

Madera Department of Public Health

Chowchilla Adventist School Updated COVID Plan -- May 2021

The Key Contact person for the local health department for contact tracing:
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Introduction

Chowchilla Adventist School is a small Christian School with a current enrollment of 30 students in grades K-8 with two fulltime teachers and one aide. We are intensely cognizant of the health and safety of our teachers, students, and parents, and have prepared a plan based on the **CPHD COVID-19 INDUSTRY GUIDANCE: Schools and School-Based Programs** and the local health department to minimize the spread of COVID-19. Distance Learning will be available through Zoom for the following reasons:

- In case of local public health guidelines to close schools for a period.
- For students that must be quarantined for whatever reason.
- For teachers that must be quarantined for whatever reason.
- For those who are high risk or feel unsafe to be in person contact.

Due to ever increasing knowledge of the nature of COVID-19 the following guidelines will be updated according to the latest available public health data. Communication with the County Public /Department of Health and the Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be maintained.

CHOWCHILLA ADVENTIST SCHOOL COVID PLANS

Cleaning and Disinfection:

- All frequently touched surfaces such as: door handles, light switches, tables, student desks, phones, keyboards, faucets, sinks, and bathroom surfaces are cleaned daily and intermittently during the day.
- There are adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high touch materials.
- Disposable disinfecting wipes are provided to teachers for use on commonly used surfaces.
- All cleaners used are EPA approved for COVID-19 following product instructions.
- Thorough cleaning is done when students are not present and are aired out before students arrive.
- Any areas that are exposed to a person with COVID-19 symptoms or have been tested positive will be cleaned according to the local health department guidelines.
- The use of drinking fountains is suspended during this time. Students and teachers are encouraged to bring reusable water bottles and a fill station is provided.
- Each child's belongings are separated and in individually labeled cubbies or kept in their personal area.

Cohorting:

- Students are arranged in classroom cohort groups with students and a teacher. They will stay together for instruction time and other activities.
- The cohort class size is 15 students at this time.

Entrance, Egress, and Movement Within the School:

- Upon arrival, students are immediately placed in their cohort groupings.
- Cohorts eat lunch together inside or outside the classroom with appropriate distancing.
- Bathroom usage are limited to one student per bathroom with appropriate spacing marked for waiting.
- Each classroom has an independent door opening to the outside which limits mixing while entering and exiting class.
- There is limited access to the school campus for parents. They must have an appointment and are asked to wait at the front gate for the individual they are to see and will be screened before allowed on campus.
- Outside guests are limited to individuals of agencies providing direct services to our students/teachers and will also be screened before being allowed on campus.

Face Coverings and Other Essential Protective Gear:

Face coverings are worn on campus while indoors and in areas where social distancing alone is not sufficient to prevent disease in accordance with the **CDPH guidelines** unless a person is exempt as stated in the guidelines.

- For children face coverings are required for grades 3-8, and strongly encouraged for K-2nd graders.
- Face coverings are removed for meals, snacks, and/or outdoor recreation.
- Education is provided on proper use, removal, and daily washing of cloth face coverings and frequent reminders not to touch them.
- Face coverings will be provided by the school for teachers and students that do not bring their own.
- The school will require students to stay home and provide distance learning for them if they refuse to wear a face covering unless they are exempt as stated by the DCPH.
- Teachers will wear a face covering unless eating or drinking. An exception may be a face shield can be used instead of a cloth face covering while communicating or assisting young children or those with special needs while in the classroom if social distancing is maintained to the extent practicable.
- All visitors are required to wear face coverings.

Health Screenings for Students and Teachers:

- All parents are asked to monitor their children for COVID-19 symptoms each morning before coming to school consistent with Public Health guidelines.
- Students and teachers are actively screened for symptoms of COVID-19 upon arrival and monitored throughout the day.
- Symptom screening takes place at each car with the parent-- a volunteer will do a temperature check with a no-touch thermometer on each student. This information will be recorded on the daily log. The cleared students will maintain social distancing when going to classrooms.
- If positive symptoms* are demonstrated in the student during the school day, he/she will be escorted to the designated sick room to be kept separated from the other students. The parents will be notified, and the student will be sent home.

***Positive symptoms**

- ✓ Fever 100.4 or greater
- ✓ Cough
- ✓ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- ✓ Chills
- ✓ Repeated shaking with chills
- ✓ Fatigue
- ✓ Muscle pain
- ✓ Headache
- ✓ Sore throat
- ✓ Congestion or runny nose
- ✓ Nausea or vomiting
- ✓ Diarrhea
- ✓ New loss of taste or smell

- The teacher monitoring the sick student before they go home will be wearing appropriate PPE.
- Teachers will also fill out a daily log each morning when coming on campus.
- If a teacher develops positive COVID-19 symptoms during the school day, they will be sent home and the class will be covered by the emergency substitute plan.
- All students and teachers will be assured of no reprisals and the protection of privacy if they are sick.

Health Screenings for Visitors:

- All visitors are required to have their temperature taken and wear a mask. This information will be recorded on a daily log.

Healthy Hygiene Practices:

- Teachers will educate students on how to do proper hand washing with soap and water for 20 seconds after using the bathroom. Paper towels are provided to dry hands after washing.
- Students will be required to use hand sanitizer when entering a classroom, before eating, or after touching commonly used items, or surfaces.
- Hand sanitizer stations are outside each classroom and will be supervised for younger students.

Identification and Tracing of Contacts:

If any teacher or student has a confirmed case of COVID-19, the following plan outlines the steps that will be taken:

- Administration will notify the local health department of any positive case of COVID-19 and the names of the exposed teachers and families.
- A brief interview will take place by Administration to determine a timeline of the symptoms' onset and assess if the student's or teacher's possible exposure was on campus or off campus.
- The student/teacher will be asked to stay home and contact their healthcare provider.
- The sick staff or student will be advised to not return to campus until they have met the CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation, including at least 24 hours with no fever, symptoms have improved, and at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared.
- Administration will collect a list of all students and staff that were in close contact, within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more.
- Administration will contact those that have been exposed while maintaining confidentiality as required by state and federal laws.
- Those that have been exposed will be asked to stay home and not to return to campus until after 14 days of quarantine.

Physical Distancing:

- In the classroom students' desks are arranged 3-6 feet apart or shields are used where the distance is closer and turned to face in the same direction to minimize face-to-face contact.
- The teacher's desk is placed at least 3-6 feet from the student's desks.
- Other campus space such as the gym or outdoors will be utilized for instructional activity where more room is needed to ensure social distancing.
- Furniture is arranged to maintain separation during small group activities when possible.
- Multiple different areas outside will have tables that will be arranged with seating areas marked for cohorts to eat lunch together and still sit at a social distance and not mix with other cohorts.
- All in-person student-related events and gatherings such as: field trips, athletic events, practices, and school-wide parent meetings are minimal and done with masks and appropriate spacing at this time.
- The air conditioning unit fan is on during school hours to aid in air circulation (filters replaced – August 2020). Each classroom has a stand-alone Holmes Air Filter machine turned on during school hours. Some teaching will take place outdoors with social distancing as weather permits.

Staff Training and Family Education:

- The staff has been trained on the application of this COVID safety plan.
- Families have been educated on the application and enforcement of this plan via website and email.
- Families have been provided the link, “Talking with children about Coronavirus Disease 2019.” <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/talking-with-children.html>

Testing of Students and Staff:

- The school will advise students and teachers that have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 to consult their healthcare provider and follow the provider’s instructions for testing according to the current CDPH guidelines.
- Students may also go to the Free testing is available at Madera Fairgrounds by appointment only which can be done online at <https://lhi.care/covidtesting> or by calling [1-800-634-1123](https://lhi.care/covidtesting) for testing. (There are other options for free testing available)
- The school will follow the local Public Health Department’s current recommendations regarding if and how frequently employees should be tested for COVID-19.
- Instructions to students waiting for results to testing will follow CDPH guidelines.

Triggers for Switching to Distance Learning:

In consultation with the Local Health Officer and Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, the school will close in-person training for the following reasons:

- When there are multiple cases in multiple cohorts.
- At least 5 percent of the total number of teachers/students are positive within a 14-day period. Distance learning will continue to be available throughout the year as the need arises.

Communication Plans:

- The school will maintain regular communication through email and/or text to keep teachers and families updated on any changes.
- Students and their parents who have been exposed to COVID-19 will be individually notified by phone or in person. However, the name of the person with COVID-19 will not be revealed.
- If a classroom needs to be closed for cleaning for a 2-day period. The students and parents in that room will be notified. Again, privacy will be protected in accordance with FERPA and HIPPA regulations.
- If it is decided school wide closure is needed for a period of time, teachers, students, and parents will be notified through emails and text.