

**Cheswick Christian Academy**  
**Covid Plan for Start of School Year 2020-2021**

**Revised 8/25/20**  
**8/25/20 More Revisions in red**

The safety of our students and staff is the primary goal of this plan.

We will obey all federal, state, and local regulations. We have no authority over what those may be or how/when they may change.

If you read nothing else in this plan, know these 4 things:

1. Masks or face coverings **MUST BE** worn all day every day by all students and teachers, except during lunch or walks outside. (If a medical condition prevents the wearing of a mask, then we request a face shield covering the nose and mouth to be used, unless a medical excuse is produced preventing even that.)
2. Temperatures **WILL BE** taken upon arrival **FOR EVERY STUDENT AND FACULTY MEMBER** at the **TURN-AROUND** of the elementary building.
3. All students must bring a water bottle to school with them to last them the school day. **Mark the bottle with the student's name. For now, any type of water bottle (solid or clear) may be used, but it may only contain water.**  
For the first couple weeks, we will supply water bottles to those who forget. After Labor Day, water bottles will be supplied at a cost of \$1/bottle.
4. Parents must be available for a quick pick up if child begins showing symptoms.

At all times, as much as is possible, we will pursue social distancing, face coverings, and proper hygiene. The face covering can be a mask or shield that covers the nose and mouth.

**Before departing for school:**

Perform a health screening at home. To eliminate the hardship for all involved, we request that each parent do a quick self-screening at home before sending students to school. Take your child's temperature and ask them how they are feeling each day before sending them to school.

**Busing:**

All bus companies within our districts will be busing our students to and from school, even if that district is starting at a different time or doing a hybrid schedule where their own students are not bused.

**Travelling to school:**

If it is possible, to be of assistance to the bus companies, consider driving your child to school. If you decide to do that, please inform the bus company and us.

If travelling by bus, it is of the utmost importance to obey the guidelines put in place by the bus companies, which they should be providing to you. It is likely their procedures will be different than in years past, and everyone must be ready to adjust to these new procedures.

**Arrival at school:**

Each student and staff member must have a temperature check at the **elementary turnaround (high school students will also be checked there)** before entering the building. 100.3 is the maximum allowable temperature. Any student 100.4 or higher must return home. **Elementary students will then enter the elementary building and go directly to his/her classroom. Secondary students will walk around the elem. bldg. to the high school and go directly to his/her homeroom. Do not mingle with others. Only students/staff will be permitted in the building.**

**If a student arrives with a fever, or if a fever/symptoms develop through the day:**

That student will be isolated and then must be picked up immediately. Please list at least 3 contacts who would be able to pick the student up in under an hour on the FAMILY CONTACT INFORMATION AND POLICY CARD which you will receive on the first day of school.

**School day:**

As much as is possible, students will remain in one classroom except for lunch and periodic walks around the neighborhood. For some high school students, their academic choices will dictate that they must have a few occasional class changes. Others may not need to change rooms at all. Teachers will travel to students.

**Dismissal:**

We will stagger dismissal times so that we are able to avoid large crowds and promote social distancing to the best of our ability.

**STUDENTS NOT RIDING BUSES:** All 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students, other than French 3/4/5 students, are done by 2:40 p.m. Elementary students will be done around 3:00 p.m. We would like to dismiss student drivers, walkers, and parent pickups first, before buses arrive. We would have families that involve elementary students leave at 3:00. Families with high school students only should leave by 2:40 p.m.

**Lunch:**

Masks will be removed to eat, but social distance will be maintained.

Elementary students will eat in 2 or 3 different shifts. Per government guidelines, they will be seated all facing the same way and socially distant from each other.

High school students will be eating in their classrooms. The high school students who order lunch for the day will be excused by class around 12:40 p.m. to go through the lunch line to get their lunch, and then return to their classroom to eat.

**High school phys ed:**

We will not do any formal high school phys ed classes right now. We will look to take some walk breaks during the days at times. During walk breaks, masks can be removed if social distance is maintained. Students are expected to wear "walking shoes" daily and outerwear according to weather forecast.

**Elementary phys ed:**

Will occur outside (weather permitting) or inside at their desks and consist of activities that maintain social distance.

**Elementary computer class:**

These will occur in the classroom, possibly using new tablets we are ordering with grant money. The computer lab will be closed.

**Elementary music class:**

We have hired a new music teacher. Music classes will occur in the classroom.

**Elementary art:**

Elementary art class will be held in the classroom, like it has in past years.

**Recess:**

Recess will be staggered so that only one class at a time will have access to that outside area. We have 3 outside areas. Kindergarten will have recess outside the kindergarten classroom, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> will use the playground area, and 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> will use the ball field for recess.

**Elementary toys:**

Classrooms that contain toys will be sanitized as applicable. Individual elementary teachers will elaborate on how this will be handled.

**Illness Guidelines:**

According to DOH & PDE guidelines, please follow this chart:

STUDENT SHOULD STAY HOME if he/she has... One or more symptoms in Group A **OR**  
Two or more symptoms in Group B **OR**  
Is taking fever reducing medication

<b><u>GROUP A</u></b> Fever (100.4 or higher) Cough (consistent) Shortness of breath Difficulty breathing Nausea or Vomiting Diarrhea New lack of smell or taste
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<b><u>GROUP B</u></b> Sore throat Runny nose / congestion Chills Body aches - muscle pain Headache
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- A) If you have covid symptoms, stay home until symptoms are completely gone or until cleared by a physician (either by a negative test or by being diagnosed with a non-covid illness).
  - B) If you have severe enough symptoms to be tested, live as if the test is positive until you hear otherwise: self-quarantine until the test result comes back negative. Additionally, all members of your household should do the same. If your test comes back positive, follow guideline D.
  - C) If you have a direct exposure to a positive case of covid (under 6 feet, unmasked, for more than 15 minutes), live in a similar way as B: self-quarantine for 14 days or until a test result comes back negative, whichever comes first.
  - D) If you have a positive test, stay home until cleared by a doctor.
- Stay home until symptom free for 24 hours.

**Life outside school:**

Please realize that your health-based choices outside school can have a trickle-down effect to anyone in your sphere of influence (family, church, school, etc). Please be mindful of that fact and considerate to others as you make choices that could affect the health of not only yourself, but others. For us to be able to safely deliver in-person instruction 5 days per week, we need everybody to live a healthy lifestyle to help us make that happen.

**Attendance:**

Continue to write excuses within 3 school days of student's return to school for both tardies and absences, as always. Attendance policies that pertain to excused absences are on hold, while attendance policies that pertain to unexcused absences remain the same.

**Homebound students:**

If students become homebound, we will work case-by-case to continue to educate those students while they are at home.

**Hybrid instruction:**

We have no plans at this time to pursue any hybrid plans where students are partially at school and partially at home. The only way we envision that could come into play would be by government mandate.

**Frequently touched surfaces:**

Where possible, we will try to avoid having surfaces be frequently touched (leaving interior doors open, for example). Surfaces that will be frequently touched will be cleaned regularly. We will be encouraging the children to wash their hands frequently and use hand sanitizer periodically throughout the day.

**Lockers:**

We will try to minimize trips to lockers, and when using lockers, only 1 student at a time is permitted in any locker area.

**Bathrooms:**

Bathrooms will be cleaned several times throughout the school day by faculty. Bathrooms have an occupancy limit, so students should limit trips to the bathroom to essential trips only to reduce possible waiting to enter. Obey the posted signs about occupancy.

**Hygiene:**

There are a lot of simple things we can all do to protect our health, whether it is from Covid or anything else. One is to realize that regardless of what we are exposed to, we have an immune system to help us fight disease. A healthy lifestyle helps your immune system function more efficiently. Here are some things that we can all do to make it more likely we can remain healthy:

- Get adequate sleep.
- Eat a healthy diet, high in fruits and vegetables and whole grain.
- Drink an adequate amount of water.
- Exercise regularly.
- Don't smoke, vape, drink alcohol, do drugs, or experiment with any other substances.
- Maintain a healthy weight.
- Take steps to avoid infection, such as washing your hands frequently. Also avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Try to minimize stress – spend some time in prayer.

With Covid in particular, the main recommendations have continually been these main points:

- Maintain social distance, ideally 6 feet or more.
- Wear a mask or other face covering.
- Be aware of hand hygiene.

At school, the staff has set up the physical setup of the building to promote distancing. We just need students to be mindful to maintain that distancing and to remain masked.

On the topic of hand hygiene, students should take responsibility for that. Again, avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth. When moving from one area to another, students should make use of the hand sanitizer in all rooms, either leaving or arriving.

The most important times for hand hygiene are probably at lunchtime and in the bathroom.

- Always wash your hands before eating.
- After using the bathroom, students should always wash their hands and then try to avoid touching anything in the bathroom afterwards – ex. leave the water running until after hands are dried with a paper towel, then turn the water off using the paper towel. When exiting the bathroom, since our doors open out, gently (emphasis on gently) push the door open with your foot or back out to exit.

**Sports:**

Additional policies for sports will be developed when/if sports activities would begin to take place. Flag football was pushed to late September at the earliest. It seems doubtful that any decisions will be made on winter sports (basketball) until after an assessment can be made about the relative success of fall sports.

**Building modifications:**

Desks will be rearranged to promote social distancing. In rooms with tables, we will leave empty seats and/or use plexiglass barriers.

**Hallways:**

On the very limited times when a few students might need to move to different classes in the high school, obey the “up” and “down” stairs signs to create one-way traffic. In the elementary school, obey teacher instructions to have one-way traffic.

This plan remains fluid at this time. We might make changes to our plan and policies as the year unfolds.