

Gainesville Homeschool Academy

Pandemic Policy

2020 - 2021



COVID-19 Guidelines:

Our guidelines will change based on what the virus is doing in our area at any given time. These guidelines are subject to change at a moment's notice if the board and teachers deem necessary or our state officials require them to. Our plan below outlines the first full month back to school. All guidelines will be re assessed on a monthly basis and parents will be notified accordingly.

Tracking System: We are working on a color coded tracking system that we will call "The Flag System". This system will be our way to quickly and easily float between levels of precautionary measures. More documentation to come on this system, but for now this is what it will look like.

Fuchsia Flag: School is cancelled by order of the Governor and our "Home Teaching Schedule" goes into effect.

Purple Flag: Temperature checks will be mandatory on all who enter school. A revised and slimmed down in-school schedule is adopted. Some parents may choose to take their child home and teachers will aid the parents with live streaming of classes or post various instructional videos on youtube for use. Homework packets will be available for pick-up on Friday afternoons for those families who have chosen to do school from home. However, because school is still in session, it is the parents responsibility to keep up with the pace of the classroom/teacher. Masks not required, but encouraged for children with impaired immune functions on a family by family basis. Parent's and volunteers will be on a by appointment only schedule.

Blue Flag: This is where we plan to begin school August, 12th-September 12th. Temperature checks will be required before anyone enters school. Rooms are deep cleaned weekly and disinfected daily. Recesses are staggered and groupings of children/teachers are kept to 20 or less. Children are separated in the fellowship hall by grade during pick-up/drop-off. Masks are not required, but are welcomed on a family by family basis if they deem necessary. Parents and volunteers must notify the board and teachers at least 24 hours before arriving at school.

Aqua Flag: Rooms are deep cleaned weekly. Temperatures are no longer taken before entering the building. We will move to an “Honor System” and parents are responsible for monitoring their children for fevers or sickness before arriving at school. Group sizes become more flexible and gatherings of 30 are permitted in school. Masks not required. Parents are permitted at school on an honor based system where they monitor their health before arriving at school and notify the teacher before arriving.

Green Flag: School proceeds as was considered normal with the exceptions that classrooms are weekly deep cleaned. Gatherings are permitted and no other restrictions are in place.

Cleaning: As it relates to the current Flag Level.

Weekly our school will be getting a deep professional cleaning. This will include disinfecting and deep cleans to the class rooms and bathrooms (all surfaces and floors).

Daily our teachers/board members/parent volunteers will complete the following tasks to ensure that classrooms and bathrooms are clean for the next school day.

- Disinfect hard surfaces, door handles and toys/supplies that are heavily used that day
- Wipe down bathroom toilets and countertops
- Place students supplies back in their designated supply box/area and disinfect if necessary

Sanitation Carts will be available for anytime the equipment or facilities are used. If you use a bathroom or printer etc.. you’ll be asked to wipe it down or spray with a disinfectant.

Sick Student: While under Blue and Purple Flags temperature checks, with a no touch thermometer, will be required. .

All Flag levels: GHA already has a strict sick child policy and now we will just heavily monitor and enforce it. This means that no sick child OR a child in a home with a sick family/friend will be permitted at school till ALL members of the household are fever/symptom free WITHOUT fever reducing medications. The child or family member MUST be free of fever/other symptoms for greater than 48 hours, again without fever reducing medications. If your child appears sick at school, they will immediately be removed from the classroom, temperature will be checked and the parent will need to immediately pick up the child upon getting notification from the school. Teachers will have

thermometers and be able to check a child's temp if warranted. If a student, teacher, or family member of any of these were to test positive for COVID-19 or have all the symptoms of COVID-19 your family will be asked to quarantine for the 14 day period before returning to school activities. Teachers will send a "Sick Child Notice" home in backpacks if a child happens to be sick at school. This notice WILL NOT identify the child or teacher who was sick, but will specify symptoms noted.

Social Distancing/Masks: Here at GHA we pride ourselves on our small class sizes and intimate settings. This also really benefits us in the realm of social distancing and masks. The state recommendations have been considered and we are keeping in close watch if any new recommendations come out. With that said, in class rooms that have separate desks, the desks will be placed at a comfortable distance from each other in order to still promote learning and engagement. The 6 feet apart recommendation does not apply to our individual class sizes and we are not required to adopt such strict social distancing measures in the individual classrooms at this time. Social Distancing measures will be assessed and re assessed as our Flag level of precautions change.

All Flag levels: mask wearing will be on a family by family basis and each family's decision on mask wearing will be supported and implemented by our school. We will not have a mandated mask wearing policy at our school for staff or children as we feel that this decision is completely based on an individual's level of comfort and personal preference.

Supplies: We plan to designate and position each child's supplies in a specific location and encourage them to try and use their own supplies. We also want to note that this will be a skill that will take time and patience on the parents and teachers to teach children to not use each other's things. We have always taught children to share and so this skill will feel very unnatural and we ask that you give us all the time to teach this in a way that it doesn't create a situation where the ability to share is completely lost.

Possible Closures: In case of any possible school closings we want you to be aware of our plans for closure. We plan to continue school as normal and as safely as possible until we are told otherwise by the leaders in our state. We cherish our students and teachers and their safety and we also cherish teaching and educating and providing the best environment for learning possible to our students. If by any chance school must close for a period of time, we will send out a specific "Home Teaching Plan". For now we are still working on all those specifics and going over what did and did not work last spring with online learning. Please stand-by for the specifics on how this will look.

Home Teaching Plan: We are currently working on all these specifics and will send out exact plans as it relates to our Flag systems in the coming weeks.

Visitors/Volunteers: Though we love that we are a very parent involved program, while we are operating in Flag levels of Blue or above, we ask that parents do not enter the school area unless you have notified the teacher/board 24 hours in advance or are signed up as a volunteer that day. Your temperature will be checked and the board/teachers can turn you away if your temperature exceeds the health standards. When our Flag level is reduced below blue level, you are permitted to come and go as before with the understanding that you are responsible to report any sickness or fever or contact with a sick person if the issue does arise.

Name: _____

Date: _____