

# Blanchet Catholic School COVID-19 FAQ

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# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## Reopening

Why is Blanchet able to reopen when other schools are not?

The Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Health Authority have put together guidelines for schools to follow in order to open in the safest manner possible. This guidance is called [Ready School Safe Learner](#). There have been recent updates to the guidance in reference to metrics put forth by the Governor, linked [here](#). This has made it possible for Blanchet to open while following the guidelines of Ready School Safe Learner.

Where can I find Blanchet's plan for having in-person learning?













On August 15, 2020, every school in Oregon completed an Operational Blueprint for the 2020-21 school year. Our original Blue Print outlined our comprehensive distance learning plan. Now, with the recent update in the guidance, we were able to submit an updated plan that outlines our procedures and protocols for reopening. That plan is located [here](#).

## Face Coverings

Do all staff and students have to wear face coverings or face shields?

Face coverings are required of all students and staff while indoors or outdoors.

“Face covering” means a cloth, polypropylene, paper, or other face covering that covers the nose and the mouth and that rests snugly above the nose, below the mouth, and on the sides of the face. - [Executive Order No. 20-66](#), [ORS 431A.010](#), [ORS 433.441](#), [ORS 433.443](#). More information on face coverings can be found here on the [CDC website](#) or check out the graph below.

Recommended	Not Recommended
 <p>Non-medical disposable masks</p>	 <p>Masks that do not fit properly (large gaps, too loose or too tight)</p>
 <p>Masks that fit properly (snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face)</p>	 <p>Masks made from materials that are hard to breathe through (such as plastic or leather)</p>
 <p>Masks made with breathable fabric (such as cotton)</p>	 <p>Masks made from loosely woven fabric or that are knitted, i.e., fabrics that let light pass through</p>
 <p>Masks made with tightly woven fabric (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source)</p>	 <p>Masks with one layer</p>
 <p>Masks with two or three layers</p>	 <p>Masks with exhalation valves or vents</p>
 <p>Masks with inner filter pockets</p>	 <p>Wearing a scarf/ski mask as a mask</p>

## Physical Distancing

What are the required protocols for physical distancing?

Daily activities and instruction should support physical distancing, striving to maintain at least six feet between individuals.

- Desks in classrooms have been adjusted to allow for 35 sq ft per student in each room.
- Blanchet supports physical distancing in all daily activities and instruction, striving to maintain at least six feet between individuals.
- Blanchet will minimize time standing in lines. Blanchet will clearly display signage and monitor students to keep six feet of distance apart. Marking spacing on the floors and one-way traffic flow will assist in the management of logistics, especially in constrained spaces.
- Release from class patterns have been adjusted to reduce students in hallways and will be shared with students.
- Students will eat lunch in grade-level cohorts in either the Lee Student Center, Aux Gym, or Mid-high Commons. Which are spaces that can accommodate physical distancing.

# Student Hand Hygiene

## What are the required protocols for student hand hygiene?

There are two types of hand hygiene:

- handwashing with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds and
- using alcohol-based hand sanitizer with 60-95% alcohol.

Students are required to wash their hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds when using the restroom.

Hand Washing or Hand Sanitizer is Required:

- When students enter school or leave school
- Before meals, after meals are also encouraged
- Before and after using physical education equipment
- After coughing, sneezing, or handling used tissues
- Upon entering the classroom

## What else should staff consider to facilitate student hand hygiene?

- Students will be reminded through signage and regular reminders from the staff of the utmost importance of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.
  - Respiratory etiquette means covering coughs and sneezes with an elbow or a tissue.
  - Tissues should be disposed of and hands washed or sanitized immediately.
  - Students should avoid touching their face.
  - Students should be encouraged to use hand sanitizer or to wash their hands regularly.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed near all entry doors and other high-traffic areas.

# School Day

## What happens when I arrive at school each day?

- Drop off will be split between the front and back entrances of the school.
- Upon entry, all students and staff who enter the building will follow our screening protocol which will include using a temporal scanner, which takes the individual's temperature and records their entry time.
- Once the student passes the screening protocol, they will report to their designated location before school or 1st-period classroom.
- Students who do not pass the temporal scan or screening questions will be discreetly isolated, and a parent will be contacted to come and pick up the student.

- Primary symptoms of concern: cough, fever (temperature of 100.4°F or higher) or chills, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or new loss of taste or smell.
- Note that muscle pain, headache, sore throat, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, new nasal congestion, and runny nose are also symptoms often associated with COVID-19. More information about COVID-19 symptoms are available from [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing)

### What if a student arrives late?

Students who arrive late should plan to enter through the front main lobby to have temperatures taken and to complete the screening protocol.

### What is the plan for after-school pickup or departure?

Students are required to leave campus after school if they are not participating in an after school activity. Students that drive are to head to their vehicles and leave campus. All students that are picked up will report to their designated lunch areas. Parents can communicate with Blanchet staff in a couple of ways when they arrive at school to pick up their student. At that time the student will be excused from their area and proceed to the front parking lot. Parents can email or call the front office when they arrive, [attendance@blanchetcatholicschool.com](mailto:attendance@blanchetcatholicschool.com) or 503-391-2636. The other option is to call or text their student who can communicate with the staff member supervising their group. Then that student will be excused to the front to leave. **Parents should not enter the building to pick up their students.** We are working on creating the least amount of congestion possible.

Students that are taking the bus after school should line up in the Mid-High commons by the West double doors for the Queen of Peace bus or the East double doors for the St. Edwards, St. Joseph, and St. Vincent bus.

### Should students bring in their devices?

Teachers will continue to load all of their work into Google classroom. This will continue to be our platform for collecting and distributing digital materials. Students are encouraged to bring in their devices if it is feasible. If they do bring in their device they should keep it on their person during the entirety of the school day. Devices should be able to be stowed away in their bag in a padded area.

### Attire for dress code, Physical Education, and afterschool sports?

Students will be expected to follow the dress code during the hybrid schedule. In order to reduce the need for locker or changing rooms, students that have a PE class may come to school in their PE clothes and remain in them after the class. In PE there will be a push to have class outside as much as possible, even if it is cold or rainy. Students coming to school in PE clothes should wear sweatpants over PE shorts.

## What about lockers and bag storage?

As we start in the Hybrid we will not be using lockers. This is an effort to reduce opportunities for students to bunch up. This is also why students are able to come to school with their PE clothing on. Students who drive should store their after school activity bags in their car. Students can use one of the cubbies in the Mid High Commons to store after school bags. These are not intended to store lunches or other items students need during the day.

## What is contact tracing?

Contact tracing is required to determine which students have interacted with each other. Keeping consistent grade-level cohorts before school, during lunch, and in classes will help reduce the number of students that are needing to quarantine in the event of a case of COVID.

## What has changed for students when moving from class to class?

- Students will be required to wash hands or use hand sanitizer when entering a classroom.
- There will be directional signage that marks spacing on the floor and one-way traffic flow in constrained spaces to keep students distanced from each other.
- Students are expected to keep their distance from other students while in the hallway.
- Face-coverings need to be worn at all times.
- Lockers will not be accessible because they create areas of congestion. Students should be prepared to manage their personal belongings and classroom materials accordingly.
- Students will not eat or drink during passing time. Instead, students will eat once they have taken their seats in their lunch area or in their class during designated snack times. Students requiring water during class should keep masks on and only adjust to take a drink and then replace the mask.
- Students will have their passing time staggered in order to reduce the number of students in the hallways.
- Students will be required to sanitize their hands upon classroom entry.

## Where will students eat lunch?

Students will eat lunch with their grade-level cohorts. There will be 4 areas designated for lunch. These tables will be marked for keeping 6ft of distance between students. Areas utilized for lunch are the Lee Student Center, Auxiliary Gym, Mid-High Commons, and Main Gym.

During our Hybrid schedule, there will be food available for purchase through your FACTS account. Premade bagged lunches will be offered for this service. The menu for the coming week will be posted on Friday. Students will put in their orders during their first-period class, and their lunch will be delivered to their lunch area.

## Will there be assemblies or Masses?

Events that traditionally would encompass the entire student body will be live-streamed into classrooms or to grade-level cohorts. Masses will be conducted in the chapel, socially distanced, and streamed to the rest of the student body.

## Will visitors or deliveries be allowed?

All visitor entries will be restricted to essential personnel. All deliveries will be met outside, and access to the building will be restricted.

Students will not be allowed to have anything delivered except from parents.

## What happens if a student doesn't feel well?

- Blanchet Catholic asks that for the safety of its staff, students, and community families **keep students home when they are feeling ill.**
  - Students that have a fever or are not feeling well, should stay home. A parent/guardian should call reception at Blanchet (503-391-2639) or email [attendance@blanchetcatholicschool.com](mailto:attendance@blanchetcatholicschool.com) to notify the school that your student is out sick.
- Students should stay home if they have COVID-19 symptoms. COVID-19 symptoms are as follows:
  - Primary symptoms of concern: cough, fever (temperature of 100.4°F or higher) or chills, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or new loss of taste or smell.
  - Note that muscle pain, headache, sore throat, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, new nasal congestion, and runny nose are also symptoms often associated with COVID-19. More information about COVID-19 symptoms are available from [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov)
- Students should stay home if they can not pass the screening protocol. If the student gets to school and has a fever or doesn't pass the screening protocol, the student will be discreetly isolated until a parent can come to pick up the student.

**Please read before entering**



**IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS**



**PLEASE SEE A STAFF MEMBER BEFORE PROCEEDING**

What should I do if my student has a confirmed case of COVID-19?

Communication is vital in order for our school to remain open and be as safe as possible. Please communicate with Blanchet administration if your student has a confirmed case of COVID-19 or there is a confirmed case in your household. All medical information about our students and families will be kept confidential.

## Schedule

What schedule will the students be on when they return to school?

Blanchet will use our Blue/Gray day schedule to offer hybrid in-person instruction on its campus with all of the COVID-19 safety precautions implemented. Middle school students will attend classes on campus from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday while high school students attend their classes digitally on Zoom. On Wednesday and Thursday, the groups switch and the high school students attend classes in person while the middle school classes are held on Zoom.

However, if a parent wishes for their student to remain off-campus and use distance learning, that option is also available. **Please communicate with the administration if you choose this option.**



## Why are we using a Hybrid Model instead of being in school 5 days a week?

The hybrid model will be used as a transition back to in-person learning. Having just the middle school here for two days in person and just the high school here for two other days of instruction will allow us to incorporate our protocols with students and staff with fewer people on campus each day. In addition, this allows for classes that have enrollment numbers larger than what will not fit in our socially distanced classrooms to be held in large common areas.

The plan will be to move to have both middle and high school students on campus on the same days at some point this spring. The duration of the hybrid transition plan will be determined by the success of our return to in-person learning and a continuous evaluation of what is most appropriate for our students and staff.

## While on a hybrid schedule will there still be sports?

Sports will be offered. Screening protocols, face coverings, and physical distancing will continue to be used during these activities. Season 2 will begin on February 22 which includes MH/HS Soccer and HS Cross Country at this time.

## While on a hybrid schedule, will there still be club activities?

With the return to school, club activities will continue, and with students returning to campus, there will be an increase in club offerings. Club activities will continue to be on Fridays or after school based on their schedule.

## Cohorting

### What is cohorting?

Cohorting is limiting student interaction to a specific group. Having that group be consistent supports contact tracing, and in the event of a COVID case, allows us to only quarantine that cohort.

### How will my school use cohorting?

The Oregon Department of Education has advised schools to minimize interaction between students in different cohort groups (e.g., classes, activities, common areas, lunches). Students can be part of more than one cohort during the school day, but with each new cohort, there is increased risk. Staff who interact with multiple stable cohorts must wash/sanitize their hands between interacting with different cohorts. Classes, where applicable, will seat students by cohort.

## Transportation

What is required to ensure the safety of children with bus transportation?

Students and Bus drivers are required to wear a face covering. The bus driver will do a visual scan of all the students and provide sanitizer for all passengers on the bus to use as they board. Those presenting COVID symptoms will be isolated and follow our isolation protocol and be placed in a seat two empty seats away from other students. Once they arrive at school they will be located in our isolation station. All students will sit one person to a seat and keep social distance when lining up to enter or exit the bus.

Will Blanchet offer the same bus routes as in previous years?

Blanchet will pick them up from Queen of Peace, St. Edward, St. Joseph, and St. Vincent in the morning and drop them off at these locations after school.

<b>Blanchet Bus Schedule</b>	Pick Up	Drop Off	Drop Off
	Mon-Thurs	Mon/Wed	Tue/Thurs
Queen of Peace	8:20 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	2:00 pm
St. Joseph	8:40 a.m.	3:25 p.m.	1:55 pm
St. Vincent	8:20 a.m.	3:35 p.m.	2:05 pm
St. Edward	8:35 a.m.	3:50 p.m.	2:20 pm

## COVID-19 Cases

What if there is a case or outbreak of COVID-19 at my school?

Outbreaks are determined by the Oregon Health Authority and Local Public Health Authorities. In the event that there is a single positive case or a cluster of cases of COVID-19, schools and districts must partner with the Local Public Health Authority (LPHA) who will work to support them on ongoing COVID-19 mitigation efforts.

If there is a COVID-19 case at school, all students in that cohort will be contacted and the school will follow the guidance from OHA and ODE. This will result in specific cohorts or groups of students required to quarantine or isolate based on the situation. More information about specific situations can be found in the following document, [Planning for COVID-19 Scenarios in Schools](#).

All students who are not choosing to or not able to be present for in-person learning will have access to distance learning.

## Screening and Isolation

Students will be screened as they enter the building each day at one of our two entry locations, the front lobby or the east main gym entrance. These check-in stations will be supervised. Students will be scanned by the temporal scanners, and their entry to the school will be logged. Any student who has a temperature above 100.4 or is showing visible primary symptoms will be isolated and their parents will be contacted for them to be picked up.

- Primary symptoms of concern
  - cough, fever (temperature of 100.4°F or higher), or chills
  - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - new loss of taste or smell.
- Associated Symptoms
  - muscle pain
  - headache
  - sore throat
  - diarrhea
  - nausea
  - vomiting
  - new nasal congestion or runny nose
  - more information about COVID-19 symptoms is available from [CDC](#)

## Isolation

Students who have not passed our screen protocol or during the school day have presented primary or associated COVID-19 symptoms will be placed in our isolation protocol. Students will be escorted to the isolation area that is set up adjacent to the Aux Gym. The students will be supervised by a staff member. The student's family will be contacted, and they will be instructed to be picked up.

If an ill student has one or more of the primary COVID-19 symptoms, they should isolate at home for 10 days after symptoms first appeared and until 24 hours after the fever is resolved without the use of fever-reducing medicine and other symptoms are improving.

## Cleaning Protocols

- All rooms used by students and faculty will be cleaned and disinfected twice a day.
- Doors will be propped open to reduce contact.
- High contact areas will be sanitized at least twice a day.
- High contact areas in classrooms will be sanitized between classes.
- Desks will be sanitized between student use.
- Lunch tables will be sanitized before and after each use.
- Additional touchless hand sanitizer dispensers will be installed at entry locations and in high traffic areas.

- There have been adjustments to our HVAC system which include running it 24/7 while students are present and increasing the frequency of filter change out. In addition, classrooms will have doors propped open when feasible to allow for maximum air circulation.