



FAQ's re Liberty Christian Academy's 2020-2021 *Together Again*

According to the CDC, the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly from person to person, mainly through respiratory droplets produced by an infected person. Risk mitigating strategies are aimed at reducing the likelihood of a person being exposed to respiratory droplets coming from another person. Mitigation strategies during the school day as well as before and after school while on school premises include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Maintaining physical distancing**
- 2. Requiring face coverings when physical distancing is not easily maintained**
- 3. Reducing or eliminating sharing of common equipment**
- 4. Increasing sanitation**

1. How will we maintain physical distancing?

- Classrooms will be set up with at least 3 feet between students based on the recommendations of the health department. When possible, students will be kept six feet apart.
- "Extra" furniture/classroom items will be removed from rooms to allow for student desks to be placed 3-6 feet apart. The number of students in a classroom will be based on the size of the classroom.
- Clear and visible floor markings six feet apart will designate line formation and physical distancing.
- Elementary students will not change for PE..
- Upon arrival at school students will go directly to their classrooms.
- Seating charts will be consistently maintained throughout the year to minimize the number of students considered a "close contact".
- One-way directions in hallways and staggered bell schedules will help alleviate hallway congestion and minimize intermingling of students.

2. How will we require face coverings (masks) when physical distancing is not easily maintained?

- Masks are required by all LCA employees. An exception is made when not advisable for health reasons. A face shield can be used in place of a mask as long as it covers a staff member's entire face and extends beyond their chin.
- Masks are required for Kindergarten-12th grade students in the classrooms.
- Families should provide a clean face covering for their students each day.
- Students will wear face coverings when entering the hallway to change classes.
- Students will wear face coverings during labs or other small group work.
- Students will wear face coverings when waiting in lines.

3. How will we reduce or eliminate sharing of common equipment?

- Students will not be permitted to share items such as food, water bottles, pencils, markers, or any school supplies.

- Refillable water bottle stations have been installed to replace commonly used drinking fountains. Each student should bring a labeled and refillable water bottle to use each day.
- Elementary music and art teachers will travel to the classrooms.
- Elementary recess will take place in the grassy areas rather than on the playground equipment.
- Recess balls and other equipment will be sanitized before and after use.
- Extended Care items will be sanitized before and after use..

4. How will we increase sanitation?

- We have additional cleaning staff on site.
- Cleaning will take place throughout the day as well at the end of each day.
- Daily cleaning checklists will be updated as high touch surfaces are cleaned and sanitized.
- Sanitizer dispensers have been installed in each classroom.
- Lunches will be a “boxed lunch” and eaten with social distancing in place - elementary will primarily eat in their own classrooms with desks sanitized before and after eating.
- Students will wash hands before and after lunch, upon arrival and before and after recess.

BUT WHAT IF???

If a student or staff member is found to have a confirmed case of COVID-19 the Licking County Health Department (LCHD) will be notified and the individual will be placed in isolation. Return to school will be after the isolation period has ended and official documentation is received from the LCHD. The LCHD will contact the school to determine close contacts of the individual and will provide communication to the parents of all close contacts of a confirmed case of COVID-19.

If a student or staff member has close contact the individual will be contacted by the Licking County Health Department and provided with a quarantine notice. Individuals who meet the definition of a close contact will be quarantined for 14 days from the date of their exposure. We will work with students during isolation and quarantine periods via distance learning formats.

NOTE: Parents are requested to assess students for symptoms each morning before leaving for school. Student temperatures will be taken upon arrival or before entering the classroom each day. If a student is sent home with a fever (100.4 or higher) or other symptoms, they will be unable to return to school until the following:

- They are fever free for 72 hours (without medication - 3 full days)
- Show improvement with any and all other symptoms for 72 hours

Definitions for clarification:

Close contact - An individual that has been within 6 feet of an individual with a confirmed case of COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes.

Confirmed case - An individual that has laboratory confirmation that they have been infected with COVID-19.

Isolation - When a sick individual, with a contagious disease, is separated from people who are not sick.

Quarantine - When people who were exposed to a contagious disease are separated and restricted to see if they become sick.