



COVID 19 RESPONSE PLAN

2021-2022

Hickory Valley Christian School has created the following plans to communicate Preschool and K5 - 5th operating procedures related to COVID-19

We are so excited for the start of a new school year and are looking forward to welcoming our returning and new families in August. While we are committed to opening on August 11, we are equally committed to the safety of our families. We are confident that, given our small classes, we can follow CDC guidelines while still providing the quality, hands-on learning for which we are known. It has become evident to us all that this virus is going to be around for a while, therefore, it is important that we have a plan that allows us to return to normal operations with COVID-19.

In-Person, On-Campus Learning

Schedule

Registration Night will take place on Monday, August 9 for 5:00-7:00 p.m.

If you can not attend the registration night, please drop off all forms for your child(ren) on or before August 9. The forms can be found on the website or you may follow this link: [Parents tab: registration forms](#)

August 10 is our first day of classes and it will be in person with on-campus learning. August 10 and 11 are half days with 11:30 dismissal for all. K3, K4, and K5 will have a phase-in day and will only come on their designated day as instructed by their teacher. All grades will have their first full day on August 12. Our plan allows for all grades to be on campus five days a week.

- Dropoff Procedure: Students will exit the car at designated zones based on their grade
 - K5 & 1st at Cottage A
 - K4 at Cottage B
 - K3 at Main School Entrance
 - 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade at Upper Awning
- 1:00 Dismissal
 - K3 and K4 at Cottage B
- 3:00 Dismissal
 - K3 & K4 at Cottage B
 - K5 and 1st grade at Cottage A
- 3:10 Dismissal
 - 2nd - 5th grade at Main School Entrance
 - If you have multiple grades to pick up, you may come through twice or at the 3:10 time
- After care - Students who remain for after care will report to after care staff at 3:30

Protective Policies

Physical Space

Given the layout of our campus, our students are in contact with smaller groups throughout the day. **Thus reducing the risk of viral transmission and allowing for smaller numbers of students to quarantine in the event of infection without requiring that the entire campus close or shift to distance learning.** Our teachers are working on creative ways to utilize our numerous larger learning spaces, including the Pit, the Fellowship Hall and the playground.

Hand Washing and Cleaning

Frequent hand washing and sanitizing will be required and scheduled. This will include, but is not limited to, upon entry in the morning, before and after eating and restroom visits. Additional hand sanitizing stations have been added throughout the school. Cleaning supplies will be kept in each classroom, and teachers will be asking students to wipe down their desks throughout the day. Teachers and staff will also assist in wiping down surfaces and supplies through the day. Cleaning of common areas will also be done on a regular basis.

Health Screenings

1. Our families will play an essential role in helping to keep our community safe. The primary safety measure is to keep your child home if they are sick.
2. Any student, faculty or staff who is sick must remain at home. Per school policy families are required to keep children at home 24 hours after a fever subsides **without using fever-reducing medication. A child should not be sent to school after taking fever-reducing medication.**

Lunch

We will continue to offer lunch and to eat in the gym. K3 - 1st grade dine at our first lunch with 2nd - 5th grade eating at second lunch. Weather permitting, we will enjoy our Friday lunch on the lawn during the fall and spring.

Recess

Outside and unstructured play time is necessary for growth and development milestones to be met. Our preschool has recess before lunch. All other grades enjoy recess after their lunch periods.

Parent Visitors, Volunteers, & Vendors

Visitors will need to enter through the school entrance and sign the visitor log.

A drop off table will be located outside the Main School entrance. Should your child forget something i.e. lunch, books, snack etc. please text or call the office and place the item on the table for a contactless delivery.

Athletics

As a member of the ISC (Independent School Conference), we will be following their protocols and policies for athletics, which is based on current CDC guidelines. Any changes will be communicated via Thursday Mail.

Exposure Protocols for HVCS Community Member (Student, Faculty, or Staff)

Community members must report to HVCS any positive results or exposures immediately upon known exposure. Any person having a fever, persistent cough, or GI symptoms such as nausea, vomiting or diarrhea during school hours will be isolated and parents will be notified to pick up the student. Any individuals who are sick with or without a fever must stay home to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. The area where a positive COVID-19 case has been present will be closed off to be cleaned and disinfected based on CDC guidelines. See below chart to see how HVCS will handle exposures.

Community Member	COVID Status or Exposure Type	Actions to be Taken	Return to School
Student, Faculty or Staff	COVID positive test with or without symptoms	Community member must quarantine at home for 10 days after positive test or onset of symptoms	Per CDC guidelines : mild to moderate COVID-19 cases can stop isolating after 10 days and do not need to be tested before returning to work/school but must be fever free for 24 hours.
Family Member living in same house as Community Member	Family Member positive, Community member negative or High risk exposure: exposure within less than 6 ft. or for over 15 minutes	Community member must quarantine at home for 10 days after positive test or onset of symptoms in family member. If community member develops symptoms then 10 days after start of their symptoms *See exception below	10 days after start of family member's symptoms
Community Member has contact with someone who is positive, but outside of their own home	Non-High risk exposure: exposure was greater than 6 ft for less than 15 minutes	HVCS, with the guidance of the health department, will determine the need for quarantine of possibly affected individuals	Immediately unless develop symptoms

*Exception:

People who have been vaccinated, or those who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the **past 3 months** and recovered do not have to quarantine or get tested again as long as they do not develop new symptoms. If symptoms reoccur testing should be done to rule out second infection and to help protect our community.

Given that guidelines regarding this virus change often, please know that HVCS is committed to staying up to date on the latest recommendations. Our goal is to continue to provide a high quality academic experience in an environment that keeps us all safe. Please be aware that the nature of a virus is that it can spread quickly. While these policies are in place to protect our community, we cannot guarantee an environment that is entirely free of COVID-19 related risks.