

Be strong and courageous.

NCS Campus Re-Entry Plan 2020-2021

Dear NCS Family,

We are so excited as we plan for this fall and look forward to being back on campus for all K - 12th grade classes and activities. We have implemented new guidelines to keep our students, staff, and community as safe as possible based on the most current CDC guidelines and extensive research. We are making updates to our facilities and have created strategies that will allow us to respond and adjust quickly regardless of the challenges that may arise. We are so thankful for all the hard work and dedication our faculty and staff have put in to ensure we have a great year of learning.

It is impossible to know exactly what lies ahead, but as this year's theme verse states in Joshua 1:9, we will ***"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."*** We feel confident that as a community we will rise to meet any challenges and fulfill our mission to be a Christian, authentic, dynamic school equipping students to be global leaders. Our plan will be fluid, but we want you to know that we will always prioritize your student's full educational experience. Your support has been incredible, and we appreciate the opportunity to serve your family. We can't wait to see you again!

Connie Jo Shelton
President
Nashville Christian School



NASHVILLE
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

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[RETURN TO CAMPUS]

We are dedicated to ensuring the safety of all who set foot on the NCS campus, and hope to alleviate concerns by sharing our commitment and plans with you.

NORMAL (LEVEL I): Back to School as Normal with pre-pandemic routines for classes, athletics, cleaning/disinfecting, meeting, etc.

CAUTIONARY (LEVEL II): Increased cleaning, social distancing and screening practices, adjusted learning plan with accommodations for families forced to quarantine

STRICTLY ONLINE (LEVEL III): Distance Learning

[ACADEMIC CALENDAR : FIRST SEMESTER]

We will begin school as planned starting August 12th for grades 9-12 and August 13th for grades K-8. We also intend to observe the Labor Day Holiday and keep Fall Break as scheduled. We have expanded our registration over several days to help with social distancing and have made a couple of additional updates to the fall semester calendar to allow some flexibility. Please pay careful attention to the dates below:

AUGUST 3 | New Family Registration

AUGUST 4 - 7 | Staggered Registration

AUGUST 12 | Grades 9-12 First Day of School (Full Day)

AUGUST 13 | Grades K-8 First Day of School (½ Day)

AUGUST 14 | First Full Day of School for all K-12 Students

OCTOBER 23 | Full Day of School (previously scheduled as a parent conference day)

NOVEMBER 2 | Full Day of School (previously closed for Christian School In-Service)

NOVEMBER 24 | Full Day of School (originally a ½ day for Praise and Thanksgiving Service)

Our planned end date for the 2020-2021 school year is May 26, 2021, though we may face unforeseen circumstances that will require us to be flexible and make adjustments to the calendar.

[NCS COMMITMENT]

- Create a safe and healthy environment for all students, faculty, staff and visitors
- Prioritize our students' full educational experience with high quality instruction and commitment to our school's mission
- Comply with recommendations and guidelines from the CDC and TN Department of Education
- Consistently review our plans and policies and survey constituents to learn how we can best support them

[THE SCHOOL DAY]

ARRIVAL

After completing the AUXS screening, we encourage you to drop off your students between 7:15am and 7:45am, and they will report directly to their classrooms. If you must drop off between 7:00am and 7:15am, students will report to the following areas: K-5 to the MPR, 6-8 to the Lower School Library, and 9-12 to the High School Gym. **No guests or parents will be permitted to enter the building with students.**

BREAKFAST/LUNCH/HS BREAKS

Breakfast, lunch and high school breaks will still be served. Lunch and break will be served on a staggered schedule. Students will be seated with social distancing, and may be permitted to eat in areas other than the MPR (classrooms, outside at picnic tables, commons area, etc.). No lunch guests will be allowed until further notice.

CHAPEL, SMALL GROUPS, CLUBS

Our commitment to help students grow in the Christian faith will always be a vital part of our mission and vision. We are working creatively with principals and our campus minister to create opportunities to share God's word, fellowship together, and grow in our relationships with God and each other while still following the safety guidelines. This will include some small group meetings, video chapels shared in classrooms and social distancing.

DISMISSAL

- Middle school and high school athletes will be dismissed first.
- Elementary students and middle school and high school car riders will stay in classrooms until called.
- Student drivers will be dismissed at 3:00pm.
- After elementary and middle school car riders have been dismissed, after care students will be dismissed.

ATHLETICS

The full athletic plan is still being developed in cooperation with the TSSAA and NFHS. Athletic events may include shortened schedules, attendance limits, and social distancing. We will keep you informed as plans develop.

AFTER CARE

After care will still be available for all students until 6:00pm using multiple spaces, and social distancing.

KEYS TO MAINTAINING A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Temperature Checks/Screening Questions

- Nashville Christian has purchased the AUXS Safety App Screening Tool. Students, faculty and staff will log in to the app each morning before coming into school to:
 - » Input student temperatures
 - » Answer basic screening questions
- AUXS will evaluate each user's risk and provide clear protocols.
- We will conduct random temperature checks as an additional precaution. NCS will work with any student or staff member deemed ineligible to come to campus and develop a "return to campus" plan.

Air Purification - NCS is installing ionization packages to all of our HVAC systems throughout campus. This essentially ionizes harmful air particles so that they can be filtered out of the ventilation system.

Hand Sanitizing Stations - We are installing 40 new hand-sanitizing stations around campus.

Electrostatic/ULV Fogging - This process disinfects surfaces in spaces like playgrounds, dining areas, weight rooms, locker rooms, gyms, classrooms, etc.

Face Coverings

- All faculty, staff, and 6th - 12th grade students will be required to wear face coverings while in community spaces such as hallways, the multipurpose room, the high school commons area, and traveling between classes, including outdoors, and in class when social distancing is not possible.
- Student face coverings may be removed once students are seated at their desk or while eating lunch.
- All faculty will wear face coverings or a clear face shield while teaching.
- 6th - 12th grade students may be required to wear a mask if working closely with a faculty member or within a small group setting.
- NCS-branded or solid-colored face coverings are required.
- The AUXS app has specific guidelines available on their app for the proper wearing, cleaning and storing of face coverings.

Daily Disinfecting of all teacher and student work spaces.

Increased Sanitation for all after-school events and programs.

Signage - We have purchased signage for our campus to remind everyone where masks are required, room capacity numbers, spacing indicators, etc.



[NCS COMMUNITY COMMITMENTS]

UNITY : Everyone in the NCS family is expected to work together to comply with all the measures being taken to keep our campus safe. (AUXS screening, face coverings, social distancing, cleaning, etc.) ***We are NC!***

HEALTH SCREENING : Complete AUXS screening each morning before coming to campus using the AUXS app.

SOCIAL DISTANCING : Practice social distancing and modify group sizes as necessary.

FACE COVERING : Wear face covering while changing classes, in community spaces, and when social distancing is not possible.

CLEANING AND SANITIZING : Increase sanitizing and cleaning procedures.

GUESTS : Limit campus access for parents, visitors and vendors.

[EMOTIONAL HEALTH]

With all of the changes to school and life in general, students may feel more stressed, isolated and fatigued than usual. They need emotional support as they work through the many challenges ahead and their feelings about what is happening around them. Our faculty, counselors, coaches and campus minister are committed to partnering with you in supporting the social/emotional health of our students. Here are some things you can do:

- Ask how they are feeling, and provide them opportunities and a safe space to ask questions and express their feelings without judgment.
- Answer questions that are asked without giving an overwhelming amount of additional information.
- Monitor how much media you and your kids are exposed to. Turn off the TV around younger children. Keep informed, but take mental breaks and avoid overconsumption of information.
- Maintain a routine at home to promote stability.
- Reassure them that their parents, teachers, coaches, ministers and other adults in their lives are there to support them and ensure their safety.
- Pray together. Let God be the source of your comfort and strength. Philippians 4:6-7 promises, *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*
- Reach out to our counselors, campus minister, teachers, and coaches. You don’t have to do this alone!

[PRIORITIZING STUDENT SUCCESS]

ACADEMICS

As we begin a new year on campus, the administrative team is working hard to make all of the necessary changes to the physical classroom to provide a safe environment for our students while continuing to offer excellent academic instruction and maintain student progress. We believe that learning is strengthened by the personal interaction between teachers and students. As recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the CDC, and the National Christian Schools Association, we believe all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present at school. However, during the 2020-2021 school year, if we need to transition to distance learning, our teachers are committed to once again providing a comprehensive learning experience to keep students engaged and moving forward academically.

- For students who are absent due to illness, distance learning will be an option whenever the student feels well enough to engage virtually.
- Teachers will be available to provide academic support if a student is unable to attend class in person due to illness.
- Our campus and faculty are equipped for online learning, should it become necessary.
- Students will not share any school supplies. Most supplies are provided by NCS, but if you need help with those few items you are responsible for, contact Ryan McClary at mccclary@nashvillechristian.org.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- All classrooms on campus will use mandatory seating charts to limit exposure.
- Students will sit in the same desks in each of their classes every day. Desks will remain staggered in arrangement and stationary.
- Students will be grouped into cohorts as much as possible. Cohorts allow for a small group of students to be quarantined when there is a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- All 6th - 12th grade students will be required to wear a face covering when entering school and moving between classes, in all community spaces, and when social distancing is not possible.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Should students be required to miss school due to illness or exposure to illness, all instruction will be delivered to students through the distance learning platform. Using the AUXS app, the administration will coordinate with parents and the school nurse to determine the safest re-entry date for the student. Absences incurred during a quarantine or mandated absences will not count against the total absences for students. As long as the student is working in the digital platform, they will not be counted as absent.

[COVID-19 PROTOCOLS]

ESTABLISHMENT FOR COVID-19 PROTOCOL :

Nashville Christian School refers to CDC guidelines in terms of pandemic planning, practices, and preparedness unless contacted with direct or specific directions or instructions by a local health department or agency (e.g. contact tracing, etc.)

HIPAA COMPLIANCE RELATING TO COVID-19 COMMUNICATION :

Nashville Christian School will comply with HIPAA regulations regarding communication of an individual's identity by utilizing general descriptors within its school community (e.g. faculty, parents, students, etc.) or ask for permission to specifically identify an individual when communicating direct COVID-19 exposure or contact risks.

COVID-LIKE SYMPTOMS OR POSITIVE TEST :

There is a plan to respond to anyone with COVID-like symptoms and/or a positive test. This may include self-isolation, quarantine, or contacting a healthcare provider or a recommended test facility for COVID testing. Using the AUXS app, our health services staff will work with your family to develop a "return to campus" plan.

PLANNING FOR START OF SCHOOL :

Nashville Christian School recommends all faculty and student families follow a 14-Day Pre-Return Plan observing the guidelines and procedures of limiting to essential needs travel only, wearing face masks, practicing social distancing, and screening of temperature and respiratory symptoms within the 14-day window prior to the start of school.

GUIDELINE FOR MANDATORY QUARANTINE :

If a faculty member or student tests positive for COVID-19, an individual will need to quarantine if they were in close contact as defined by the CDC as less than six feet for more than fifteen minutes. In this scenario, not every individual may require quarantine; however, any individual that had close contact would be expected to self-isolate. In this situation, faculty may be able to work remotely and students may be able to continue their schooling through online learning.

QUESTIONS :

If you have specific questions, please contact one of your student's administrators:

- **Grades K-5** | Lauren Brasel, *Elementary Principal*: brasell@nashvillechristian.org
- **Grades 6-8** | Anissa Demonbreun, *Middle School Principal*: demonbreuna@nashvillechristian.org
- **Grades 9-12** | Brian Bishop, *High School Principal*: bishopb@nashvillechristian.org

