School Program

Will parents receive notifications when there is a positive case in the building?
Yes, absolutely there will be rapid communication and all will be notified via multiple channels to include phone calls/connectEd and written communications.

What is the fully remote option?
Four models were devised to implement the 100% Remote Learning. The classroom team along with parent input will decide which model best meets the needs of the students within their classroom. These decisions are based on the following factors:

- Student instructional needs.
- Student ability to engage in academic instruction, social skills development and the provision of related services using extended virtual learning.
- Student need for emotional support.
- Student ability to receive instruction in a group virtual setting versus individual.
- Student access to the technology needed for remote learning.

The following models for instructional delivery will be used in the event of a need for a 5-day a week remote instruction model due to complete closure.

Remote Model 1:
1-hour group lesson weekly
1-half hour individual session weekly

Remote Model 2:
3-45-60-minute group lessons weekly (2 hours and 15 minutes to 3 hours weekly)
1-half hour individual session every two weeks (2 hours weekly--4 individual sessions weekly) (or 2 hours & 45 minutes to 3.5 hours per student)

Remote Model 3:
3- 60-minute group lessons weekly
2-20-30 minute instructional videos posted weekly

Remote Model 4:

5-60-minute group lessons weekly

All teachers will be online daily for at least 30 minutes during remote instruction days. When a specific lesson is not scheduled, teachers need to have daily office hours for 30 minutes. If no one shows after 15 minutes the teacher will leave the session. This time can be used for a specific task, additional intervention time, conference with a family member, etc.

Teacher Assistants/Aides will have designated times during remote instruction for students during the week to work on: counting, basic math facts, letter identification, reading aloud (by either teacher assistant/aide or student), etc. This will be a 15-30-minute session.

Related Service Providers will schedule their caseload in collaboration with the family for teletherapy services & will provide additional materials to supplement services and provide resources for families to implement at home. We will provide access to additional educational resources for all remote learning models.

If things went ideally, in one month, could a third day be added to in-person learning?
A team of Holy Childhood professionals will assess and determine the safest phase of reopening on regularly scheduled dates by analyzing data about COVID-19 infection rates in the Finger Lakes region, health of the school community as a whole, and staff attendance.

Data Points being reviewed by the team include:

1. Community Infection Rate
2. Student Health (COVID exposures)
3. Staff Absences (overall absences for staff for any reason)

Therapy frequencies have only been 1 time a week, which doesn’t match up to IEPs. Will students receive more therapy to match their IEPs?
Implementation of the IEP has some flexibility during this time of the pandemic. We minimally provided 1 session in the spring and 1 group and 1 individual for the summer. For some students, this can mean 4 hours of therapy a week on top of two hours of academic instruction. We aim to strike a balance and provide therapies to the best of our ability, taking in to consideration your individual needs and the needs of your child(ren).

Will students have a lanyard or something to store the masks on when not in use so that they are not lost, kept clean and off floor?
We are working on this as an option.

If another student at home is under quarantine, does that mean that the whole family is under quarantine?
We would have to defer to the Monroe County Health Department, as they will initiate contact tracing, and would issue the quarantine order, etc. We would communicate with them frequently and with the family and come to a determination on a case by case basis.

Will staff be required to be COVID tested?
There isn’t a requirement for staff to be tested regularly. If a staff member has any of the symptoms or a fever,
he/she will be referred to their primary care physician. They may be referred for testing by their medical professional. All staff is tested for a temperature upon arrival.

**Do we have a fully remote option?**
Yes, that option is available for all Holy Childhood students. With that being said, we believe that we have made great effort in trying to ensure the health and safety of all of students and staff with our reopening hybrid plan. It should be noted that Governor Cuomo can close all schools if the regional community infection rate goes over a target percentage.

**When will we hear about a schedule for the students who are fully remote?**
Our target is by the end of August. There are many variables that have to be taken into account that may not become apparent until the end of August.

**What will students do in the community classroom? Will they be in the community?**
The Work-Based Learning program needs to connect with the employers who we have worked with in the recent past. We have to make a decision if it is safe for our students to go into the workplace. The employers must also agree that having our students in their workplace is OK for them. Once we begin to confirm worksites, the program will begin again. Work-based Learning will be delayed and will not start the first day or week of school reopening.

**But what is the option for electing fully remote?**
We are gathering information from families who have requested remote learning and determining how we will best meet student needs. We are looking into designated staff to facilitate this need.

**How have the classrooms been set up to reduce exposure, especially since some students will not be wearing masks?**
Classrooms have been completely reorganized, tables and other furniture have been removed and replaced with individual desks for each student; each student will have their own supplies; spacing is designed to accommodate social distancing requirements, especially because many students are not able to wear masks. Additionally, hand sanitizer will be located throughout the building. Frequent handwashing for a minimum of 20 seconds will be reinforced by classroom staff. Signage and visual markers are placed throughout the building and classrooms to help indicate proper social distancing.

**If a family elects fully remote, is there a certain amount of time you are committing to that decision for? For example, Canandaigua is making families choose either hybrid or remote for a full term.**
As noted in an earlier question, a Staff Data Team will be reviewing the designated data to determine our next phase in our reopening. At any change in our phase, parents can request that their child move from remote to that new phase.

**Will students who are fully remote (by parent choice) still be with the teacher (whose name was sent home in the mail) or is there a teacher who will handle all fully remote students?**
We are hoping to make that possible. We will communicate to families any teacher change that needs to happen before school starts on September 8th.

**What does the day look like for students who elect fully remote? Is there live synchronous learning?**
We are gathering information from families who have requested remote learning and determining how we will best meet student needs. We are looking into designated staff to facilitate this need. We are also investigating the possibility of synchronous teaching (learning). This may be possible. We will be trying it out once school starts with certain classrooms.
When and how do we go about setting up remote learning? Can we send students in-person if the numbers stay low?
Please contact Kathy or Dave regarding remote learning. The possibility of moving to a new phase by adding another to the hybrid model does depend on the data as noted in a previous question. Any change in our model will allow for students on full remote learning to join the hybrid model.

Is remote teaching days 2 hours of class time each day?
Yes, the 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. is our target time for academic instruction. We will, however, work with the families to schedule both the academic instruction and the child’s therapies in the most convenient time as possible for both the families and the school staff.

How much “traveling” in the building will our students experience?
The students in the building will initially spend much of their time in their classrooms. If the weather continues to be nice, we are encouraging the staff to take their classes outside to get a mask break. The gym will be open to offer physical education classes. The pool will likely reopen in October after the renovations are completed.

Have you considered starting a week later? Some districts aren’t starting with students until September 14th?
This is difficult due to the number of days we need to be in session as stated by the NYS Department of Education. There is little flexibility in this number. We do have to account for any snow days as part of our calculations as well as any staff development days that occur during the school year. By starting a week later, we would have a hard time meeting that requirement.

Do parents need to be present for remote learning?
Yes, we need to have an adult with each child who is participating in remote learning.

Can we change from in-person to fully remote if COVID increases in school building?
Yes, please call or email Kathy or Dave to discuss. We will work with you.

If you are fully remote do you have the option to come in-person if cases remain low?
Yes, each family can make the decision to change to the hybrid model at the time that the program changes phases of reopening by adding a day to its model. Please contact us with questions. We can work through your needs.

What about cleaning in therapy rooms, music, PE, etc.?
We have retained a third maintenance person to assist with the deep cleaning on off hours, especially on Wednesdays when we are all remote, and then on Saturdays when the building is completely empty. In addition to the classroom staff doing ongoing cleaning, our facilities crew will pay attention to high traffic areas (including the gymnasium, cafeteria, classrooms and therapy rooms) and hard surfaces consistently. Cleaning will take place throughout the building with heavy attention on the therapy rooms between students.

Will 12 ft. distancing be accomplished in areas where there is exhalation - like music and PE?
Yes, music therapy will have barriers and PE will use the full gym.

What are some more details about the isolation room, if a child has symptoms?
The isolation room will be used when a child has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher; or shows symptoms of a COVID-19 infection as identified by the CDC. The student would be escorted to a room set-up specifically as an isolation room and is manned by a nurse. Parents would be called and asked to come and pick the child up within the hour, if possible. They would recommend that the child be seen by their primary care physician. We ask parents to notify our nurse’s office with any results of that visit or any tests that might be
given. The Health Department would be informed by the nursing staff and they would follow-up with the family.

**How are you managing asymptomatic cases? Will staff be tested periodically for COVID like nursing home and childcare facilities?**

There aren’t any requirements for staff to be tested. All staff are required to wear a mask and they will also have access to a wide range of PPE including face shields, goggles and gowns. All staff is temperature-checked upon arrival and must complete the health screening.

**Are students required to wear masks during the school day?**

Students are encouraged to wear masks when they are not able to be physically distant. Masks will be available for students to wear and they will be taught about proper removal and disposal of masks. We know that many of our students cannot tolerate wearing a mask for long durations.

**Is there going to be a live feed from the classroom teacher for the full remote learners?**

We aren’t sure that the building will have enough bandwidth to be able to accomplish this idea. We will be experimenting with it at the start of the school year and see how many we can do.

**Can you discuss a little more about how therapies are going to be handled? Will the number of therapies follow the IEP?**

Each family will get a letter from the school with a list of therapies on their child’s IEP. We will ask parents what fits into their schedule. We will use this information to assist in making therapy schedules for the students. We found during the spring and summer that scheduling all of the therapies was difficult for many families. We will do our best to try and meet all of the requirements listed on the IEP.

**Should kids bring water bottles to school since fountains are closed?**

Yes, it is recommended that students bring water to school. We will have limited ability in some classes to offer water without the water fountains. The elementary and middle school classrooms have sinks in their classrooms and can refill bottles as needed. It is requested that any water bottles brought into school have the student’s name on the bottle or it may be thrown out to prevent disease transmission.

**How will you handle classroom coverage if a teacher is out sick?**

Teaching Assistants will continue to be utilized to cover the class in a teacher’s absence. Classroom aides will report to be at the building all four days in order to provide the needed coverage in classrooms as result of absences.

**Will kids in transition rooms be able to do activities in the community? (i.e. grocery shopping, volunteer work) while wearing masks of course.**

Initially, the Work-Based Learning and Community-Based experiences are on pause while we determine the level of safety in the community. Our community partners are being contacted to determine their ability to take our students as well as the level of infection in the community in general.

**What will the classroom look like? Will there be dividers/partitions between desks so children do not need to be wearing masks while in the classroom?**

Students are encouraged to wear their masks throughout the day; however, students may take a mask break under the direction of the classroom staff. All desks in the classroom are 6 feet away from each other. This will give the students the opportunity to remove their masks while everyone is in their desks. The teacher will continue to wear a mask while they are teaching.

**On the 3-days that students are home, they may have therapy sessions scheduled, but otherwise they will not have interactions with the teacher?**
There will be academic classes on the remote days. The teacher and teaching assistant may do group lessons or individual reinforcement sessions. The teacher will offer office hours during the remote days for parents or students to talk to the teacher via WebEx.

What online resources will the kids be able to access this year? Raz Kids? Epic? Any other math resources?
Most of the on-line resources are being renewed for this coming school year. There may even be some new ones that the teachers have discovered and made available to their students. We will continue to use the UNIQUE curriculum and Google Classroom.

Will Work-Based Learning be remote?
We are investigating the possibility of restarting the Work-Based Learning program but we need to determine if our community partners are welcoming our students back to the workplace. We are also monitoring the community infection rate.

Will the PAES Lab be in session?
Yes, we are restarting PAES for high school students in September.

Will there be any communication before school starts from a new teacher for children moving up to new grade level?
Yes, teachers are encouraged to make contact with their families as soon as possible.

Will the students receive chrome books this fall? If so, will there be more information on picking them up?
Yes, we have ordered Chromebooks for every student in the school. We are waiting for delivery. Unfortunately, we do not expect them in the building before school starts. The Holy Childhood IT Department will set up each Chromebook so that accounts are pre-installed before they are picked up by families.

How soon will we have confirmation on student’s time schedules to be online?
Student schedules will probably be mailed or emailed to the families by the classroom teacher.

Can school work material be sent home in the event a parent is working and is not able to log their child into remote learning at specified times?
Yes, work will be sent home to parents to supplement any lessons that happen during the week.

Do we need to send in supplies for our child?
No, all supplies will be available at Holy Childhood for each child. They will each get a pencil box with school supplies in it for their personal use. We will replace any missing or used up supply within the school.

How does regular medication drop off for students work?
Please contact the health office by calling 585-359-3710, ext. 130 and arrange for a time to drop off the medication.

How many hours of therapy are children supposed to be on during at home sessions?
A letter will be sent home that lists all of the therapies that the child has on their IEP. Every therapy session is generally 30 minutes in length. If there are 5 therapies during the week, that would be 150 minutes of therapy for that week, plus a couple of hours of academic lessons per day. Services may be modified through conversations with the service provider and the families during the school year.

Questions? Please contact Dave Halpern or Kathy Miller at 585-359-3710.