symptoms of illness or running a fever. If he/she has been ill, it is required that he/she be free of fever without fever reducing medication for 24 hours prior to returning to school. With respect to the current Covid-19 pandemic, it is imperative that parents/guardians follow this protocol at all times. Should a child become ill on campus and require a parent/guardian to take them home, this parent/guardian must arrive to retrieve the student within 30 minutes of the initial phone call.

2. While we plan to offer instruction face to face, due to COVID-19, some or all instruction for all or part of Academic Year 20-21 may be delivered remotely. Tuition and mandatory fees have been set regardless of the method of instruction and will not be refunded in the event instruction occurs remotely for any part of the Academic Year.



Student's Name:	Student's Date of Birth:
Mother's Name (print):	
Father's Name (print):	
HANDBOOK AGREE	MENT FORM
I have read the Holy Family Catholic School Family Handbool contained in this document.	k and agree to follow the policies and procedures
Signature of Mother	Date:
Signature of Father	Date:



Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Student's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

#### COVID-19 PARENTAL/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages. While relatively few children with COVID-19 develop severe symptoms or require hospitalization, some may develop a severe illness.

Even a young person with a mild or even asymptomatic case of COVID-19 can spread the infection to others, including to those who may be more vulnerable.

Reasonable precautions and mitigation measures will be taken based on available guidance. However, some of the protective measures that may be practical for adults are, for a variety of reasons, simply not possible with a wide range of students.

COVID-19 may be spread from person to person by coughing, sneezing, speaking, and even breathing. Some students are likely to occasionally disregard social-distancing guidelines and other mitigation practices, notwithstanding supervision and appropriate sanctions.

Parents and Guardians should monitor the health of their child(ren). DO NOT SEND ANY CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE DISPLAYING ANY SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19.

As parent and/or legal guardian of the child, I acknowledge that I am aware of the COVID-19 virus and the risks it poses, and I acknowledge that my child may be exposed to the virus while attending the School. I agree I will not take my child to the School if my child displays any symptoms of COVID-19 or has been exposed to anyone with COVID-19. I will notify the School immediately if my child is exposed or develops symptoms. I agree to comply with rules and directives of the School, and I will actively encourage my child to do the same.

The School has shared with me its Return to Campus processes and operations, which outlines the steps the school will undertake to help mitigate the exposure to and spread of the COVID-19 virus. I have read the Return to Campus plan, and I agree to abide by the plan as it pertains to me or my child(ren).

Signature of Mother	Date:
5	

Signature of Father \_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_