



Sacred Heart Preschool Online Learning and Teaching Continuity Plan Created April 2020

In response to COVID-19 and experience of an unprecedented educational situation, Sacred Heart Preschool created and instituted this guide to reflect the school's desire to remain open and provide the best possible learning experiences for students despite difficult conditions. School leadership reserves the right to amend this guide.

A continuity of learning plan for emergency learning and teaching is focused on the transitions of students from a face-to-face environment to a digital environment as their learning context rapidly changes. This continuity of learning plan involves the technologies SHP will use to continue teaching, recommended strategies and timeframes for educational experiences and the partnership between families and school.

Online learning provides opportunities for learners to work in new ways and expand their agency. SHP has discovered a need to be adaptive and forward thinking in order to ensure that learning continues in a consistent and healthy way. SHP has adapted a marriage of synchronous and asynchronous learning and teaching, blending both collaborative and independent experiences with consistent teacher feedback. SHP has adopted the following digital platforms to best support children and their families:

- Class Dojo (asynchronous- individual student digital portfolios; synchronous- collaborative class stories)
- Zoom (synchronous- video conferencing)
- Daily email to families with lesson plan and class-specific details

Sacred Heart Preschool understands that effective online teaching is not the same as face-to-face teaching, especially for early learners. SHP believes that children are learning informally every day and our online learning Essential Agreement is as follows:

- Design learning engagements that capture student experiences while they are away
- Provide opportunities for multiple perspectives
- Engage with the environment around them through playful inquiry
- Involve families as partners in children's learning experiences
- Check in with students and families regularly
- Provide learning experiences that are grounded in play

SHP adheres to all NAEYC guiding principles regarding screen time for young children. In accordance with these principles, SHP will provide online learning experiences that aim to engage the senses and encourage children to take their learning outdoors whenever possible. Specific learning activities will require no more than 30 minutes of screen time.

Responsibilities

Leadership (Director, Assistant Director, Curriculum Specialist)

- Develop school-wide and group/division plans for distance learning
- Communicate with faculty/staff and families. Support faculty/staff and families during distance learning
- Ensure effective implementation of the Distance Learning Plan and accountability to student learning

Curriculum Specialist

- Curate and/or develop resources to support distance learning
- Create screencasts, videos or other how-to resources for teachers
- Facilitate digital Communities of Practice
- Visit online classes and give professional feedback and guidance

Faculty

- Collaborate with colleagues and Curriculum Specialist to design distance learning experiences for students in accordance with divisional plans
- Develop high-quality, play-based, student learning experiences for both in-home and outdoor learning
- Communicate with and provide timely feedback to students and families

Students and Families

- Attend, as much as possible, the regular synchronous engagements offered by each of your teachers
- Check appropriate online platforms for information on courses, assignments, resources daily
- Ensure own social and emotional balance by keeping healthy habits
- Engage in conversations on posted activities