

Saint Michael Elementary School

27 Crittenden Street

Newark, NJ 07104

Frequently Asked Questions About 2020-2021 School Year

1. Will St. Michael School offer in-school learning?

SMS is offering in-school learning. However, Governor Murphy has the authority to close all school if he determines that it is not safe to open. If that happens SMS will switch to all virtual learning.

2. Will my child(ren) be required to wear a mask to school?

Under the current directives from Governor Murphy, all students will be required to wear a face-covering the entire school day except when eating.

3. Will there be temperature checks at school?

The temperature of every person entering the school building will be checked. If a student has a fever, they will be discreetly removed from the class line and brought an isolation room and their parents will be notified. Parents or visitors who are found to have a fever will not be admitted into the building but will be discreetly informed that they do have fever.

4. How often will the school be cleaned?

Bathrooms and other high use rooms will be cleaned multiple times throughout the day. High touch surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day also. All classrooms will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of each school day.

5. Will the students be eating in the cafeteria?

Students will be allowed to eat in the cafeteria. All social distancing guidelines will be followed. Students will be socially distanced while waiting in line. All students will sit facing one direction and be socially distanced as well. Tables and chairs will be disinfected between lunch periods.

6. Will students be able to learn from home?

SMS is offering a virtual learning option. There will be a livestream camera set up in each classroom. Students will have to log-on in the morning no later than 8:45 a.m. to avoid being marked as late. No eating will be allowed during the school day except during the assigned lunch period. Students will also be required to wear their school uniform while attending online learning. Any student that does not log in at all will be marked absent for that day. If your child is going to be absent, parents should call the school prior to 8:50 a.m. to report the absence.

7. If a student chooses the virtual learning option, could they switch to in-person instruction if they feel that it is safe to return to school?

Students who choose the online option may return to school after the completion of the trimester. Once a new trimester begins, a student can then return to the school for in-person learning.

8. If a student chooses to attend school in person, can they later switch to the virtual learning option?

Parents may switch to virtual learning if they feel the need to make that change, but once the virtual option is chosen, the student(s) will remain online for the remainder of the trimester.