

HCA COVID-19 RESPONSE

UPDATED 09/10/2020

For the last few months, HCA has been preparing for the day we will bring students back into the physical classroom. While we understand that according to national and local health authorities, staying home is the best way to prevent contracting COVID-19 (and other contagious illnesses), we also realize that students may pay a price emotionally and even educationally for remaining home bound for too long, away from peers, sports, and socialization. Our goal is to, as safely as possible, bring our students physically back into the classroom. **To do this, we will be viewing each classroom as a sort of "AERIE", or eagle's nest. Our students while in the classroom will take precautions to not be in direct contact with one another, but they will be in the same room together for most of the day. Our goal is to keep them with their class and only their class throughout the day (with the exception of afterschool care), limiting the amount of people they have contact with each day.**

At Harvest Christian Academy we believe and teach the Bible, the Word of God, and this year our focus scriptures we will be speaking over our staff, students, and their parents are **Psalm 91:9-12** *"Because you have made the Lord who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; for He shall give His angels charge over you to keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone."*

HCA will operate on 3 levels this school year.

Level 1 – School is open for students who wish to return to in-person classes. Remote learning is still an option for students not able to return. Student must log into classes and be present to be counted present for the day. All staff is on campus.

Level 2 – Remote learning for all students. All staff is on campus, (staff may bring their children with them for remote learning on campus).

Level 3 – Remote learning for all students. Most staff are asked to remain home and teach from there. Only certain staff will be asked to come on campus.

When left for Spring Break 2020 we immediately had to go into Level 3. We pray and are believing that we will never have to go back to Level 3 again. Our goal and our prayer is to be at Level 1 for October – May!

Below are some of the protocols in place regarding COVID-19 to help us safely return to in person instruction:

*Touchless temperature scans (to the wrist or forearm) each morning for all PreK-12th grade

students, and all staff, upon arrival to the school.

*PreK3-5th grades must enter through the FRONT door and stop at the temperature check station

before walking straight to class. (Parent may walk child to the front door if they choose.) If a

child will be buying a breakfast taco, they will let their teacher know and the teacher will call to order and have delivered, their taco to their classroom. (Breakfast tacos are only available (as they last) up until 7:45. No tacos will be sold after 7:45am)

*6th-12th grades must enter through the West Side Gym (glass) doors and stop at the temperature check

station before walking straight to class. If a student will be buying a breakfast taco, they will let their teacher know and the teacher will call to order and have it delivered to the classroom. (Breakfast tacos are only available (as they last) up until 7:45. No tacos will be sold after 7:45am)

*Students will wear a mask when in transit (walking into school, walking to the restroom, PE, etc). Once

seated at their desk, students will wear a clear face shield (1st-12th grades). Wearing masks at their desk is optional and only required for transit times. (Facemasks are optional during PE but required walking in line to PE. Prek3-5th grades will have PE only with their class, Junior High and High School will be in PE or Athletics with other students in their level. Should a JR High or High School parent feel uneasy with their child being in PE with other classes, they may opt out of PE. Junior High student who opt out of PE will stay in the main building, 6 feet apart from other students. High School students who opt out **must be picked up by 2:30pm**, no exceptions. Please note that 9th and 10th grade students **MUST** make up this PE credit 11th or 12th grade!)

***If a parent or another guest must visit the front office, they will be required to clear our wellness check**

including taking temperature. We also ask that the front office is the limit of coming on campus. We encourage you to pay tuition or lunches is online or over the phone, to eliminate standing in lines or frequent visits to the front office.

*For now, students will rotate having lunch in their classrooms, cafeteria, outside tables. Parents will not be allowed to drop off lunches or come have lunch with their child until further notice. Please pre-pack lunch or purchase lunch from our **Harvest Cafe school lunch program**.

*Recess times will be spread out so number of students in the outside playground area are limited. Facemasks during recess are optional.

*Junior high and High school classes will not rotate classrooms, instead, teachers will rotate. Lockers will not be available until further notice. All books and necessities will remain with the students at their assigned desk. These grades will only mix with others in their level during PE, Athletics, and Elective classes.

*A designated room for students who present any symptoms of illness during the day has been established. Students will wait there until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian.

*In-classroom precautions will be taken, including the use of faceguards, frequent hand washing & hand sanitizing upon exit and entry, and regular desk sanitizing throughout the day.

*Pick-up locations will be designated around campus and pick-up times staggered. Prek3-Kinder 3:00, 1st-5th 3:20. **Pick-up in front of main building.** 6th-12th students will be picked up **on the west side of gym** where dropped off. They will exit through the west side gym exit. Teachers will remain with students until all students have been picked up. If a parent is late (after 4pm), students will remain with their teacher in their classroom and awake pick up there. Parent will call the front office and student will be brought to their vehicle. A late pick-up fee of \$5 for every 10 minutes late will incur unless prior arrangements have been made with the teacher or front office.

*Policies for interscholastic sporting events are still in development as we are waiting for more information from our league and conference. Games are being scheduled and information will be released once available.

Symptoms reported with COVID-19 include: (as released by the CDC) FEVER, COUGH, SHORTNESS OF BREATH.

Other reported symptoms:

- > *Chills*
- > *Fatigue*
- > *Muscle or body aches*
- > *Headache*
- > *New loss of taste or smell*
- > *Sore throat*
- > *Congestion or runny nose*
- > *Nausea or vomiting*
- > *Diarrhea*

Together we can do our part to help and get our children safely back to in-person classes! If your child has any of the above symptoms, please keep them home and have them join class remotely (if they feel well enough) online. Please do not send your child to school if they have been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or displayed severe symptoms of COVID-19. If this is the case, please contact your child's healthcare professional for advise on safely returning to school.

We encourage you to read an article released by the CDC on the importance of children returning to on campus learning. This article may be found at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/reopening-schools.html>

We love our HCA students, and while this virus has taken a toll on many of us, our students development, growth, and emotional wellbeing must also be taken into consideration. Any student with underlying health issues listed by the CDC and local health organizations, should take extra precaution, and evaluate whether in-person or remote learning is best for them. We will do our best to maintain a safe "AERIE" environment for our students and staff. We ask that you, at home, also do the same!

Let's have a great year this year HCA EAGLES! Thank you, parents, for your support.

Let's do this – TOGETHER!