

Northwest Christian School Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

LEA Name: Northwest Christian School

Date: 08/25/2021

1. Maintaining Health and Safety

For each mitigation strategy listed below (A–H), please describe how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

A. Universal and correct wearing of masks

The expectations and protocols for face coverings will be established in accordance with CDC, New Jersey Department of Health, Sussex County Department of Health, and local health department requirements. Use will follow protocols in EO 251 & 253.

All individuals in the school will wear a mask except when meeting exemptions noted in EO. 251 or EO 253.

B. Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)

The expectations and protocols for physical distancing will be established in accordance with CDC, New Jersey Department of Health, Sussex County Department of Health, and local health department requirements.

Student desks/tables will be placed 3 feet apart where possible. Classes will cohort according to grade level.

C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

Northwest Christian School will continue to promote handwashing and respiratory etiquette through the following measures:

- Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least twenty (20) seconds and model frequent practice among students and staff.
- Encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and/or cough into elbow instead of hand. Used tissues will be thrown in the trash and hands washed or sanitized immediately.
- If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least sixty (60) % alcohol should be used.
- Build in the practice of handwashing during transition times such as before or after recess, and before lunch.
- Provide adequate supplies for healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least sixty (60) percent alcohol, paper towels, tissues, disinfectant wipes, no-touch trash cans, and face coverings.

D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

- Northwest Christian School will continue to adhere to existing required facilities cleaning practices and procedures, and any new specific requirements of the local health department as they arise.
- Clean and apply disinfectant routinely to frequently touched surfaces and objects (e.g., restrooms, classroom desks and chairs, countertops, door handles and push plates, light switches; shared telephones and desktops, shared computer keyboards and mice) at least daily and between use as much as possible.

E. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments

- Students and staff who exhibit symptoms related to COVID-19 while in school will be safely and respectfully isolated from others in an identified isolation area with negative airflow in the nurse's office. Students will remain with continued supervision and care (e.g., continuous monitoring of symptoms) until picked up by an authorized adult.
- Individuals who exhibit symptoms related to COVID-19 will be sent home or to a healthcare facility depending on how severe their symptoms are, and follow CDC guidance for caring for oneself and others who are sick. If an ambulance is being called or someone is being brought to the hospital, the caller will alert the operator that the person may have COVID-19.

- Additional expectations and protocols for contact tracing will be established in accordance with CDC, New Jersey Department of Health, Sussex County Department of Health, and local health department requirements.
- Individuals visiting the school will sign in and state their intended destination. This information will be available in the main office should contact tracing be required.
- If a student who is serviced by outside agencies for the purpose of 192/193 supplemental services tests positive for COVID-19, the Non-Public School Commission will be notified that the provider served a student who later tested positive for COVID-19

F. Diagnostic and screening testing

The expectations and protocols for diagnostic and screening testing will be established in accordance with CDC, New Jersey Department of Health, Sussex County Department of Health, and local health department requirements.

G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible

Northwest Christian School will act in compliance to EO 253 regarding vaccines or testing to the extent required by law.

H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies

Health and safety policies will be established in accordance with federal, state, and local requirements. The established health and safety policies will be required for all students and staff. If and when a child's disability prevents the child from following the required health and safety guidelines, individualized accommodations will be made for the child and appropriate individuals will be consulted.

2. Ensuring Continuity of Services

A. Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services. (1000 character limit)

Northwest Christian School will work closely with families and students to ensure decisions are made collaboratively and transparently and prioritize safely returning students who are in need of in-person instruction. Student academic, social, emotional, and mental health will be a priority.