



DISCOVERY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

Phase 1

August, 2020



Confidence in our Community

- ✦ Discovery Christian School's mission and purpose remains strong during these challenging times. We are no longer in response mode for a sudden crisis. Over these past few months, our administration has consulted with our governing accrediting organization, our school nurse, and board members as well as researched information provided by the CDC and AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics). We have updated training planned for our staff and are preparing our campus for a post COVID-19 educational environment.
- ✦ "The AAP strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having

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students physically present in school." -American Academy of Pediatrics, 2020. Therefore, we have developed and continue to refine our return to school plan to provide safety, learning continuity, and the difference in education our DCS family always seeks.

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Students who have had known exposure to COVID-19 should report the exposure immediately to administration. Any student or their family member (living in the same household) who tests positive for COVID-19 is REQUIRED to notify the school. Those students will be required to remain at home and be symptom free for 72 hours and/or until a negative test can be provided to the school. While awaiting test results, students are required to participate in Distance Learning. The Distance Learning Plan can be found in the Parent/Student Handbook.

Students who have a confirmed diagnosis via a positive test are required to remain at home until he/she has been fever free for

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three days, respiratory symptoms have improved (cough, shortness of breath, etc.), and it has been 10 days since symptoms first appeared. Families should follow guidelines outlined by the CDC concerning confirmed cases.

Parents are encouraged to give our school nurse permission to discuss your child's COVID-19 medical record with your healthcare professional.

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Parents are required to screen their own child(ren) before sending them to school. Students will not be permitted to come to school if they have any of the following symptoms until they are cleared by their provider:

- ✦ Fever of 100.0 F or greater
- ✦ Chills
- ✦ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- ✦ Muscle or body aches
- ✦ Persistent headache
- ✦ New loss of taste or smell
- ✦ Sore throat
- ✦ Nausea
- ✦ Vomiting
- ✦ Diarrhea

CHILDREN MUST BE FEVER FREE AND SYMPTOM FREE FOR 48 HOURS BEFORE RETURNING TO SCHOOL.

Life on Campus

- ✦ Despite global uncertainty one certainty remains, students learn best in a community of caring adults who know them and understand their needs. The core of our community will not change. We are committed to providing your child with the experiences that are vital to successful learning. This includes academic excellence, athletic opportunities, and traditions.
- ✦ The DCS school board has adopted the following Statement of Risk, "We have taken enhanced health and safety measures for those who come to our campus-students, employees, and visitors. While on campus you must follow all posted instructions. An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public space where people are present. COVID-19 is a contagious disease. If infected, you may exhibit no symptoms or mild symptoms, become severely ill, or die. According

Life on Campus

to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, senior citizens and persons with underlying health conditions are especially vulnerable. By visiting our campus, you voluntarily assume all risks related to the possible exposure to COVID-19."

Therefore, our policies are intended to mitigate, not eliminate, risk.

We have implemented the following procedures to ensure the safety of our students and staff:

- + Frequent and enhanced sanitizing and cleaning processes
- + Parents and visitors will not be permitted past the school office. Any school business is urged to be handled virtually (phone, email). This excludes special events such as Back to School Orientation which will be scheduled in small groups.

Life on Campus

- ✦ A sick area will be provided for anyone who becomes ill at school.
- ✦ Reduced transitions and determined paths for changing classes.
- ✦ The use of masks will be utilized when changing classes and during assemblies. Masks will also be required during drop off and pick up. This is to limit exposure among grade levels. Students may remove the mask once they enter the classroom. Masks will not be required in the classroom but are optional for those who choose to wear one.

We have implemented the following procedures to ensure the safety of our students and staff:

- ✦ Students will have individual supplies and materials for their personal use only.

Life on Campus

- ✦ Classes will have the option to eat lunch in the classroom, outside, or in small groups in the cafeteria.
- ✦ Students will remain with their classmates only. Crossover among children and adults within the school will be minimized.
- ✦ Social distancing will be implemented as much as possible throughout the school day.

Return to School Planning

Our campus is scheduled to open on August 12th unless otherwise mandated by local authorities. Our administration is working to find the best pathways for students who are unable to come to school. This includes offering ZOOM conferences and Distance Learning for those who choose this pathway. Distance Learning will be rigorous in nature. Guidelines for the Distance Learning Plan can be found in the Parent/ Student Handbook. Virtual attendance will be required while distance learning. Student will be counted present if they follow the guidelines of the Distance Learning Plan. Those who fail to follow the guidelines in the plan will be counted absent.