

Safety Procedures for Campus Reopening Fall 2020-2021

Guiding Principles

The overall aim is to provide students a well- balanced Christian education in a safe environment when returning to in person instruction within the classroom setting. In cooperation with the Washington Conference of Seventh Day Adventists, Washington State Health Department, and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, we are focusing on limiting the spread of COVID-19 while still maintaining our unique focus on educating children spiritually, academically, physically, and emotionally.

Health Education

- Frequent handwashing with soap and water – teachers will be incorporating handwashing more frequently: morning arrival, after any transition, before meals, and as needed in response to coughing or sneezing.
- Use of hand sanitizer – each classroom will have sanitizer that students should be using periodically during the day.
- Reminders to keep hands from touching the face.
- Face Coverings - direct instruction of mask etiquette, and importance of face coverings. Socially distanced mask free breaks outside.
- Personal hygiene – direct instruction on importance of personal cleanliness and how this can relate to the pandemic.

Social Distancing

- We will be providing guidance to students throughout the day to promote social distancing through transitions and within the classroom.
- NCS is minimizing transitions throughout the day to establish classroom cohorts that do not intersect with other classrooms.
- Classrooms will be staggered for recess, lunch will take place in the classrooms.
- Opportunities for students to get outside will be used as much as possible.
- PE will be held outside (weather depending).
- Music classes: Community band and choir will be temporarily suspended until state regulations deem these programs are safe to resume. Strings and music theory will be taught and private music lessons will be available to families as an add-on.
- Field trips will be suspended until deemed safe to resume.
- Large gatherings such as weekly chapel and assembly programs will be suspended until deemed safe to resume.
- The NCS lunch program will resume starting October 6.
- Parents are asked to understand that the implementation of instruction between teacher and student are such that a 6 foot bubble will not always be maintained.

Face Coverings

The WA State Health Department has required that all students and staff wear protective face coverings. This may be in the form of a cloth face mask or a face shield with a strong recommendation favoring cloth face coverings. Shields will be an appropriate accommodation for students and staff members that are not able to use the cloth option.

Student Drop Off and Pick Up

Student drop-off times for Monday-Friday: 8:15-8:45 AM.

NCS has extended the drop-off time to allow for the health check procedures. Please, understand that our school is cooperating with a state-wide mandate and while daily health checks may slow family drop-off procedures; they are mandatory.

Morning Drop Off Preschool/PreK & Kindergarten: Families with children in PS/PK & Kindergarten will drive to the back of the school dropping off at the rear drop site. For families who have children in these grades, as well as a child(ren) in grades 1-8, the rear drop site is still your designated site. Remember, all PS/PK students need to be signed into the program after their health check. If you arrive after 8:45 AM, you will sign your child in at the office and a staff member will walk your child to the classroom. Student pick-up will also take place at the rear entry door in order for you to sign your child out of the program between 3:15-3:30 PM.

Afternoon Pick Up Grades K-8: Families will pick up their children at the same location in the afternoon that they dropped off their children in the morning. PS/PK parents will need to take time to sign their children out of the ECE program. All students will remain in their classrooms. When the student's ride arrives, an NCS staffer will call them to their designated exit point.

Pick up times: Monday – Thursday 3:15-3:30 PM; Friday - 1:00-1:15 PM

Before and After Care Procedures

For morning drop-off, parents will drop off their children at the north door entrance. For afternoon pick-up parents will follow the same procedure at the north door entrance. Parents will need to pre-register for this program as we have had to cap the participation at 15 students. Parents are asked to contact Tammy Ellison to inquire regarding open spots. Parents will need to sign their children in and out of this program daily.

Daily Temperature Checks

Each day students will have their temperature scanned before getting out of their vehicle. If a student has a fever of 100.4 or above they will need to return home and follow the health protocols outlined below.

Visitation Policy

School visitations will be suspended until the health department deems it safe to reintegrate large groups of people. Parents, visitors, church members will not be permitted to enter the building past the welcome center at the main entrance. If you are doing business at the welcome center, all guests will be required to comply with our state's mask mandate.

Health Screening Questions

Students will be asked if they have had any of the following symptoms in the last 72 hours:

- Coughing
- Shortness of Breath
- Sore throat
- Fever of 100.4
- Chills
- Loss of Taste or Smell
- Muscle or Body Aches
- Nausea/Vomiting/Diarrhea
- Congestion/Runny Nose- (not allergies)
- Unusual Fatigue
- Does anyone in your household have any of the above symptoms?
- Has your child been in close contact with anyone with suspected or confirmed Covid-19?
- Has your student had any medication to reduce a fever before coming to school?

Sickness

- Visitors, teachers, staff, or students will not be allowed into the building if they are showing symptoms of COVID-19 or have been in contact with someone who has a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19.
- If a student/staff becomes ill during the day with a temperature above 100.4 F, they will be required to quarantine in the health room and a parent/guardian will need to come pick up their child. Children will not be able to return to the classroom until they are fever/symptom free for 72 hours without medication. We are asking parents to please have emergency contacts ready if you are not able to pick up a sick child in a timely manner.
- If a student/staff has a confirmed case of COVID-19, the local Pierce County Health Department will be notified. In this event, the school will be forced to implement new community protocols as provided by the state.

Returning to School after illness and symptoms of Covid-19

- A staff member or student who has displayed symptoms of Covid-19:
 - At least three days (72 hours) have passed since full recovery – defined as no fever without the use of medications and improvement in respiratory signs like cough and shortness of breath; AND - At least 10 days have passed since signs first showed up. OR • It has been at least three days (72 hours) since recovery AND a health care provider has certified that the student does not have suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- If a person believes they have had close contact to someone with COVID-19, but they are not sick, they should watch their health for signs of fever, cough, shortness of breath, and other COVID-19 symptoms during the 14 days. They should not go to work, child care, school, or public places int those 14 days. (WDOH)

Cleaning

- Our building will continue to be cleaned daily including classrooms.
- All high touch surfaces will be disinfected multiple times per day.
- Each space will be disinfected daily using the Vector Fogging Machine
- Each classroom will have an air purifying system
- Drinking fountains will be closed, students will be encouraged to have a water bottle during the day to stay hydrated.
- Students will also have personal supplies rather than community supplies within the classroom.

Meals

We will begin the year eating in classrooms or outside. As conditions improve, we will move to a staggered lunch time in the cafeteria. Cleaning and disinfecting will take place between groups.

Recess/PE

Students will have time outside during recess and PE. We will work with each classroom to have individual sports equipment – balls, jump ropes, side walk chalk etc.

After-School Programs

Unfortunately, we have had to suspend all afterschool sports and gymnastics programs until further notice. NCS will be maintaining an after-school art and strings program.

Remote Learning Alternative

In the event that NCS is closed by the state for any reason, we will move to our remote learning platforms. This will require students to connect with teachers daily through Seesaw, Google Classroom, and Zoom – our remote learning platforms. Your child will be adapt at using these platforms as NCS teachers will be facilitating instruction through these programs starting the first week of school.

I have read and understand that we need to follow these guidelines in order for our child to participate in school for the 2020-21 year.

Parent Signature

Date