**Appling Christian Academy**

**Re-Entry Plan**

**2020/2021**

The teachers, staff, and administration have adopted the following which includes guidance from our association and the local health department. ACA is able to execute the physical campus modifications needed to support students safely returning to campus in the fall of 2020.

ACA at Home

Your child(ren) will continue with ACA’s blend of continuing education packets and teacher-directed on line learning with regular modifications to ensure that students are receiving a well-balanced and academically fulfilling experience.

Appling Christian Academy has established a re-entry committee of teachers, staff, and administration which will be working diligently to develop a re-entry strategy that allows for flexibility, transparency and prioritizes the health and safety of our teachers, staff, and students. ACA is currently preparing the physical campus to support students in the fall of 2020, however the administration recognizes that some families may not be comfortable with their child(ren) returning at that time. We are working on different options for our families who have those concerns.

Re-Entry Planning

The Process

Georgia has lifted the school closure mandate

As a family, you have determined that you are comfortable with your child(ren) returning to the physical campus

Yes

No

Yes

NoYes

ON CAMPUS LEARNING

Your child(ren) will begin the 20–21 academic year on campus with the expectation

that specific health and safety procedures will be required.

In the event that local authorities close schools or initiate a stay-at-home order,

students will transition to remote/packet learning.

ACA’s participation in athletics offerings will be determined by guidance provided by Georgia Christian Athletic Association (GCAA) and our association (Georgia Association of Christian Schools.

ACA is preparing for waves of interruption to on campus learning. In the event our local community experiences a spike in COVID-19 cases and an interruption of physical operations occurs, a shift to the ACA Continuing Education Packet Program and on line programs as available will happen immediately.

Preparing for Interruptions

The teachers, staff, and administration of Appling Christian Academy are preparing for on campus school operations to resume in the fall of 2020. ACA will follow specific health precautions which will be in accordance with our local, state, and federal requirements to the best of our ability. Specific decisions regarding on campus modifications will be finalized over the next several weeks, however, current considerations can be found on the pages of that follow.

On Campus Learning

The standard drop-off and pick-up times will *likely* remain the same. Parents will be asked to not walk their child(ren) into school buildings, but to remain in their vehicles and use the drop-off and pick-up lines only

Some school activities may be altered or suspended for the 20/21 school year.



While specific decisions and plans will be finalized over the next several weeks as more information and updated public health guidelines are issued, strategies are being developed in the following areas including but not limited to:

Temperature checks will be required for students, faculty, staff, and venders

Sanitizing and cleaning processes

Campus capacity limits to allow for social distancing in spaces such as the lunchroom, gym, and chapel

Modification of programs and events in compliance with limits on crowd sizes and social distancing measures

Changes to campus access for visitors and parents

Temporary expansion of classrooms to allow for social distancing as allowable

**Daily School Considerations**

Watch for symptoms:

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure** **to the virus.** People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

* 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

Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and face coverings.

Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas.

Enforce and never compromise on the following: 1) staying home when sick; 2) covering coughs and sneezes; and, 3) washing hands frequently.

Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.

Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use.

Limit use of shared playground equipment in favor of physical activities that require less contact with surfaces.

Limit sharing of objects and equipment, such as toys, games and art supplies to the extent practicable. But where allowed, clean and disinfect between uses.

Avoid sharing electronic devices, clothing, toys, books and other games or learning aids as much as practicable.

Allow students and staff to bring hand sanitizer and face masks/coverings to use from home.

Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school.

Establish a protocol for visitors: calling front office before entering, screening visitors, requesting use of face coverings/masks, etc.

 Allow staff to wear face masks/covering, and other appropriate PPE as desired.

Take steps to ensure all water systems and features are safe and water fountains shut off.

Require students and staff members to bring their own water bottles to school.

Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff.

Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks (to the extent practicable).

Temperature Checks: Each morning all staff and students will have their temperature checked and recorded. Should anyone have a temperature above 100.4, he or she will be sent home and cannot return until he or she has been fever-free for a full 72 hours. At any time throughout the day should a student not feel good and we re-check the student’s temperature and it has increased we will call the parent and ask the parent to come and pick up the student.

If a student or staff has been in direct contact with a known COVID case, he or she should be self- quarantined at home for 14 days.

If a student or staff member develops a fever or cough at school, he or she should go home immediately. He or she should return only after there are no symptoms for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicines and/or cough suppressants.

GUIDANCE FOR A CONFIRMED CASE

When a confirmed case has entered a school, regardless of community transmission

Any school in any community might need to implement short-term closure procedures regardless of community spread **if an infected person has been in a school building**. If this happens, CDC recommends the following procedures regardless of the level of community spread:

**Coordinate with local health officials.** Once learning of a COVID-19 case in someone who has been in the school, immediately notify local health officials. These officials will help administrators determine a course of action for their child care programs or schools.

**Dismiss students and most staff for 2-5 days.** This initial short-term dismissal allows time for the local health officials to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation impacting the school. This allows the local health officials to help the school determine appropriate next steps, including whether an extended dismissal duration is needed to stop or slow further spread of COVID-19.

* Local health officials’ recommendations for the scope and duration of school dismissals will be made on a case-by-case basis using the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 and the specific cases in the community.
* During school dismissals, also cancel extracurricular group activities, school-based afterschool programs, and large events (e.g. field trips, and sporting events).
* Discourage staff, students, and their families from gathering or socializing anywhere. This includes group child care arrangements, as well as gathering at places like a friend’s house, a favorite restaurant, or the local shopping mall.

**Clean and disinfect thoroughly.**

* Close off areas used by the individuals with COVID-19 and wait as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection to minimize potential for exposure to respiratory droplets. Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area. If possible, wait up to 24 hours before beginning cleaning and disinfection.
* Cleaning staff should clean and disinfect all areas (e.g., offices, bathrooms, and common areas) used by the ill persons, focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces.
* If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
* For disinfection most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective.

**Make decisions about extending the school dismissal.**Temporarily dismissing school programs is a strategy to stop or slow the further spread of COVID-19 in communities.

* During school dismissals (after cleaning and disinfection), the school may stay open for staff members (unless ill) while students stay home. Keeping facilities open allows teachers to develop and deliver lessons and materials, thus maintaining continuity of teaching and learning. Decisions on which, if any, staff should be allowed in the school should be made in collaboration with local health officials.

**Implement strategies to continue education and related supports for students.**

* **Ensure continuity of education.**
	+ Review continue education plans. Implement continuing education plans, including on line learning options as feasible and appropriate.

Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school.

Establish a protocol for visitors: calling front office before entering, screening visitors, requesting use of face coverings/masks, etc.

 Allow staff to wear face masks/covering, and other appropriate PPE as desired.

Take steps to ensure all water systems and features are safe and water fountains shut off.

Require students and staff members to bring their own water bottles to school.

Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff.

Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks (to the extent practicable).

Temperature Checks: Each morning all staff and students will have their temperature checked and recorded. Should anyone have a temperature above 100.4, he or she will be sent home and cannot return until he or she has been fever-free for a full 72 hours. At any time throughout the day should a student not feel good and we re-check the student’s temperature and it has increased we will call the parent and ask the parent to come and pick up the student.

If a student or staff has been in direct contact with a known COVID case, he or she should be self- quarantined at home for 14 days.

If a student or staff member develops a fever or cough at school, he or she should go home immediately. He or she should return only after there are no symptoms for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicines and/or cough suppressants.



Temporary expansion of classrooms to allow for social distancing as allowable

Modification of programs and events in compliance with limits on crowd sizes and social distancing measures

Campus capacity limits to allow for social distancing in spaces such as the chapel room, gym, lunchroom, etc.

Changes to campus access for visitors and parents