



Bible Baptist Christian School

2780 Mount Carmel Road | Hampton, Georgia 30228 WEEKLY NEWS

August 9, 2021

Dear BBCS families,

Thank you for your support of our ministry and involvement in our Christian School. We are excited for the new families and school year God has given us.

Unfortunately, it seems to be some time before the COVID-19 pandemic truly goes away. Most of us, I'm sure, would like everything to get perfectly back to normal, and yet, we are trusting the Lord and His timing, as we always do.

Please know that, even with all of our work, we anticipate ongoing and evolving challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. For that reason, flexibility is key as we move along with this school year. We have chosen not to offer the virtual learning option this year, as nearly all of our families are excited and supportive of the in-person classroom learning experience. Undoubtedly, we realize that virtual learning is not going away, and our staff is prepared to change gears to this format if the need arises.

The entirety of our COVID-19 Phase Plan is focused on keeping our students and faculty safe, while ensuring that our campus is regularly clean and sanitized. We have researched best practices and accepted standards, as well as the technologies, products, and cleaning materials that we believe will help us accomplish this goal.

Our COVID-19 Phase Plan is based on current understandings about COVID-19 and on our desire to maintain a positive learning environment for all students. As a result, we will adapt our Plan as the trend of cases ebbs and flows. The main mode of COVID-19 spread is from person to person, primarily via droplet transmission. For this reason, our strategies for infection prevention and control will center around this form of spread, and will emphasize physical distancing, optional face coverings as appropriate, minimization of high touch surfaces, disinfection, and hand hygiene.

Finally, this Plan will be implemented in collaboration with the larger community, the advice of health care experts, best practice recommendations, and government requirements and mandates. The school will cooperate fully with appropriate health officials conducting contact disease tracing and related studies.

PRIORITY NOTE: Any student who has a fever or who is showing COVID-19 symptoms should not come to the school and should be taken to a qualified medical professional for evaluation immediately. This single factor is KEY to stopping the spread of the virus on our campus.

Student and Faculty Health and Safety Guidelines

- We are beginning this school year in the Green Level Phase of our COVID-19 Phase Plan.
- We will not begin the year with regular temperature checks, but reserve the right to perform temperature checks for all students and faculty each day.
- Students with temperatures of 100 F or above, or who show other active symptoms of COVID-19, will be immediately quarantined and their parents notified that they are to be

picked up as soon as possible. Any student with a temperature of 100 F will be required to be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to School. Any student with a temperature of 100 F, who also shows another active symptom of COVID-19, may not return to school until, (1) obtaining a negative COVID-19 test, or (2) having self-quarantined for 14 days following the cessation of symptoms.

- Face coverings properly worn are encouraged during times when social distancing is not possible.
- If you or someone in your household has been exposed to an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19, and for the safety of others at school, we are requesting that your student stay at home until your student receives a negative COVID-19 test, or has self-quarantined for 7 days following the cessation of any symptoms. However, if those who have been exposed have either 1) had COVID-19 previously, or 2) have had the vaccine, that individual will be allowed to return to school (even with a sick family member). If any symptoms appear with this individual, however, they will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days. Please notify the school immediately of this exposure and of your student's status.
- The school has numerous hand-sanitizer stations that will be placed throughout the campus. All students and faculty will have ready access to these stations and will be encouraged to use them regularly. As a new normal, students are encouraged to carry sanitizer with them as a supplement.
- The school will be sanitized on a regular basis with some of the cleaning being done before, during, and after the school day.
- High touch surfaces such as door handles will be cleaned as much as feasible. We will continue to maintain that a student may only access his own locker, keeping that surface from being compromised.
- Air exchange systems have been evaluated to make sure they are working properly.
- Signage across the campus will encourage proper health and hygiene practices, including, among other things, regular handwashing, or use of hand sanitizer, covering any coughs or sneezes with a forearm, and refraining from touching one's face. Teachers will also remind and encourage students to regularly practice these mitigation measures.
- All families will be requested to sign a Waiver and Release at the beginning of school, agreeing to the following: (1) you understand the risks associated with COVID-19; (2) you understand that, in spite of the school's best efforts to keep everyone safe, the school cannot guarantee that no one will contract COVID-19; (3) you agree not to hold the school, or anyone associated with the school, liable if your child happens to contract COVID-19; and (4) you will immediately notify the school of any family or student exposure to others demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms or positive test results.

Classroom Mitigation

- As practical as possible, requirements and protocols will be in place for social distancing in terms of desk placement, teacher interaction, and other measures; minimization of high touch surfaces and regular cleaning/disinfecting of classrooms and common areas adjacent to classrooms.
- Tissues and hand sanitizers will be available near or in all classrooms, and students will be

regularly encouraged to wash their hands.

- When the outside temperature allows it, windows will be kept open where feasible to increase air circulation.

After School Care

- All After School Care activities will follow the applicable guidelines and protocols that will be followed throughout the school day.

Large Group Gatherings

- We will continue to monitor State and local guidelines for large group gatherings. Currently, we are allowing large gatherings, with social distancing and masks encouraged.

Lunch

- We will continue to operate our lunchroom, with several modifications. Microwaves will need to be wiped down after each usage, and tables and chairs will be cleaned after each seating in the staggered schedule.
- To maintain the cleanliness of classrooms, students will not eat lunch in their classrooms.

Athletics

- All athletic teams, practices, and competitions will be governed by the GCAA. The school will comply with all guidelines and requirements that are issued.

Other Extracurricular Activities

- All other extracurricular activities at the school will follow the applicable guidelines and protocols that will be followed throughout the school day.
- Individual coaches, directors, or supervisors may implement additional safety guidelines that will apply to their particular group of students.

Confirmed COVID-19 Cases on Campus: Return to School

- If we encounter a small majority of confirmed cases on campus, certain portions of the school may be shut down for short periods of time. If multiple students or faculty members test positive, then the shut-down could be broader across campus, and for a longer period of time. We are closely monitoring other school and district plans concerning shutdowns for confirmed cases of COVID-19 on campus.
- If such a shutdown is necessary, we will temporarily switch students to online learning.

Thank you and continue to pray for a great year,

Mr. Jon Knoedler