# Good Shepherd Catholic School

### Recess



### Introduction

Recess is an important part of a child's school day. A safe and healthy recess promotes time to develop socially, emotionally, physically, and academically.

During recess, students learn and practice important social and emotional skills, such as conflict resolution, decision- making, compromise, and self-regulation. Additionally, recess provides a needed brain break and facilitates the learning process. With this in mind, the following procedures will be put in place to insure our students have a safe Recess.

## **Philosophy**

To the best extent possible, recess will continue applying safe physical contact of equipment and social distancing. The term "social distancing" refers to measures being taken to restrict where and when people can gather to stop or slow the spread of infectious disease. In general, six feet of separation is the distance that should be kept between people interacting within their peers. Games that utilize physical and social activities will be played.

#### **Process**

- 1. Students will go to recess using the procedures established in school operations regarding movement in the building.
- 2. Students will wash/sanitize their hands before going to recess and before returning to class.
- 3. Students will not need to wear masks while at recess with their cohort and are playing socially distant activities.
- 4. Equipment will be wiped down before each recess.
- 5. Games and activities used during recess will be pre-approved as part of the safe list for limiting the spread of infectious disease.
- 6. Students will wash/ sanitize their hands before returning to class.
- 7. Practice social distancing while walking to recess

## Other considerations regarding the type of activities.

- 1. Each class will have a bin of equipment for the class. This will only be used during recess; the equipment will be cleaned after recess.
- 2. Students may not bring equipment from home.
- 3. The schoolyard will be divided into sections for each cohort.
- 4. Students must stay with their cohort; this will limit contact with others.

- 5. Weather permitting Gym classes will be held in outside space. In case of inclement weather, Gym classes will be in the gym or classroom.
- 6. Students may carry personal water bottles for hydration before, during and after an activity.
- 7. Class equipment will be sanitized frequently.
- 8. Social distancing activities will be used; face coverings will be worn when social distancing is not possible.