

COVID-19 MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Due to the frequently changing nature of COVID-19 recommendations, these plans will be reviewed and updated as necessary.

Anchor Christian Academy can be reopened in a reasonable and safe way based on a “Healthy Only” framework. To protect our students, staff, and volunteers we need everyone’s help and cooperation to ensure **only healthy individuals are permitted on campus**. Individuals who have been exposed Covid-19 (ie: work or family gathering) **OR** are having symptoms, even the most mild symptoms, must contact the school and stay home to participate via live streaming. Because we want to provide students with as “normal” as possible school experience, we are dependent on the ACA community to be as diligent as possible.

We are attempting to provide this plan to help benefit everyone with as few restrictions as possible. During this time, we must balance between having the faith of a Christian, believing and knowing that God is our healer, and being the foot soldier of faith by being an example. Being an example sometimes involves doing things we do not enjoy, but that demonstrates love towards others. We all have different opinions regarding the pandemic, so we ask that you speak in kindness and love without judgement. This plan was not created out of a spirit of fear, but with wisdom and knowledge. Since this knowledge base frequently changes, this plan may also change, but we will provide any updates as warranted by available research.

The processes outlined below are based on the most up-to-date information.

- **Screening:**

- **Students**

- Screening checks are to be completed by families at home every morning prior to arriving at the school
- Temperatures will be taken once student arrives to school
- ACA will initiate a reminder every morning. Completed screening is required prior to arrival at school
- If symptoms are present, the student is to stay home and participate via live streaming and follow recommendations
- Parents will be required to sign a health screening agreement

- **Volunteers**

- **Volunteers may bring siblings from their same household**
- Complete Covid screening questionnaire prior to arrival for each person
- Arrive at school office to check in and have temperature checked

- **Staff**

- Complete questionnaire prior to arrival
- Check-in and have temperature taken in school office

NOTE: SCREENING PROCESS WILL BE COMPLETED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

- **Face Coverings**

- Please watch video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_k7VBV3czw
- CDC Link on how to safely wear a mask:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html>
- Mask or face shields can be used as face coverings at ACA
 - Masks: disposable masks or homemade masks are permitted. CDC has multiple appropriate recommendations for homemade masks
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>
 - Must cover the nose and mouth
 - It is recommended to wash hands or use hand sanitizers prior to putting on and before removal of masks (please see video above)
 - N95 or surgical face masks are only recommended for healthcare workers
 - **Please Note: The CDC at this time is not endorsing the use of face shields as an appropriate face covering. However, ACA is permitting students or teachers to use a face shield instead of a mask. A teacher may request students to follow CDC guidelines and require only a face mask in class.**
- To be worn when unable to socially distant of 6 feet: arrival, while in hallways, departure, some science labs, whenever social distancing is unable to be done
- Masks are optional while seated 6' apart. This should be discussed within each family and the student should follow parent recommendations if masks are preferred.
 - Any teacher who identifies themselves as "at-risk" may request the wearing of face coverings within that classroom
- If a student forgets face mask or face shield
 - A cloth disposable facemask will be provided by administration. If a student forgets more than 2 times in a month, a fine of \$1/mask will be requested thereafter. (while supplies last)
 - If no disposable masks are available, the parent will be called to bring a mask. Student will be isolated until parent arrives
- All guests, parents, and visitors over the age of 2 are required to wear a facemask while in the building
- Since face shields are accepted at ACA, no exemptions will be accepted. People who are unable to wear a mask can wear a face shield.
 - Any individual concerns can be addressed with Julie or Rachel

- **Classrooms and Facilities:**

- All classrooms will be equipped with hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray, wipes, and paper towels
 - Rooms will be cleaned at midday during lunch by teachers with a hydrogen peroxide mist for all hard cleaning surfaces.
 - Students have access to clean desks upon arrival to the room before sitting down if they choose to do so.
 - Hand sanitizers need to be equipped with 70% isopropyl alcohol or 60% ethyl alcohol.
 - **Avoid any hand sanitizers with methanol. Please consult the FDA list of recalled hand sanitizers: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-updates-hand-sanitizers-consumers-should-not-use>**
- High contact areas around the school will be cleaned throughout the school day by staff and volunteers
- Volunteers will be asked to help clean
 - Faucet and flush handles in bathrooms mid-day after lunch
 - Tables or chairs if used, after lunch
 - Doors – push plates, knobs
 - Railings and handles
- Staff will be responsible for cleaning
 - Light switches
 - Supplies brought into the facility
 - Railings and handles (anytime as deemed necessary)
 - Student desks (as outlined)

- Air purifiers to be placed in each classroom to help improve air quality of rooms
 - To be utilized throughout the day while students are in the rooms
- Water fountains will not be operational
- Reminders will be posted throughout the facility to remind everyone to
 - Stay 6 feet apart
 - Wear mask when unable to socially distant
 - Proper and frequent handwashing
- **Handwashing/Handsanitizing:**
 - Please watch video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7gMQCQRgj00>
 - Students will wash hands as soon as they arrive into school, at the start and end of gym time and at the start and end of lunch, and after using bathroom facilities, before applying facemask and after removing facemask.
 - Each student must bring his/her own hand sanitizer to help prevent cross contamination.
 - ACA will provide each classroom a large hand sanitizer in case a student has forgotten to bring his/her personal hand-sanitizer

- **Personal Belongings:**
 - Each student is responsible for bringing own food (snacks), lunches, utensils, and water bottles
 - It is recommended that all items are labeled with the student name
 - All textbooks covered and labeled with student name on cover
 - All workbooks labeled with student name on front
 - Students may only touch or handle their own learning materials (backpacks, pens, paper, textbooks, workbooks, books, etc)
 - Students may not touch or use another student's locker, backpack, or any other item without first disinfecting the item.
 - **If items are left behind, They will be placed in an isolation bin for 72 hours. Please see administration if something has been left behind.**

- **Physical Distancing and Minimizing Exposure**
 - Arrival
 - Student drop off starting at 7:30am at designated area
 - Students will wear a mask
 - Students will wash hands or use hand sanitizer
 - Temperatures will be taken via thermometer after hands washed
 - Arrival to classroom/Switching classrooms/Hallways
 - Students are to wear a face mask
 - Students at this time may remove masks once everyone is seated in their assigned seat
 - Use hand sanitizer prior and after removing mask.
 - Place mask in a zip lock or paper bag, then place in backpack
 - Dismissal
 - Use hand sanitizer prior to putting on facemask and after covering is placed
 - During times of dismissal, students are required to wear a mask
 - If using public school bussing, each student must follow the rules for the bus
 - During pick up, students may remove mask once in own vehicle
 - P.E/Recess/Free Time
 - Contact sports will not be permitted
 - It is important for kids to participate in physical activity during free time.
 - Recreation time will be spent outdoors while weather permitting
 - Basketball will be permitted only when unable to be outside. Games will be limited to a maximum of 15 minutes per group.

Note: We understand that many of our families and students have been spending time with each other in community. However, while in school we are asking each student to be an example and refrain from sharing any items OR having close personal contact with each other.

- **Lunch:**

- **Please see phases document as this will change as the situation in Lancaster County changes**
- When possible students are to eat outside in designated areas and maintain physical distance of 6 feet
- If eating inside, students may spread out in the gym, on gym stage, fellowship hall, sitting on floor or chairs maintaining physical distance of 6 feet
- Students bring packed lunch, no hot lunches will be provided at the beginning of the school year. As the year progresses this may change. Please refer to the newsletter for changes.
- After using a microwave, the student will clean the handle and buttons with a disinfecting wipe

- **Illness**

- If showing 2 symptoms in Section 1 on screening, **please keep home from school**
 - Complete 1 of these 2 options prior to returning to school
 - **Option 1:** Consult your personal physician
 - Consult with your physician for further direction (ie: testing, quarantining, or returning to school)
 - A note from the physician is required prior to student returning to school
 - Fever free without any use of fever reducing medications (Tylenol/acetaminophen or Motrin/Ibuprofen containing products) at least a full 24 hours prior to returning to school
 - **Option 2:** Do not consult your physician, treat illness as if it may be Covid-19
 - Keep student home and live stream into classes
 - The criteria for returning is as follows:
 - At least 10 days have passed since the start of symptoms AND
 - At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications AND all other symptoms have improved

Please Note: If a sibling of a household is ill, but an ACA student is not showing any symptoms, the student may come to school *UNLESS* someone in the household has tested Positive

- If yes to Section 2, close contact with Covid Positive Patient (Symptomatic or Asymptomatic):
 - Notify school administration
 - Please Quarantine and watch closely for symptoms.
 - If student is having symptoms
 - Keep child at home
 - If symptoms develop:
 - **Option 1:** Consult your personal physician
 - Consult with your physician for further direction (ie: testing, quarantining, or returning to school)
 - A note from the physician is required prior to student returning to school
 - Fever free without any use of fever reducing medications (Tylenol/acetaminophen or Motrin/Ibuprofen containing products) at least a full 24 hours prior to returning to school
 - **Option 2:** Do not consult your physician, treat illness as if it may be Covid-19
 - Keep student home and live stream into classes
 - The criteria for returning is as follows:

Our preparation includes identifying multiple phases of mitigation in order to nimbly respond to any changes to the COVID-19 situation in Lancaster County. The following consists of 4 plans.

PHASES	PROTOCOL
Plan A - Caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Temperature and wellness checks for all faculty, staff, and students before entering school ● Regular handwashing, including upon arrival at school ● High contact areas around school will be cleaned during the school day as needed/recommended, and all areas will be cleaned and sanitized regularly. ● Classroom desks are spaced to allow for separation to the maximum extent feasible. ● All classes have the ability to live stream to students who are at home. ● Anyone showing any sign of any illness is required to stay at home and consult physician for next steps ● Any student, faculty, or staff who is exposed to COVID-19 will self-quarantine at home following current recommendations. If a teacher must be quarantined at home, they will have the ability to live stream into the classroom. ● When possible, students eat in any of the designated areas and maintain physical distance of 6' ● Air purifiers to be used in each room
Plan B - Modified Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All Plan A modifications apply. ● Face Coverings: To be determined ● Each grade level or section of a grade level is assigned a specific classroom and will follow their regular schedule. ● Teachers rotate classrooms instead of the students. ● Students are assigned a specific desk that is not shared with anyone else, and will clean their desk space at the end of each school day. ● Hand sanitizing stations will be located at the door of every classroom for students to use every time they enter or leave a classroom. ● Middle and high school groups are separated at all times, limiting total student exposure to 30-35 students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Middle school students meet in the upper level of the school and use the front entrance; High school students meet in the lower level of the school and use the back entrance. ○ All students will eat lunch in their classrooms. ○ Gym time is outside when possible. When the weather is poor, middle school and high school rotate gym use on different days.
Plan C - Limited Classroom Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All Plan A modifications and Plan B modifications apply. ● Middle school students attend classes on Tuesdays with live video classes at home on Thursdays. ● High school students attend classes on Mondays and Thursdays with live video classes at home on Tuesdays.
Plan D - Distance Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This option will be used if any ACA student or faculty/staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19 and/or if the governor mandates a closure of private schools. ● Classes are held at home with live streamed or recorded classes on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, as appropriate for specific classes and grade levels.