

## HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

### 2021-2022 PANDEMIC RESPONSE PLAN & GUIDANCE

#### (Guidelines and procedures for students returning to in-person learning at HBCS)

Each family will be required to sign that they have read and agree to abide by this policy.

We believe that no single plan applies to all pandemic incidents or can provide all the information needed. As with any pandemic, there is much uncertainty and the policies adopted are intended to mitigate, not eliminate risk, as no single action or set of actions will completely eliminate the risks of virus transmission. While our plan serves as a guide for specific activities during this pandemic, every incident is unique and the judgment of the school administration at the time may alter the strategies that have been outlined in accordance with guidance from Federal, State, and local authorities, and the specific needs of HBCS.

#### Face Coverings

- **As per the governor's mandate, face coverings will be required for Kindergarten and up as well as all visitors on campus. This will be the operating procedure until the governor issues different guidelines.**

#### Hand Hygiene

- We will practice proper hand hygiene as this is an important infection control measure.
- Frequent handwashing and hand sanitizing will be emphasized among students, faculty, and staff.
- Teachers will instruct students as to proper hand washing techniques.
- Hand sanitizer will be throughout the buildings and students will be encouraged to sanitize regularly.

#### Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Each classroom will be disinfected daily at the end of the school day and at other times as deemed necessary.
- High-touch surfaces, such as hand railings, door handles, faucet handles, and water fountains, etc. will be cleaned and disinfected frequently throughout the day.
- All water fountains will be closed until further notice. Students should bring water to school with them.
- Bathrooms will be disinfected frequently throughout the day.
- Teachers will spray down their classrooms between classes; prior to the next class entering.

#### Parents and Guests

- Parents and guests in general will be discouraged from entering the school building.
- Parents and guests will be asked to enter only through the school office.
- The school reserves the right to take temperatures at any time of any student or adult on campus.
- Parents will be asked to follow established protocol for late arrival.

#### Morning Drop-Off

- Upon arrival at school, students will be greeted at the vehicle as well as designated entry points. Once cleared for attendance, they will report to their homeroom classrooms.
- Designated Entry Points are as follows:
  - Elementary: carline by the school office. Parents of students who are still in car seats will need to take students out of the car seats themselves.
  - Middle School: Gym Carline
  - High School: Gym Carline
  - Student arrival shall begin no earlier than 7:45 am. Unless an elementary student is attending before care.
    - Before care drop off will be in the same location as previous years.
- Whether dropping off a student or having a student arrive on campus, the student's parent/guardian is confirming the following:
  - That the student does not have a fever of 100.4 or higher.
  - That the student does not have flu-like or COVID-like symptoms.
  - That the student has not taken fever-reducing medication in the last 24 hours and does not have shortness of breath or a cough.
  - That a member of the student's household has not tested positive for COVID-19 and/or is not waiting for the results of a COVID-19 test taken due to the individual having COVID-like symptoms.
  - The student has not been exposed to COVID-19.

#### **HBCS Illness Protocols**

- If a student or staff member is feeling ill, they should not come to school.
- If a student or staff member registers a temperature of 100.4 or higher, they cannot come to school.
- If a student or staff member has symptoms of a COVID-like illness, the student or staff member cannot come to school. (COVID-like illness is defined as cough, shortness of breath or any two of the following symptoms: fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell).
- If a student or staff member displays symptoms of a COVID-like illness while at school, they will immediately be removed from class and sent home.
- Parents will be required to pick their student up within 30 minutes of being notified that their student is ill or has a fever.
- If a student or staff member has a COVID-like illness, they can return to school if:
  - A clinician has evaluated the student or staff member and documented an alternative diagnosis and confirmed that the individual may return to school according to regular school policy. (An example of this would be a confirmed diagnosis of flu or strep throat.)
  - The student or staff member has a negative COVID-19 test and the individual meets the school's normal criteria for return after an illness.
- If the student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when **all three** of the following criteria are met:
  - At least three days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications)
  - The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
  - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
  - Please note that as per CDC guidelines, a negative test is NOT required for return to school.

- Quarantine Guidelines:
  - If a student or staff member has a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, all non-vaccinated students and staff who have come in close contact with the individual (greater than 15 minutes of interaction less than six feet away) will quarantine at home for 10 days. **Unless you have documentation from a licensed physician clearing you to return prior to the 10 day quarantine.**
  - If a student or staff has had close contact with a COVID-19 positive person, he or she must quarantine 10 days from the last contact with the person during the contagious period. A close contact is defined as being within 6 feet for 15 or more minutes or touching a COVID positive person. This includes 48 hours before the person started showing symptoms or 48 hours before a positive test result if the person was asymptomatic. **Unless you have documentation from a licensed physician clearing you to return prior to the 10 day quarantine.**
  - **A negative COVID-19 test for the exposed individual does not change the need for a 10 day quarantine. Unless the individual tests negative on Day 5 of quarantine. After a negative test from Day 5, the individual can return back to school on Day 7.**
  - To avoid learning disruptions, students who are quarantined at home will be sent recordings of the class or participate in live zoom meetings.
  - **\*\*NOTE\*\* Quarantine does not apply to fully vaccinated individuals (two weeks after Johnson and Johnson vaccine or two weeks after the second dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine). Students or faculty members who are vaccinated will not be required to quarantine unless they show symptoms of COVID-19**
    - Students and faculty members who are vaccinated should provide the office with a copy of their COVID vaccination card.
    - Vaccination is not required. We only request proof of vaccination for vaccinated individuals who wish to be exempt from quarantining.

### **Lunch**

- HBCS will continue to provide lunch to all of the students that participate in the school lunch program.
- Lunch will be in the fellowship hall for all grade levels.
- Tables and chairs will be sanitized between each class' lunch time.
- Students will sit with the same students each day in order to minimize close contact.
- Hands will be cleaned before and after eating.
- Parents will not be allowed in the lunchroom. If a parent needs to drop off lunch to a student, it must be dropped off in the office before the student's lunch period.

### **Chapel**

- Chapel will occur as usual in the Worship Center.
- Students will sit with their specific grade level during chapel.
- The Worship Center will be disinfected between each chapel service.

### **Elementary (Grades PK3-6th )**

- Elementary grades will be subdivided to minimize interaction.
- Grades PK3-3 will be one division taught by one teacher.
- Grades 4th-6th will be the other division to be taught by Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Champagne, Mrs. Dore, Mrs. Romero, Mrs. Placide and Ms. Carl.
- Students will go to PE daily. Activities will be modified to help reduce the possible spread of viruses.
- Playground - students will play with only their grade level while at PE or recess

#### **Middle School (Grades 7-8)**

- All 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes will be held in the MS building except for PE.
- Grades 7-8 will change classes in an orderly manner in a routine designed for maximum risk mitigation. Vigilant supervision is paramount to class change in an orderly manner.
- Students will go to PE daily. Activities will be modified to help reduce the possible spread of viruses.
- MS Students will not be allowed to use their lockers.

#### **High School (Grades 9-12)**

- We believe our older students are more likely to be susceptible to the virus than are our younger students.
- Grades 9-12 will change classes in an orderly manner in a routine designed for maximum risk mitigation. Vigilant supervision is paramount to class change in an orderly manner.
- Students in athletic PE and grades 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> will go to PE daily. Activities will be modified to help reduce the possible spread of viruses.
- Shared supplies and equipment for classes will be disinfected frequently.

Please sign and return the following form to your child's homeroom teacher the first day of school.

**Athletics-** all athletic events will follow the guidelines set forth by the governing body of the league (ex. LHSAA for high school athletics).

**HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

**2021-2022 PANDEMIC RESPONSE PLAN & GUIDANCE ACCEPTANCE FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, parent/guardian of, \_\_\_\_\_,  
have read and understand the protocols set forth in the Highland Baptist Christian School 2021-2022  
Pandemic Response Plan and Guidance.

I agree to follow all protocols set forth in this plan.

I understand that as things change throughout the school year I will be notified via email.

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date