

Saint Brigid Of Kildare



Preschool

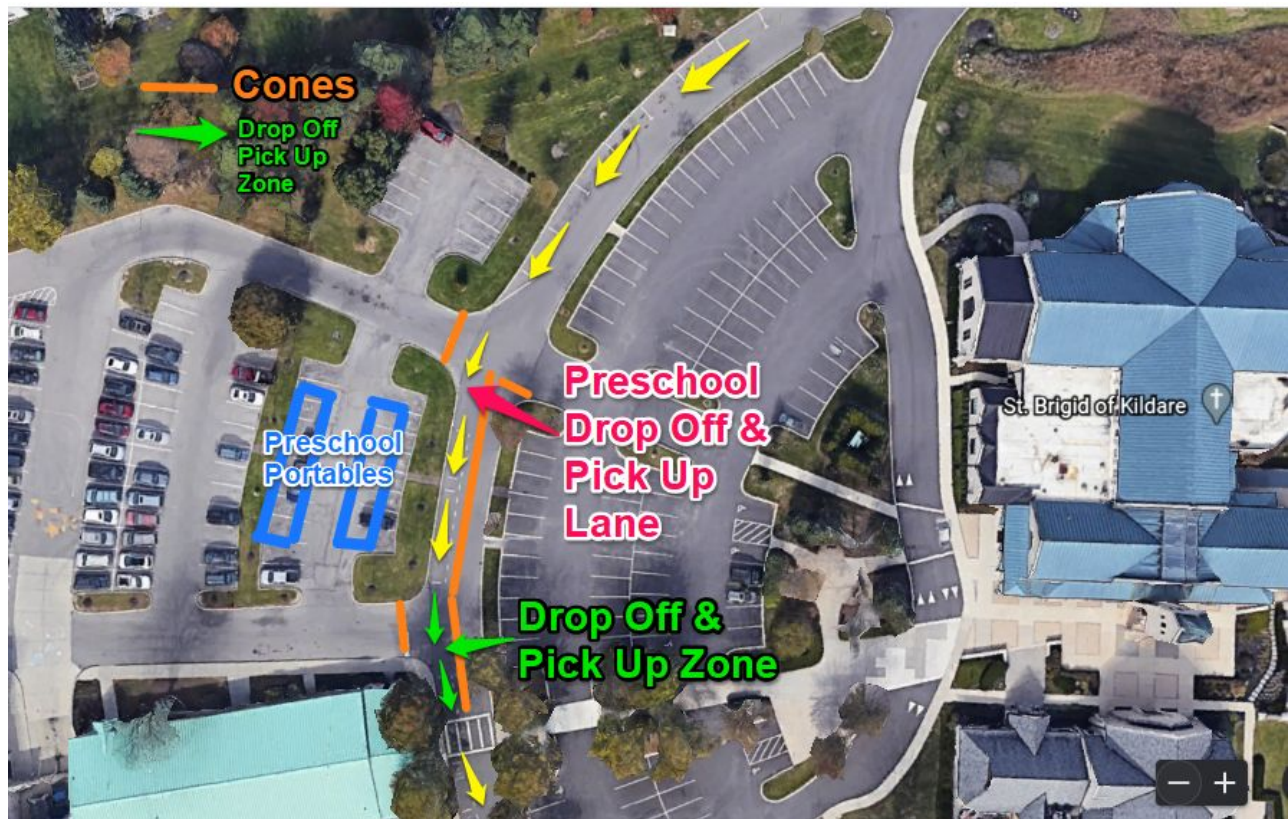
Preschool During a
Pandemic- A Guide for
Families

A Note from Mrs. Harper.....

What an exciting start to our 2020-2021 school year! The preschool staff and I have been very busy preparing for our students to enter our new space. In this document, you will find answers to many frequently asked questions as we begin the new school year. There are also some changes in our daily practices and routines that are explained here. Please make sure to read each section carefully. Many of these topics will be discussed during your child's scheduled curriculum night in further detail. All information in this guide is subject to change as we learn more about our current health crisis. These changes, along with the Health Guidebook sent in July, are addendums to our current Preschool Family Handbook. After reviewing these changes, please also review the current version of our Preschool Family Handbook. It includes procedures and rules that are specific to our preschool, as well as the Diocese of Columbus and Saint Brigid of Kildare School. All parents are asked to sign a form that acknowledges they have read the handbook.

Arrival Procedures

- Please see the map below for traffic flow.
- Parents will remain in the car. A teacher will come and assist your child out of the car. The student's temperature will be taken and hand sanitizer will be applied.
- Students will be directed to the appropriate class line-up spot with their teacher. Once all students have arrived they will enter their classroom.
- The child, teacher, and parent must be wearing a mask during arrival. Please make sure your child is seated on the passenger side of the car.



Dismissal Procedures

- Please see the map below for traffic flow.
- Parents will remain in the car. Each family will be given a car tag that will need to be placed on the outside of the driver's side visor. Make sure the tag is visible so we can have your child ready.
- A teacher will assist your child in getting in your car.
- Please pull forward to buckle your child before exiting the traffic flow. This helps keep the line moving.
- IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR CAR TAG, PICK UP WILL TAKE MUCH LONGER. PLEASE HAVE IT READY.
- If someone else is picking up your child (not typical pick up person), we need a note or email and that person will need to have an ID that we can check before releasing the child.



Late Arrivals & Early Pick-Ups

If you are late to drop off your child at preschool, you will need to park and go to the front office of the school building. You will wait in the vestibule and sign your child in. A preschool staff member will come and get your child and take them to their classroom. Please do not come to the modular units. **Teachers will not be answering the doors for late arrivals. You must go to the school office.**

Likewise, if you need to pick your child up early from preschool, please park and go to the front office and sign your child out from school. A preschool staff member will bring your child to you in the front office.

Thank you for understanding and helping keep our preschool "campus" safe.

Center Time in our Pods

- Children will rotate through four different centers during their class time.
- They will clean their hands before beginning each activity at all four centers.
- Children will use their own writing supplies and scissors at each center in order to avoid the sharing of materials.
- Toys at each center will be cleaned at the end of each day.
- Each pod will use separate sets of toys to avoid the sharing of toys.
- If a toy becomes unusable due to sneezing, coughing, etc. It will be placed in a dirty bin and deep cleaned before returning into pod playtime.



Snack Time in our Pods

- Students provide their own snack. We are a peanut & tree nut free preschool.
- Suggestions include: fruit slices, nutritious cookies or granola bars, carrot and celery sticks, cheese and crackers, pretzels, shaped crackers, graham crackers, mini-muffins
- Students need to bring a water bottle labeled with their name. **WATER only to drink please.**
- **We are not providing water pitchers and cups this school year.**
- Students will have their own lap tray and carpet square to eat their snack at the same time as their peers.
- Students will be spaced out and stay at their own spot until they are finished with their snacks.
- Lap trays and carpet squares will be cleaned in between use.



Outside Play at School

- Children will get time to play outside as long as weather permits.
- The playground will be split into zones, in order to keep pods separate.
- Pods may also take occasional walks around the school grounds and over to the church.
- Children will clean their hands before and after using any outdoor or playground equipment.
- All outdoor equipment (such as balls, bikes, etc.) will be sanitized at the end of each school day.
- Children will be permitted to take a mask break outside when they are able to remain physically distant.

Cleaning Protocols for our Pods

Area/Object	Cleaning Window	By Whom
Tables/Chairs	Before/After use	Preschool Staff
Door/Cabinet Handles	Between AM/PM classes, End of day	Preschool Staff School Cleaning Company
Toys	Between AM/PM classes, End of day, When Visibly Soiled	Preschool Staff
Floor	End of day, When Visibly Soiled	Preschool Staff School Cleaning Company
Activity Center Furniture	Between AM/PM classes, End of day	Preschool Staff School Cleaning Company
Handwashing sinks & faucets	Between AM/PM classes, End of day	Preschool Staff School Cleaning Company
Restrooms	Between AM/PM classes, End of day	Preschool Staff School Cleaning Company
Supplies used by students/staff	After each use	Preschool Staff

Air Flow and Filtration in the Pods

- Each classroom will have its own air filtration system.
- The units clean 500 square feet every 30 minutes
- These units are medical grade HEPA-13
- These clean air much better than regular HEPA filters
- Weather permitting, windows will be open to allow fresh air in as well

Switch to "At Home" Preschool

- There are several scenarios in which we may need to switch to an "at home" preschool model.
- If this is the case, students will use a hybrid model of learning. They will receive a take home kit that has materials for at home learning.
- They will also have scheduled zoom calls with their teacher and class to have circle time, scavenger hunts, and talk about the activities they've done from their take home kit.
- The school supply crate you purchased will also come home with your child to complete the activities in the take home kit.
- New kits may be picked up drive through style from school depending on how long school is closed.
- This model of learning will only be available if we have a school wide closure. It is not available for a vacation, or other absence.

Reporting an Absence

If your child is going to be absent, please email Hillary at mrs.harper@stbrigid-school.org

A form will be emailed to you to fill out the same day as your child's absence.

This form will help us keep track of why students are not able to attend school.

Communicating With Your Child's Teacher

- This school year, our preschool will be using the **Bloomz** app to communicate with families.
- Each classroom will have a Bloomz page. This is where each teacher will post activities, information, and photos.
- Parents are also able to message the teacher within the app.
- Please make sure you join your child's class.
- Teachers are also available via email.

Preschool Family Handbook

The administration, staff, and parish of Saint Brigid of Kildare School welcome you to the twenty-fifth school year at Saint Brigid of Kildare School. This will be a year like none of us could have ever imagined - social distancing, face masks, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, and smaller groups of children in pod-style classes. The beauty of Catholic schools though can't help but powerfully shine through all of these temporary conditions - we are still one family of faith, we are still one community, we are still here to care for each other, we are still called to give special care to the vulnerable, we are still disciples of Christ, and we are still seeking grace and wisdom. Though it feels like life has completely changed since this time last year, how comforting it is to know that the most important part of our lives, our faith in the most Holy Trinity, can never be shaken.

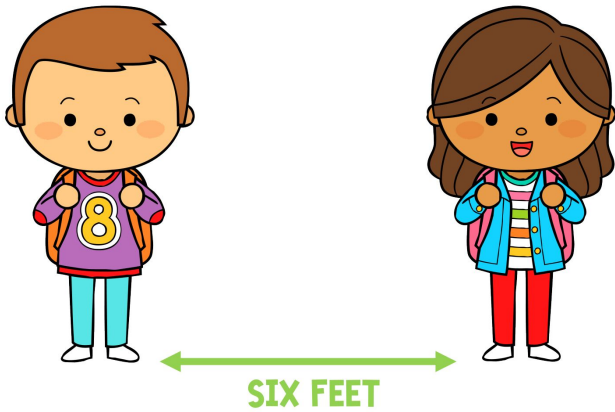
Many COVID-related changes have been made to this year's handbook. Since these are for the most part temporary changes, they have been placed in an addendum. A copy is attached with this document.

May the Blessed Trinity bless us all as we begin the 2020-2021 school year, our 25th year:

With God We Can!

Saint Brigid Preschool Healthy Pledge

I can keep extra space.



I can wear my mask.



I can clean my hands.



I can have fun!

