LEXINGTON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

“OUR GUIDE TO RE-OPEN & WELCOME EVERYONE BACK ON CAMPUS”
Overview

Since March, the goal of Lexington Christian Academy’s Board of Directors and Executive Leadership Team (ELT) has been to establish healthy and safe practices to protect our families and employees. We are working hard to prioritize the safety and well-being of all of our constituents while restoring on-campus instruction and personal connection between teachers, coaches, administrators, and students.

In preparation for the 2020-2021 school year, the ELT consulted medical professional as well as resources from:

- American Board of Pediatrics (ABP)
- Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)
- Baptist Health
- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)
- Commerce Lexington and area businesses
- Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)
- Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA)
- Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG)
- Lexington Health Department
- Neighboring School Districts/Private Schools
- Office of Kentucky Governor
- University of Kentucky
- World Health Organization (WHO)

In addition, the ELT conducted surveys with our families and employees to understand their questions and concerns.

This guide will provide your family with an overview of our plans to return safely to campus in August.

If you have any questions, please email crt@lexingtonchristian.org. A member of our ELT will contact you and address your questions.

We look forward to serving your family – on campus – in August!

*Lexington Christian Academy’s Executive Leadership Team*
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Social Distancing

Social distancing will require our school’s administrators to develop unique plans that address the space and resources available at each campus. These safety expectations align with the policies published by CDC, KDE and WHO. Each principal will tailor social distancing plans to meet the needs of the students in their care.

Examples of social distancing will include:

• Increased space between students by rearranging seating to maximize space between students to be six (6) feet or greater.

• Reduced class sizes to allow for smaller cohorts of students to decrease potential need for contact tracing.

• All desks will be arranged so students seats face the same direction.

• We will adopt a model which will create space between students and their teachers and avoid unnecessary contact or movement within the personal space of six (6) feet. This includes:
  • Placing markings on floor as a reminder of areas that are six (6) feet apart for instruction.
  • Maintaining a social distance of six (6) feet in hallways during arrival and dismissal as well as class changes.
  • Maintaining a social distance of six (6) feet in common areas such as bathrooms or create barriers between sinks/stalls.
Social Distancing

• In addition, our principals and teachers will:

  • Modify classes or activities to minimize close social contact, congestion or movement in specials and electives such as chorus, physical education (PE), art, music, etc. These do not have to be canceled if distance and sanitation needs are met.

  • Reduce congestion in common areas (school office, guidance office, media center, gym hallway, etc.).

  • Minimize face-to-face interactions by designating one-way hallway traffic when possible and designating certain doors for entry and for exit.

  • Modify field trips, assemblies, and other group activities to avoid mixing students in large common areas.

  • Limit non-essential visitors on school.

  • Place physical barriers such as Plexiglas at reception desks and similar areas for protection.
Cloth face coverings otherwise known as face masks prohibit spread of the virus even when the infected person is without symptoms. LCA is adopting the following guidelines for face masks:

- Students enrolled in preschool, transitional kindergarten and kindergarten will not be expected to wear face masks.

- Students will not be expected to wear masks in class since we are able to provide social distancing.

- Students, faculty and staff will be expected to wear masks when they are closer than six (6) feet to another individual as well as during high traffic times (e.g., class change.)
  - If the teacher is walking around the classroom or working with a student closer than six (6) feet apart, then he/she will wear a mask or face shield.
  - Masks also do not have to be worn in the lunch room.
  - Masks will be worn in the hallways during arrival time, class change, and dismissal time.

- When students are outside and six (6) feet from others, they do not have to wear masks.

- Masks should:
  - Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
  - Be secured with ties or ear loops
  - Include multiple layers of fabric
  - Allow for breathing without restriction
  - Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape
  - Cover both nose and mouth
Healthy School Plans

LCA’s school health plans will include staff wearing face masks and gloves for:

- Cleaning and sanitation
- Food service
- School health procedures including attending to sick children and/or administering medication.  
  - This will include daily or emergency administration of medications (meter dose inhalers, Epinephrine injections, Glucagon injections), intranasal medications, and/or insulin injections.
- Staff will also be expected to maintain six (6) feet distance for care when reasonable.
- In addition, students, teachers, and staff will be encouraged to cover their coughs and sneezes by coughing into their elbow or covering with a tissue and then depositing the used tissue into a waste basket.
- Keeping hands clean is an important part of maintaining good health. Each class will be equipped with a hand sanitizer dispenser for students to use each time they enter and leave. In addition, teachers and staff will promote and encourage hand-washing or using hand sanitizer:
  - Before and after eating
  - Before and after using restroom
  - Before and after recess
  - Following PE
- Campus water fountains will be turned off and replaced with water bottle filling stations.
Healthy School Plans

Recess
• Students will practice good hygiene by washing their hands prior to going out to play and upon returning inside.
• The principal will have an assigned schedule that limits the number of classes on the playground at one time. Teachers will take advantage of green space, the covered pavilion and the multiple playground areas to minimize how many students are mixing.

Lunch Room
• Principals will stagger lunch times and promote social distancing at tables.
• Lunch room staff will wear gloves and face masks. In addition, they will clean, sanitize and disinfect frequently touched areas such as serving tables, microwaves, and lunch tables.

Chapel
• The spiritual development of our students is a cornerstone of an LCA education. The principals will adopt models to allow our students to safely attend a chapel in order to worship, hear God’s word, and learn how to put their faith into action.

Gymnasiums and Weight Room
• Staff will clean and sanitize gymnasiums and weight room between classes.
• Students will be encouraged to practice good hygiene before and after using workout and/or sporting equipment.

Outdoor Classrooms
• When reasonable and feasible, teachers will utilize outdoor classrooms, green spaces, and pavilions for instructional time.
Sanitation & Cleaning Procedures

Because of concern that infectious viral particles can land on surfaces with coughing, sneezing, talking and laughing, LCA is adopting extensive sanitation and cleaning procedures including:

• Posting signs throughout both facilities at both campuses encouraging proper hand and respiratory hygiene practices (covering coughs and sneezes).

• Installing touchless water bottle filling stations to water fountains.

• Continuous cleaning, using state of the art disinfecting technology, of classrooms, gymnasiums, restrooms, locker rooms, lunch rooms, and other resource areas such as libraries, art rooms, labs, etc. Special attention will be given to high touch areas, such as doorknobs, light switches, desks, computers, phones, toilets, faucets, sinks, handrails, etc.

• Making hand cleaning supplies such as hand sanitizer readily available in all classrooms and common areas.

• Installing foot pulls in restrooms for hands-free exits.

• Monitoring restrooms for adequate hand soap and towels.

• Installing in-duct air purification systems this summer. The systems will use a combination of UV and pinpoint ionization to purify the air and reduce contaminants and exposure to bacteria and viruses.
Health Screenings

LCA will require a temperature check by a touchless thermometer for all employees, students and visitors at point of school property entry.

• If carpooling, we are asking parents to confirm their student’s temperature is not greater than 100.4 before departing for school. The student’s temperature will be rechecked when on school property. Understand that if a student is found on re-check to have a temperature of greater than 100.4, the students and carpool driver on will be involved in contact tracing if the febrile student is determined to have COVID-19.

• At each designated entrance, the staff member taking temperatures will use touchless thermometer. (Thermometers will be cleaned per the manufacturer’s recommendations.)

Students, faculty or staff should stay home OR be sent home if any of the following occur:
• Temperature greater than 100.4
• New Cough
• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
• Sore Throat
• GI (vomiting/diarrhea)
• New rash, muscle aches, or headache
• Chills or repeated shaking with chills
• Loss of taste and/or smell
• Exposure to someone who is ill, displaying symptoms, or diagnosed with COVID-19

The student, faculty or staff member will not be permitted to return to school until the student’s health care provider provides documentation indicating it is safe for the student to return to school.

Each campus has signage instructing anyone entering the school property to **NOT ENTER** if they meet any of the criteria listed above.
Designated Isolation Areas

Each campus will have a designated isolation area for sick students. A staff member will provide supervision until the student is picked up by a parent, guardian or designee.

Students with symptoms of infectious disease will not remain with their classmates.

Unless there is a medical reason to prevent it, the ill student will wear a mask until a parent, guardian or designee picks him/her up.

The student will not be permitted to return to school until the student’s health care provider provides documentation indicating it is safe for the student to return to school.

An important component of limiting the impact of COVID-19 in our school system is parents’ vigilance about their child’s health. We want to affirm parental responsibility in monitoring their child’s symptoms and overall health as well as parental discretion in keeping their child at home whenever they are ill.

LCA will monitor student absences for trends or patterns.
Contact Tracing

The applicable local health department will notify LCA of any positive cases of COVID-19. The school will cooperate with the contact tracing investigation by providing information on carpools, classroom cohorts, cafeteria seating charts, etc., that will allow quick identification of those at high risk of infection from the positive COVID-19 student, teacher, or staff member.

LCA will initiate a 14 day quarantine of the at risk individuals. This is the school’s best defense against further spread of the viral illness.

It is important to note, the public health department has used contact tracing for decades to identify a person with a communicable illness, isolate that person, and quarantine others with high-risk exposure to the infected person to prevent disease spread.
School Attendance Policies for COVID-19

As in the past, but now more than ever, we are encouraging families to keep their children home when they are sick or not feeling well (i.e. fever, body aches or chills, sore throat, headache, loss of taste or smell, upset stomach or diarrhea, etc.)

When your child is absent from school due to COVID-19 (or other reasons,) we are asking parents to:

• Contact the campus office by 9:00AM on the day of the absence to inform the school of the student’s diagnosis.

• If absences are due to COVID-19, Parents will be asked to confirm their student’s school activities help with contract tracing.

• The student will not be permitted to return to school until the student’s health care provider provides documentation indicating it is safe for the student to return to school.

Please consult the parent-student handbook for further guidance on make-up work and tests. Contact your campus principal if you have any questions.
Synchronous Learning

Families can choose to either send their child(ren) to campus or keep them at home due to health concerns, where they participate in synchronous learning.

They may elect their instruction preference (on-campus or synchronous learning) at the start of each nine-week period. If medical concerns arise during the middle of a quarter, synchronous learning will be available to that student.

Synchronous learning will be individualized and may look different for each grade level and campus.

This model will include a combination of live instruction along with a live class (via an iPad or computer) as well as teacher-directed learning with individual support.

If your family would like to explore synchronous learning, please email crt@lexingtonchristian.org. Your student’s principal will contact you and discuss the options available.
Campus Closure – Remote Instruction

It is the school’s intention to keep the school campuses open unless excessive absenteeism at either campus warrants closure or government authorities mandate school closure.

Key components of LCA’s remote instruction will be based on best practices which include:

- Continuity in learning
- Instruction and support for social and emotional well-being
- Spiritual growth
- Structure
- Combination of synchronous live instruction and asynchronous instruction through videos, applications, etc.
- Student attendance – each day teachers will confirm attendance of their students by class and/or period

Additional details will be provided should we need to return to remote instruction.