



# Our Lady of Hope Catholic School

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## Virtual Learning Plan Our Lady of Hope Catholic School

### Disruptions to In Person Instruction

Our Lady of Hope Catholic School believes that the in person learning model is the most effective way to educate children. However, parents should be aware that the health and welfare of our students is of utmost concern to its faculty and staff. We *must* ensure a safe environment for our students to learn.

Unfortunately, the implications of a global pandemic are still in effect in the 2021-2022 school year. Our school community should be aware that on occasion in person learning may be disrupted. These disruptions may occur if:

- The number of COVID-19 cases in our school community increases incrementally over time;
- There is an outbreak (as defined by the CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/outbreaks.html>), whether in an individual class or multiple classrooms.

A shift to virtual learning might involve:

- An individual class or classes;
- The entire school, if COVID-19 has spread to multiple grade levels.

### Decision Making and Communication

In our decision making process, we follow the guidance of and communicate with those in authority and leadership. Our Lady of Hope Catholic School works collaboratively with the State of Virginia, Loudoun County Health Department, and the Office of Catholic Schools. Ultimate decision making regarding a shift to virtual learning rests with the pastor and principal.

The principal will be in communication on a regular basis if there are positive COVID-19 cases reported. He/she will not be able to disclose all of the information



provided due to confidentiality reasons. He/she will be as prompt as possible communicating a school building closure.

## **Practical and Educational Aspects of Virtual Learning**

When students shift to the virtual model, the school will communicate regarding the pick up of student supplies. Families may borrow chrome books from the school as needed. They will sign a user agreement provided by the school which reflects liability if the school's device is damaged during home use.

Educational tools such as Google Classroom, Zoom, and the PowerSchool Parent Portal will be used at appropriate grade levels. Teachers will communicate regarding accessing these tools, in addition to providing a daily schedule and reviewing the procedures and policies appropriate to the virtual setting with both the students and parents.

Our virtual classrooms are set up in age-appropriate ways. Keep in mind that each teacher may adjust in order to meet the needs of his or her classroom and/or students.

Our K-2 Crusaders have a shortened day during virtual learning (end time is 2:15 p.m.). Educational best practices recognize that young children should not be exposed to an excessive amount of screen time due to a negative impact on brain development. We highly recommend extra outside time and breaks for all students during virtual learning.

Each Crusader should log in at 8:00 a.m. in uniform. Students are expected to be respectful, follow directions, be on time for designated class times, and in uniform. Attendance will be taken and reflected on the report card. The child's name must be clearly displayed, there should not be any background, and the child should be wearing headphones. Without headphones, due to background noise, it is difficult to hear what the student is saying and it is difficult for the child to hear.



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The school understands that there may be on occasion disruptions in wi-fi. Please email the homeroom teacher and the teacher whose class you are attending if this occurs.

## **Please Be Aware - Implications of Quarantine**

On occasion your child(ren) may be identified as a close contact of another member of the school community who received a positive COVID-19 test result. The determination of 'close contact' is made through contact tracing in concert with the Loudoun County Health Department. A nurse or member of the administrative team may call you to inform you that your son or daughter must remain home for a 14 day quarantine period.

If an at home quarantine occurs, and your son/daughter's class has not shifted to virtual learning, OLOH will not be able to offer an on-line program for him/her. Your child's teacher will arrange pick ups so that your child will have access to his or her school supplies, books and/or assignments.

Those seeking a special consideration or facing a unique circumstance may work directly with the principal.