



Covenant
CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY
of the Lehigh Valley

August 27, 2021

2021-2022 REVISED Health and Safety Plan

Dear Parents,

We are excited for a new school year to begin! Thank you for being flexible as CCA maneuvers the challenges that COVID continues to present. Our ultimate **GOAL** with this Revised Health Plan is simple: For those of us in responsible positions to act responsibly for the good of everyone connected to our school. We are working to protect all CCA students, staff members and their families.

There is one key area we are not yet able to change from last year. We feel directed by the Lord, and in wisdom, to begin the year requiring face coverings while in school. There are too many risks still involved with allowing covering-free learning at this time. If each classroom was covering-free (or “parents’ choice”) and a Covid-outbreak occurred, the whole classroom would have to be quarantined at their homes. But with face coverings, only the sick individual has to quarantine, not the whole classroom. So we ask that you please understand, we are doing this for the good of the students and teachers as a whole. We want as little serious illness and “at home” learning as possible this year!

We know this is a frustrating disappointment to many who were hoping for more relaxed masking rules. We will be reviewing this policy each month to see if and when we can ease up. But our staff and kids’ health must come first. We do look forward to mask-free outdoor play, more field trips together, opening the cafeteria up again and no daily temperature checks. So we are moving in the right direction! Please continue to keep CCA in your prayers. We will strive to provide regular updates so that we can implement adjustments quickly and effectively.

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I. Screening/Symptoms

a) Staff & Student Screening: If a staff member or student is experiencing any of the symptoms in the COVID symptom table or there is a temperature of 100.0 F or above, they MUST stay home. If they have been in direct contact with a Covid-positive person, they must stay home. Quarantine guidance is 10 days from the onset of symptoms.

b) Anyone who exhibits symptoms of or has been diagnosed with/or exposed to someone who is positive for COVID-19 should understand the risk they pose to themselves and others. Please follow CDC guidelines: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

Here is the list of COVID-19 symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

c) No daily temperature screenings will be required. If a staff member or student feels ill at school, they will go immediately to the office and get checked.

d) All parents, students and staff who traveled out of the country or to a COVID-19 “hotspot” within the United States MUST self-quarantine at home for 10 days with no symptoms, before returning to school. You should check the PA Department of Health website to the latest information on COVID-19 hotspots.

II. REVISED: Face Coverings*

- a) Wearing masks or face shields will be required of students, staff and visitors throughout the school building. As Covid numbers shift, this policy will be reviewed monthly.
- b) Face coverings will not be required during outdoor play.
- c) Bus students must comply with all rules set by the school district who provide the busing for that student.
- d) Supplying masks or face shields for students is the responsibility of the parents or guardians of that student. Nevertheless, the school will have replacement masks and shields if your student's mask or face shield somehow become damaged or soiled during the school day.
 - *If wearing a mask or face shield jeopardizes one's physical or mental health or is not feasible due to a disability, an exemption may be requested. Students who do not wish to wear a mask or face shield must bring in a form signed by their parent or legal guardian indicating one of the exemptions. Submitting medical documentation to support the decision will not be required, as that would violate medical privacy laws.*

III. Distancing

- a) Distancing in the classroom will be maintained at **3 feet** and if a teacher needs to approach a student, both student and teacher will wear a mask or face shield.
- b) The cafeteria will be used this year, but heat-ups will still not be accepted. Each student will **bring a lunch/drink/bottled water** to school when CCA is not offering special lunches (see school menus). Water fountains will be disinfected and allowed for use to refill water bottles. Gym classes will take place outside as the weather allows.

IV. Sanitizing

- a) CCA is using Service Master to properly clean bathrooms, hallways, and classrooms.
- b) All individuals in school will sanitize or wash their hands on a frequent basis. Hand sanitizer will be available in all common areas and hallways.

As we move forward in faith, may we always remain rooted in the timeless truths of God's Word. His Word is living and active for all situations and challenges!

“He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases.”
- *Matthew 8:17, NIV*

“He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed.”
- *1 Peter 2:24, NIV*