

## **Covid-19 Update for the 2020-2021 School Year**

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, the goal of Providence Christian Academy has been to create safe, healthy practices. Our highest priority is to put these practices into place to protect our students, families, and faculty. We have also been working with leaders in the Kentucky Department of Education to ensure that we are following health guidelines and protocols for all of our programs. We all understand that because of the pandemic we are doing things differently, so this guide is provided to you as an overview of the 'Safe at School' practices we are implementing for the upcoming school year. This information is subject to change as state and education leaders assess the situation. We will provide any updates to you as quickly as possible.

### **Safe at School Plans**

- All students will be dropped off each morning at the door, including Early Education students. This is a change from past practices.
- Everyone entering PCA will be screened for a fever.
- Anyone having a fever will not be allowed to enter the building.
- Each student will go directly to their classrooms each morning.
- Students who are ill, running a fever, have GI symptoms, or have been exposed to COVID-19 should stay home.
- PCA staff will be wearing face masks and gloves for food service, cleaning and sanitation, and while attending to any sick children.
- School water fountains will be turned off.
- There will be a staff-member added solely to sanitize after classes using restrooms, playground, gym, and technology.
- Limit non-essential visitors in school.
- Students who become ill during the school day will be separated from their class until a parent or guardian can pick them up from school.

### **Social Distancing**

- Increased space between students by rearranging seating to maximize space between students to be six (6) feet or greater.
- Reduced class sizes to allow for smaller cohorts of students to decrease the potential need for contact tracing.
- All desks will be arranged so students face the same direction.
- Modify classes or activities to minimize close social contact, congestion, or movement in specials and electives such as physical education (PE,) art, music, etc. These do not have to be canceled if distance and sanitation needs are met.
- Reduce congestion in common areas.
- Modify assemblies and other group activities to avoid mixing students in large common areas.
- Place physical barriers such as Plexiglas at reception desks and similar areas for protection.

### **Masks**

- Students enrolled in preschool-kindergarten will not be expected to wear face masks.
- Students will not be expected to wear masks in class as long as we can provide social distancing.
- Students, faculty, and staff will be expected to wear masks when they are closer than six (6) feet to another individual.
- Students, faculty, and staff will be required to wear a mask when moving throughout the school.
- If the teacher is working with a student closer than six (6) feet apart, then he/she will wear a mask or face shield.