



**Life Christian Academy Re-opening
Plan
August 11th, 2020**

This plan is based on a “Healthy Only” framework for reopening LCA’s campus. This framework requires parents and employees to ensure that only healthy individuals are permitted on campus. Parents will be required to agree to a waiver of liability and health screening agreement as a part of our return to school plan. A “Healthy Only” framework provides the greatest level of “normalcy” but depends on students and employees to remain at home if they display any flu-like symptoms or have been in contact with others who are symptomatic.

As we must work together to keep our students, staff and LCA community as safe as possible, violators of these policies will lose their privilege to return to campus for the duration of the pandemic. In addition to our focus on the health and safety of our entire LCA community, we will expect and encourage personal responsibility for your own health and the health of others who are most vulnerable. The protocols that we will be primarily using have been in place in our pre-school since the beginning of the Covid pandemic and we have had no cases of staff or students testing positive for this disease.

LCA is dedicated to returning to school following all necessary precautions to provide our students with quality instruction while also ensuring appropriate health and safety measures are in place for the well-being of our students, staff, and LCA community. Our reasons **WHY** to reopen go well beyond the world's reasons. In addition to the academic, athletic, emotional, relational, and psychological needs not being provided to students by ALL schools, we provide what is, for many, the only source or supplement to address their spiritual needs. Spiritual health is the arguably the most important aspect of childhood development. We want students to safely return to some sense of normalcy where they can learn and grow both in their understanding the primary core subjects but also in their understanding of God.

While most people understand that children are not at the same risk as adults, we also understand they can carry the virus home to parents, grandparents, and others who are at a higher risk. However, that risk will be there to some degree no matter **HOW** or **WHEN** we reopen. If we put all the needs of our students on a scale with the physical needs on one side and all the other needs on the other side...by not reopening we're saying that the physical risks of having students on campus (even with all of the COVID guidelines in place) outweigh all of the other needs that our school helps to address. Yes, some of those needs can be addressed through remote learning, but if at all possible, our students need **AND DESERVE** to be back on campus as soon as possible to address their spiritual needs which are so critical during this unprecedented time.

The plan to re-open Life Christian Academy for the 2020-2021 school year is multi-faceted and will be adjusted as needed. There is no perfect plan, as we work together, we can insure the best results possible. The health and safety of every member of the LCA community is important to everyone. Respect for one another has always been a part of how we operate, and we recognize with so many of us there are various views and concerns related to this pandemic. Below you will find some areas and how we will conduct school at this time:

The School Day/Instruction:

- School will begin at 8:00am and conclude at 2:30pm for grades K-5 and 8:15 to 2:45 for

middle and high school.

- Students may arrive as early as 7:30am and will report to their classrooms/homerooms. There will not be “holding areas” in the mornings as in the past.
- Classrooms will be set using social distancing guidelines to the maximum extent possible

- Cleaning/Sanitizing:

- All classrooms will be equipped with hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray, wipes, and paper towels.
- Classrooms in which students change class will be disinfected during transition times.
- Common areas including the cafeteria will be cleaned & sanitized throughout the day.
- Classroom doors, as well as non-fire hallway doors, will be kept open as much as possible to allow ventilation and airflow.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be placed in the hallways and other areas as needed.
- Students may only touch or handle their own learning materials (e.g., textbooks, pens).
- Students may not touch or use another student’s locker, backpack, or any other item without first disinfecting the item.
- Water fountains will be closed for use. Students must bring their clearly labeled water bottles from home. Filling stations will be available.
- Students will not share any school or classroom supplies. All items brought to school should be clearly labeled. Any unmarked item will be donated to charity at the end of each day. There will be no “lost and found.” If it’s not marked and can be returned to the rightful owner, it will not be kept.

COVID-19:

- Preventing COVID-19 completely in our school, even with all our safety measures in place, is not possible. To have an expectation that no one at our school will test positive with the virus at some point is unrealistic.
- Students and their family members as well as our staff go places other than our school. When someone finally tests positive, we will probably not know the origin of where the virus was contracted.
- When someone within our school tests positive for COVID-19, our protocols will be to remove them from the school environment until they can safely return and to protect against the spread to anyone else in the school.

Daily:

- A daily check-in prior to school will be required of everyone before entering any school building. This will consist of a temperature check from designated staff.
- Each person arriving to campus will have a temperature check before coming into the buildings. If a temperature is 101.0 or above the staff member or student will need to return home.
- Wearing a mask at arrival and dismissal will be highly encouraged. These are the greatest times of mixing among the student body and staff, therefore the reason for the masks.

- Once everyone is in their designated classrooms, masks may be removed. Some people will decide to wear their masks at all times, and they are to be respected for their choice.
- Movement between classes through the interior of the campus will be minimized as much as possible, especially within the hallways.
- Since there are many health considerations, and those that cannot wear masks due to medical conditions that preclude it, masks will not be mandatory but certainly will be encouraged.

Masks:

- Each student should always have a mask with them. Either a standard medical type mask or at least a cloth mask is permitted
- Secondary students, grades 6-12 should wear their masks when changing classes due to inability to social distance. Elementary students, (grades K-5), should wear a mask when traveling through the building to go to resource classes, the library, or the cafeteria. Once in the classroom, library, or cafeteria they may remove their masks when instructed to do so.

Health Screening:

- It is recommended that any person who has traveled out of the country or to a Covid-19 “hot spot” self-quarantine for no less than 14 days at home with no symptoms appearing prior to returning to school.
- Any student that exhibits a fever of 101.0 will be held in the isolated sick room and parents will be notified to pick up their child. Parents should have a contingency plan already in place so that no student is left for more than 1 hour after the parent has been notified that their child is sick.
- Any employee that exhibits a fever of 101.0 will be directed to leave campus immediately.
- If a student/staff member presents any possible COVID-19 symptoms, the Clinic Adm. Assistant will complete the assessment and notify parents/staff to be sent home.
- If a student/staff member has a negative COVID-19 test after exhibiting symptoms, they can return to school once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines, they have felt well for 24 hours.
- In order for a student/staff member who tested positive for COVID-19 to be allowed to return to campus, they must be able to answer YES to the following questions:
 - Has it been at least 10 days since the individual first had symptoms?
 - Has it been at least 3 days since the individual had a fever (without using fever-reducing medicine)?
 - Has it been at least 3 days since the individual’s symptoms have improved including cough and/or shortness of breath?
- Absences due to Health Screening restrictions will not be counted as school day absences.
- There will not be public acknowledgements by name of those who test positive for COVID-19

Visitors:

- LCA will be a closed campus to begin this year. If COVID is diminished over the course of the year we will re-address this but as of now, no parents, grandparents, or siblings will be allowed

into any school buildings.

- Parents are not permitted to enter the building during drop-off or pick-up.
- Kindergarten parents, wearing masks, will be permitted to accompany their child to their classroom during the first day of school.

Virtual Instruction

- Virtual instruction will be provided for those who are at home due to illness or opt not to attend school in-person.
- Virtual instruction will be congruent with the instruction that is taking place in the classroom.
- Once a student's parent opts for the virtual instruction they must remain with this option for the entire quarter. There is no reduction in tuition if a parent chooses the virtual option since the teachers are teaching the same material to your student whether they are on campus or off.
- Students who must use the virtual instruction due to illness or COVID may return to in-person instruction following the return protocols established (see above).
- Parents may choose face-to-face, full virtual, or hybrid where the student would be on campus for 2 days a week and attend virtually the other days.

Other:

- Athletics are being allowed based on the guidance from the VISAA. All safety protocols and recommendations from them will be followed for all athletic participation.
- Additional information may be added to these guidelines as we receive updates and guidance.

Believing that Christ has called us to care for one another, and knowing that the safety of our students, staff and LCA community is a focused priority, we agree to the following for the 2020-2021 school year:

I will assess my child/children daily for Covid-19 symptoms before bringing them to school.

For a list of Covid-19 Symptoms, please refer to the following website.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

I will assure that my child/children are fever free without the aid of medication such as Tylenol or other fever reducers before bringing them to school each day.

I understand that it is recommended to wear a mask upon arrival, dismissal and in the hallways during any class change or at times that social distancing cannot be maintained. I further understand that the school will not supply my child/children with a mask.

*Please note that LCA supports your family's decision if you chose to have your child/children wear his/her mask for the duration of the school day.

I understand that if my child develops a fever of 101 degrees while at school, he/she will be placed in a monitored isolation room. I further understand that a student can only remain in the isolation room for one hour and that I am required to pick my child up within that hour. Please create a contingency plan for your family. We will not be able to keep students with fevers in the isolation room for any reason for more than an hour.

I understand that my child/children will not have access to the water fountains and will need to bring a water bottled labeled with their name to school each day. I understand that water bottles cannot be shared.

I understand that LCA will NOT keep items in lost and found this year. All labeled items will be returned to students and all items that are not labeled will be donated at the end of the day. Given this, I understand that it is important to label all of my child/children's uniform pieces, supplies, backpacks, masks, etc. with their name for easy identification purposes.

I understand that for the safety of staff and students, LCA will be a closed campus this year and that I will not be able to enter the building. I understand that I will still have consistent contact with teachers and staff through email, phone calls and online formats.

I have read and understand the full LCA re-opening guide. I agree to support all policies outlined here and in the full re-opening guide and understand that failure to follow these policies may result in my child/children being withdrawn from LCA.

As LCA is following all guidelines and policies to keep my child/children safe, I agree to hold harmless LCA in the event that my child contracts Covid – 19 or other viruses while at school, and agree not to pursue any legal action against the school pursuant to my child becoming sick.

I understand that I give my consent to all items on this Health and Safety Plan by bringing my child/children onto the school grounds.

_____ signed (parent/guardian) _____ Print name