

Salem Christian Academy

Elementary/Preschool

Reset & Restart Plan

In Response to COVID-19



Regular updates will be made to this plan based on information provided by the Ohio Department of Education, Ohio Job and Family Services, Center for Disease Control, Public Health - Dayton and Montgomery County, and local school districts.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our Guiding Principles for this document are caring for the safety, health, and well-being of our SCA family and local community. Although safety protocols are in place on campus, students who attend school or learn remotely will incur some level of risk. **Safety** is paramount to SCA administration, along with prioritizing **student learning** and ensuring effective teaching, whether through on campus or remote learning. We wish to do this through a variety of means, including:

- Watching for symptoms of illness.
- Washing and sanitizing hands and the school environment regularly.
- Practicing social distancing whenever possible.
- Implementing face covering policy as needed.

GENERAL COVID GUIDELINES

SCA plans to open with a normal academic schedule with safety precautions in place for both the preschool and elementary. A recent research-based report from The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and supported by the CDC stated that students need to be physically present in school. SCA also believes face-to-face instruction is more beneficial for young students to learn and grow, especially the first several weeks of school as we establish classroom routines.

Screening Protocols

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the potential risk of exposure to our employees and students, **all families / staff should complete a self-screening prior to entering the building.** This includes a temperature reading and answering a set of questions related to COVID-19 symptoms including looking for

one of the below:

- Fever (100°F or higher)
- New Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Congestion/ Runny Nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- New Loss of Taste/ Smell

*Please stay at home if you are exhibiting these symptoms.
SCA will also be screening for the above symptoms throughout the day.*

Guidance if Exposed

While we all hope to avoid exposure to illness from COVID-19, we need to be prepared for that possibility. If you or someone you've been in **contact (less than 6ft. for 15 minutes or more in a 24 hour period)** with has been exposed to the virus, our first concern is for your health and safety, and those around you. In this rapidly changing situation, healthcare providers should have the most up-to-date information from the CDC and Public Health Dayton & Montgomery County.

If a student or staff member begins to show symptoms or has a temperature of 100°F or higher while at school, they must immediately be separated from other students and / or staff, wear their face mask, and monitored by a staff member wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and maintaining physical distance when possible until such time as they can be released to go home. Areas of the building that were occupied by a person exhibiting symptoms should be thoroughly sanitized.

The local health department and appropriate agencies must be contacted in the case of positive or suspected COVID-19 cases in a school building. Local health professionals can help to identify potentially infected or exposed individuals and assist with appropriate notifications. Individuals who potentially have been exposed should follow quarantine and other recommendations from local public health officials and their medical provider.

If a student / staff person tests positive for COVID, or any SCA family is believed to be exposed, we will notify families (via email) in the individual class / social group of the possible exposure or for the need for quarantine. The number of positive cases will be reported on our SCA website.

If a staff or student:

is sick with COVID-19

OR

thinks they may have COVID-19

OR

has been notified to quarantine due to potential exposure to COVID-19

OR

any member of the household has been diagnosed or are presumed to have COVID-19

Then the reported staff or student must:

self-quarantine at home.

Other learning options may be considered during this time including remote learning.

Below is taken from Ohio Department of Health- August, 2021

Guidelines for Quarantine After Exposure in K-12 Classroom

Modified quarantine procedures for K-12 schools

Please note that this guidance applies for **contacts** who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19. The person who tested positive for COVID-19 should follow standard isolation procedures.

• **Quarantine is not necessary** for students and adults possibly exposed to COVID-19 in K-12 school settings, regardless of vaccination status, if **ALL** the following prevention measures have been in place:

- **Masking** for students and staff (regardless of vaccination status).
- **Physical distancing** is maximized (at least 3 feet between desks).
- Documented **COVID-19 prevention policies** (e.g., identification of individuals experiencing symptoms, strategies to increase ventilation, protocols for cleaning, etc.).

• If not all prevention measures listed above were in place, **quarantine is not necessary** for fully vaccinated* students and adults provided they adhere to the following precautions: Wear a mask indoors, as much as possible, either for 14 days or until a viral (PCR or antigen) test performed three to five days after exposure has come back as negative. In addition:

- Self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days following exposure; unless symptoms develop, individuals can continue attending in-person class and participating in sports and extra-curricular activities.
- Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 should isolate away from others and be evaluated for COVID-19. Testing for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) may be recommended in coordination with the local health department, school, healthcare provider, or parents/guardians.
- If they test positive, they should isolate for at least 10 days from the date symptoms started (or the date of the positive test if they have no symptoms).
- *Note: A person is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the second dose of a two-dose vaccine (Moderna or Pfizer vaccine) or two weeks after receiving a single-dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson vaccine).

• If not all prevention measures listed above were in place, **quarantine is not necessary** for students and adults who are not fully vaccinated if the **person who was exposed** was wearing a **face mask** consistently and correctly and physical distancing was maintained. However, they should take the following precautions:

- Wear a mask indoors, as much as possible, either for 14 days or until a viral (PCR or antigen) test performed at least five days after exposure has come back as negative. While this negative result would allow them to discontinue masking in school after day seven, we encourage them to continue masking.
- Self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days following exposure; unless symptoms develop, individuals can continue attending in-person class and participating in sports and extra-curricular activities.
- Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 should isolate away from others and be evaluated for COVID-19. Testing for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) may be recommended in coordination with the local health department, school, healthcare provider, or parents/guardians.
- If they test positive, they should isolate for at least 10 days from the date symptoms started (or the date of the positive test if they have no symptoms).

Quarantine should be required if the student or teacher is not fully vaccinated, and layers of prevention were not in place as described above.

• **If quarantine is necessary because layers of prevention were not in place as described above**, it should last for at least seven days since the last exposure, and the contact should have a negative viral (PCR or antigen) test collected on or after day five. Individuals should watch for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days.

- During quarantine, contacts should be advised to stay home and away from others as much as possible.
- If they become symptomatic at any point, they should receive clinical evaluation or testing for COVID-19.

• **The above guidelines for students and adults only apply to exposures occurring in classroom settings.** Individuals who are not fully vaccinated and exposed to COVID-19 outside of the school setting should refrain from attending in-person school and participating in organized sports or extracurriculars throughout their quarantine period.

Updated Aug. 9, 2021. For additional information, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov. For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

Returning to School/Work Protocol (with known contact of a positive case of Covid-19)

- Staff or students diagnosed as having COVID-19 with symptoms or a traceable link to a positive case of Covid-19 must meet the following criteria to return to school:
 - 3 days with no fever (without using fever reducing medication), AND
 - other symptoms have improved or no symptoms were present, AND
 - 10 days since symptoms first appeared if symptoms were present.
- If you have symptoms that could be COVID-19 and do not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, it is assumed that you have COVID-19 and may not return to work/school until the three criteria listed above have been met.
- Staff / students diagnosed as having COVID-19 without symptoms (asymptomatic) must meet the following criteria to return to school:
 - 10 days have passed since tested without any symptoms developing.

Social Distancing

Social distancing is an effective way to prevent potential infection. We acknowledge both the importance and challenges that come with the socialization of younger and preschool students. School staff and elementary students should, when possible, maintain 3-6 foot social distance among students and staff in all school environments, including classrooms, hallways, restrooms, cafeteria, playground, drop-off and pick-up locations, and school buses. Where social distancing is difficult (less than 3 ft), face coverings may be asked of our students and staff. Everyone is asked to reinforce distancing with visual cues such as floor markings and signs. Avoid using shared materials or shared spaces (cubbies, etc.). Attempts will be made to reduce the mixing of student groups. Students should maintain as much distance as possible when actively playing.

Face Coverings/Shields/Hygiene in the School Environment

At this time face-masks are welcomed, but not required. It is possible that we might reevaluate once school starts and require all adults and our Kindergarten-6th grade students wear face coverings when entering/exiting the building, during transitions, and where proper distancing can not be maintained.

Exceptions include:

- Facial coverings are not advisable for health reasons.
- There is a functional reason not to wear a facial covering.
- Where doing so, it would significantly interfere with the learning process.
- Facial coverings are not required when working alone in an assigned work area.
- Gym class, lunch and outdoor recess.
- When appropriate distancing can take place in the classroom.

-Students / Staff would be required (if face coverings become mandatory) to have 2 labeled face coverings and an attachable lanyard to hold mask when not in use

In addition to using PPE, please remember to:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow
- Water bottles are optional and can be brought from home to avoid drinking fountain contact

Classrooms:

- Preschool, Kindergarten, and Soaring Eagles (daycare) students should have a parent / guardian escort them to their classroom door.
- All 1st-6th grade students should enter the building unescorted.
- Space seating / desks at least 3 feet apart when feasible.
- Turn desks to face the same direction, or have students sit on only one side of tables, spaced apart.
- If tables are used, keep students at least 3 feet apart from each other around tables.
- Classroom doors will remain open to circulate air, when possible.
- Windows can be open to increase circulation.

Transitions:

- Every effort will be made to practice safe social and physical distancing during class and in the hallways.
- Face coverings will be required during transition times (if masks become mandated).
- Provide visual or physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks and signs on walls, to allow staff and students to remain at least 3 feet apart in lines and at other times as is possible.
- Teachers are asked, when possible, not to visit another classroom outside of their team or grade level.

Specials:

- Art may be traveling to individual classrooms. Some classes may come to the art room if adequate time is allowed in-between classes for sanitizing.
- Music may be traveling to individual classrooms. Some classes may come to the music room if adequate time is allowed in-between classes for sanitizing. Instruments will be assigned to individual students.
- Physical Education will be primarily outdoors and in the gymnasium. Non-contact activities will be encouraged.
- Chapel may be conducted from the TV Crew room and broadcast to the classrooms.

Recess:

- Some playground equipment may be limited and restricted if considered “high touch” and difficult to clean or maintain social distancing.
- Students should sanitize their hands before and after recess.
- Face coverings will not be required during outdoor recess, but 3 foot distancing is encouraged.

Lunch:

- Students must sanitize their hands before and after lunch.
- Students will be kept together in the classroom at lunch, or provided adequate table distancing, as is possible, in the lunch area.

Northmont Bus Transportation:

- All students **will wear face coverings** on Northmont buses.
- Non-family members will be limited to 2 in a seat and buses may be loaded from back to front and unloaded from front to back.
- Students at bus stops with groups will need to wear face coverings.
- Upon boarding the bus students will utilize hand sanitizer stations mounted in buses.
- Students should go to their assigned seat and remain in the seat throughout the entire bus ride, and this will be strictly enforced.
- All surfaces must be cleaned with a disinfectant solution at the end of each use. Daily sanitation logs will be submitted to the Transportation Supervisor after completing the last route.

Visitors

Normal visitation to our campus will be restricted for the first grading period. Preschool, kindergarten and daycare parents are asked to escort their children to and from the classroom; 1st-6th students may be dropped off at the doors of entry (this will be reassessed throughout the year.) All visitors must be symptom free and follow our COVID-19 protocols.

- Interactions / Gatherings – Non-essential / informal meetings and visiting should be avoided. Phone and virtual meetings are encouraged in lieu of face-to-face meetings.

ALL MEETINGS / CONVERSATIONS WITH ANYONE (for more than 15 minutes in a 24 Hour Period) SHOULD BE AT LEAST 6 ft APART- Anywhere /Anytime if you wish to avoid being contact traced!

Disinfecting Measures

SCA and Salem Church of God will continue to work together to keep our facility clean by having / using...

- Hand sanitizers at entry points / classrooms.
- Use of air ionizing filters.
- Use of UV light sanitizers when children are not present.
- Use of fogging machines with environmentally-friendly disinfectant when children are not present.
- High contact surfaces sanitized daily.

Alternative Learning for 2021-22

Elementary:

In the event of student 'self-quarantine,' MacBook Airs may be available for checkout / loan to assist with classwork. A teacher and / or Intervention Tutor will be available to assist with the educational process from home.

In the event of a required school closure, MacBook Airs will be available for checkout / loan to assist with classwork. Teachers will provide daily instructional teaching time with the use of Zoom (face-to-face teacher / student interaction) and the use of Loom (recorded teacher instruction). Teachers will maintain office hours and technology support will be provided through the office as is feasible.

Preschool:

The preschool will provide home study packets for our preschool families in the event of a school closure.