

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

COVID-19 RE-OPENING PLAN

At Living Stones Christian School, we are committed to a safe and complete return to school on August 19, 2020, and we are preparing for full in-person instruction. We have been monitoring the spread of the virus and have created a plan that is reasonable and appropriate to do our part to stay healthy and return to life as close to normal as possible. The plans set forth are subject to change depending on future developments, but the following will allow us to return to the community we so deeply love and value.



HEALTHY HYGIENE

Per Texas guidelines, our teachers will be teaching and reinforcing important hygiene protocols to reduce transmission of the virus, including regular hand washing, avoiding hand-to-face contact, and covering coughs and sneezes. Measures include:

- Wash hands every time before and after eating; after coughing or sneezing; after being outside; and before and after using the restroom.
- Wash hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application, and use paper towels to dry hands thoroughly.
- Staff will model and practice hand washing, especially for lower elementary grade levels, will use bathroom time as an opportunity to reinforce and monitor proper hand washing.
- Use tissue to wipe their nose and to cough/sneeze inside a tissue or their elbow.
- Additional hand sanitizing stations will be added to locations throughout campus.



CLEANING PROTOCOLS

To reduce the transmission of the virus, LSCS has taken the following cleaning measures:

- We have hired a full-time custodian to oversee and assist in the implementation of increased cleaning protocols. Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected daily, and protocols for periodic disinfection throughout the day will be implemented in each classroom. Frequently touched surfaces to be disinfected include, but are not limited to door handles, light switches, sink handles, bathroom surfaces, tables, desks, and chairs.
- Faculty, staff and students are asked to bring full reusable water bottles. Writing the name of the student or staff on the bottle will assist in minimizing transmission.
- Students will still be allowed to enjoy playground equipment, but rotations for use will be established.
- Students will still be allowed to enjoy the use of playground toys, including balls, hula hoops, jump ropes, etc., but cleaning protocols will be in place to disinfect all equipment.
- In classrooms, teachers will limit shared objects as much as possible. Students will have their own materials (crayons, scissors, pens, pencils, etc.), when shared objects are used, they will be cleaned and disinfected per established guidelines.



DISTANCING GUIDELINES

LSCS will provide the same in-person learning environment students and families have always enjoyed, with the following common-sense protocols in place:

- Schedules have been adjusted to avoid congestion in common areas at the beginning and end of the day, as well as lunch and break times.
- Desks and student seating will be spread out as much as reasonably possible within each classroom. Teachers and staff will reinforce standards for students maintaining distance and reducing shared use of materials as much as practicable.
- Students will still enjoy eating together, but we will be spread out in a reasonable fashion to allow for social interaction while still providing additional space to reduce transmission.
- LSCS will continue to welcome parent volunteers, but will provide instructions for all volunteers to adhere to the same guidelines for distancing as students and staff.



FACE COVERINGS

Per the governor's mandate, students (grades 4-12), faculty and staff will be required to wear face coverings when social distancing is not possible. **We will continue to monitor the situation and may make changes as necessary.** The following guidelines will be in place for the beginning of the school year:

- All faculty, staff, students (grades 4-12) and visitors will be required to have a face covering in their possession while on campus.
- Students may be asked to wear face coverings in circumstances throughout the day when close physical proximity is unavoidable. Masks will be used only for the duration of the activity that requires close physical proximity where reasonable spacing is not possible, and students will be allowed to remove them at the end of that activity. Activities include, but are not limited to small group activities, pair/share activities, and interactive activities that require close proximity in the classroom.
- As congestion is unavoidable during passing periods, students in grades 6-12 will be required to wear face coverings during the three minute passing periods in hallways and locker areas.
- All faculty, staff and students who prefer to wear a face covering at any time are encouraged to do so.



FOOD SERVICE

We have modified our food preparation and serving procedures to provide a reduced contact lunch service for our staff and students:

- Lunch orders will be taken in the morning and meals will be boxed in individual containers. This limits exposure to food by anyone but the cafeteria staff and eliminates the time gathered in line for charges to be entered.
- All utensils, napkins and condiments will be individually packaged and disposable.
- We have created a shaded, outdoor dining area to allow for increased social distancing during meal times. Classes will have a rotating schedule for outdoor dining and we ask that guests limit their lunch visits with students to **ONLY** their outdoor dining day to minimize risk of exposure within the building.
- All dining surfaces will be sanitized between classes and social distancing will be enforced to the best of our abilities during mealtimes.



PROTOCOLS FOR POSITIVE TESTS

In the event a faculty member, staff member, or student tests positive for COVID-19, the following measures will be taken:

- Per CDC guidelines, any person testing positive for COVID-19 will be required to stay home until fever free (without fever-reducing medication) for three days and at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- The health department and students' parents will be notified if an individual in the school tests positive. However, the privacy of any individual testing positive will be maintained in accordance with FERPA requirements.
- In the event of a positive test, we have designated alternate locations so students and teachers can relocate and continue learning while the affected classroom is thoroughly cleaned and sanitized.



CHECKING FOR SYMPTOMS

Being vigilant about stopping the spread of the virus is critical to our ability to continue operations in an uninterrupted manner. LSCS plans to begin the year with the following protocols in place:

SYMPTOM-FREE DECLARATION

All parents and/or students will be asked to declare if the student has displayed any of the following symptoms within the past 48 hours:

- Fever above 100° F or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

TEMPERATURE CHECKS

School personnel will be stationed at entrances and check temperatures with no-touch thermometers. Per health department guidelines, anyone with a fever of 100° F or higher, a cough or any COVID-19 symptoms will not be allowed to attend until symptom free (without fever-reducing medication) for 48 hours.

STAY-AT-HOME POLICY

- We anticipate an increase in absences for both students, faculty and staff, and we require anyone who is sick or has been diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay at home.
- Teachers who need to stay at home will have lessons prepared in advance. Substitute teachers will be used, but when possible, teachers will connect to the classroom via video conferencing to provide instruction in partnership with the substitute teacher.



ONLINE LEARNING PLAN

We intend to operate in a 100% on-site model for the entirety of the 2020-2021 school year. This plan is subject to change depending on state or federal mandates, but we are prepared to educate our students without interruption in any circumstance.

Should the need for online learning be necessary, students will use their Google Classroom login to complete and return assignments by posted due dates.



PARTIAL OR TOTAL CLOSURES

In the event of a moderate outbreak of COVID-19 cases at LSCS, we are prepared to follow CDC guidelines for a short term (2-5 days) closure of the school facility. If this occurs, we will continue to deliver content using the remote learning model we developed this year and return to the classroom promptly when we have assessed the situation and taken appropriate measures to halt the spread.

Throughout the summer, our team has collaborated with educators from leading Christian schools, health department officials and public school administrators from around the country to create a dynamic plan to prepare for the wide range of scenarios that could unfold this fall. We have incorporated best practices developed with student and parent input from this past year in mind.

We have an incredible team of teachers who are ready to make this year an excellent experience for our students. We look forward to partnering with you, and we will continue to update you on details as we monitor developments. We are praying for your family and we cannot wait to be together again this fall.