

Lester Coon Adventist School
COVID Safety Plan
2021-2022

We praise God for a successful school year last year in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although several of our families were affected by COVID in one way or another, there was no transmission of COVID here at school, as far as we know. Thank you for being mindful, vigilant, and transparent during this challenging time.

We continue to highlight three advantages that we believe exist here at LCA:

1. Our numbers are small.
2. We spend a lot of time outside.
3. A new coronavirus-killing air filtration system that cleans the air every 30 minutes was added to our HVAC system before school started last year.

Here are some highlights of what follows in the rest of the document:

- We will...
 - Continue to encourage handwashing and other general sanitary measures at school
 - Ask that families continue to keep children at home even for minor illnesses
- We will not...
 - Take temperatures every morning
 - Require masks (although we reserve the right to if conditions change)

These policies are subject to change as CDC and/or conference recommendations change.

INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL LCA STAFF AND FAMILIES

- Promote the development of healthy immune systems
- Be mindful while making personal decisions about social distancing
- Stay home/keep children home when they are sick (even for colds, as symptoms overlap with COVID-19)
- Be transparent about exposures and quarantine when appropriate
- Consider our school community when making travel plans over holidays and vacations

GENERAL PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AT SCHOOL

- A sign with symptom **screening questions** will be posted where parents in the drop-off line can see it: “Dropping students off at school indicates that you can answer NO to all of these questions about your child(ren):
 - Have they been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the past 10 days? (Close contact = within 6 feet for 10 or more minutes)
 - Are they experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, or stomach symptoms?
 - Have they had a fever in the last 48 hours?
 - Have they had new loss of taste or smell?
 - Have they had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?”
- Regular handwashing will be encouraged
- Any student who exhibits symptoms consistent with COVID-19 during the school day will be masked, isolated, and sent home as quickly as possible.

IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS

If you have symptoms of illness, please stay home until one of the following outcomes has happened:

- If a health care provider confirms that the individual’s symptoms are not due to COVID-19 because another explanation was identified (fever due to urinary tract infection, strep throat confirmed by a positive strep test, rash from poison ivy, cough due to diagnosed allergies, etc.), he or she may return to school after appropriate treatment for that diagnosis. [Diagnoses of upper respiratory tract infection (URI), pneumonia, viral illness, etc. DO NOT exclude the diagnosis of COVID-19 and should not be considered an adequate explanation to authorize return to school.]
- If the individual gets a COVID test on day 3, 4, or 5 after onset of symptoms and the result is negative, he or she may return to school 24 hours after being fever free.
- If the individual does not have a COVID test, he or she should stay home from school for 10 days after the onset of symptoms.

When in doubt, please err on the side of staying home.

IN CASE OF EXPOSURE TO COVID-19

The following are guidelines that should apply to most situations; however, specific circumstances may make adjustments necessary. Transparency about exposures and appropriate quarantine measures are necessary to protect our school community.

If...	Then...
If a student or staff member has been exposed to COVID...	<p>...he or she should stay home for 10 days following the exposure.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>An option for coming back a little earlier is to be tested on day 5, 6, or 7 after exposure. If the test is negative, the individual may return on day 8.</p>

IN CASE OF EXPOSURE OF FAMILY MEMBER

If...	Then...
<p>1. If a member of a student or staff member's household* has possibly been exposed to COVID-19, (for example, coming in close contact with someone who then tests positive) but the family member is <u>not showing symptoms</u> ...</p> <p><small>*Household is defined as anyone who lives at the same address. Families who share child custody must be aware of what goes on at the other home.</small></p>	<p>...the student or staff member may return to school, but must wear a mask until after 10 calendar days from time of exposure OR until the household member tests negative for COVID-19.</p>
<p>2. If a member of a student or staff member's household* has possibly been exposed to COVID-19, and the family member <u>IS showing symptoms</u> ...</p>	<p>...the student or staff member should stay home for a minimum of 10 days, OR until the household member tests negative for COVID-19</p>
<p>3. If a member of a student or staff member's household has been diagnosed with COVID-19...</p>	<p>...the student or staff member may not return to school until after he or she has tested negative for COVID-19 or until 10 calendar days have passed from time of exposure.</p>

IN CASE OF INFECTION

<p>If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19—and if they have been to school during the incubation period—...</p>	<p>...he or she must stay home and isolate until they are well and at least 72 hours without symptoms. The minimum isolation will be 10 days, even if they are well.</p> <p>AND (depending on the circumstances of exposure) studies in either the affected LCA classroom or any LCA classrooms will move online for no fewer than 10 calendar days</p> <p>In either case, if all affected students and teachers test negative for COVID-19, school could resume in person sooner than 10 days.</p>
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