



Santa Clarita Christian School

A Ministry of



COVID-19 Health and Safety Notice and Protocols

Dear SCCS Family and Community,

Our theme for this coming year is *“Excel still more!”* It comes from 1 Thessalonians 4:1, which reads:

“Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us instruction as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.”

With God doing such amazing things in and through SCCS, our desire is to not only appreciate the goodness and greatness of God, but to purposefully *excel still more* in our faith, hope, and boldness in living for Him in a world that desperately needs Jesus!

In light of this, the following notice and guidelines are given in an effort to ensure we are not only striving to have another great year, but an even better year in regard to on campus operations that are uninterrupted by health and legal challenges. In order to accomplish this, we ask that every person in the SCCS community seek to excel still more in their vigilant partnership and support of keeping our mission moving forward.

Therefore, please read the below protocols carefully and reach out with any questions or concerns about any of the details. Our desire is for everyone to be informed and unified in our complete trust in God’s sovereign care, while also taking the steps necessary to do our part for the benefit of all. This will require both diligence and grace—two things that a Christian community ought to be known for, and the SCCS family has demonstrated with excellence this past year.

Please note that SCCS has no COVID-19 vaccination requirements for staff, students, parents, or volunteers. However, new CDC guidance states that those who are vaccinated no longer need to quarantine when exposed to an individual who is or has tested positive for COVID-19. Please know that SCCS fully supports your convictions on these matters and trusts the Lord to guide our efforts.

For Him,

Dr. Mark Wilson | Administrator

“All things are possible with God.” – Mark 10:27

STEP ONE: FACILITY PREPARATION & CLEANING

To prepare for the return of students, the following measures have been put into place:

Hand-washing/sanitizing stations - Each classroom and campus office is equipped with a hand-sanitizing station for regular use by staff, students, and campus guests to sanitize their hands when entering a room on campus. In addition, every floor of each building has easy access to a hand-washing station.

Facility cleaning - Teachers and Aides will be equipped for sanitizing desks during the school day during scheduled breaking points (recess, lunch). Additional facility cleaning will take place every evening for sanitization of each classroom, office, and common area.

Water fountains - Shared water fountains will only be available during specific times. Staff and students should plan to bring personal refillable water bottles.

Walkways - Where and when appropriate, signs will be installed directing students and guests as to specific traffic patterns on campus.

STEP TWO: CAMPUSWIDE HYGIENE PROTOCOLS

Our goal is to provide a safe and healthy learning environment. Thus, we will follow the guidance of state and local agencies to enact measures which will prevent and slow the spread of any communicable viruses. These measures include:

Frequent hand washing - Teachers will instruct and encourage younger students on proper handwashing, including the use of soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Students will be encouraged to wash their hands throughout the day, especially before and after recesses.

Staggered dismissal times - To avoid overcrowding at handwashing stations and other areas, dismissal times for lunch and break are staggered.

Hand sanitizing - Upon entry and exit of each classroom, students are encouraged to make use of hand sanitizing stations.

Limit shared materials - In classrooms, teachers will limit the sharing of objects and supplies. Students will need to have their own classroom supplies, such as crayons, pens, pencils, markers, scissors, etc.

Altered schedules - Schedules and events may be altered to allow for more social distancing.

Temperature check & wellness screening - Each staff member, student, and campus visitor will be subject to occasional non-contact temperature checks and a visual wellness check.

Notice & Release – All parents, by enrolling their child(ren) in SCCS promise to the school that they will keep children home when they demonstrate certain identified symptoms. In addition, they acknowledge the risk associated with COVID-19 and potential exposure in the campus setting. The *symptoms that may require removal from campus* are:

- Fever above 100.0 F or chills
- Persistent cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Protocol for failed tests - Any student, employee or volunteer who does not pass an initial screening test will be given a secondary screening by the school nurse or other trained personnel. Anyone with a fever of 100.0 or higher, a persistent cough or other COVID-19 symptoms will be asked to stay home until symptom-free for 24 hours.

Guests –Access to campus may be limited at times to essential school volunteers (i.e. classroom, recess, or campus volunteers), who will be subject to temperature checks and wellness screenings. Facial coverings are made available in every classroom and office area.

STEP THREE: ENTRY TO CAMPUS

In an effort to maintain a safe and healthy environment, the following measures are adopted to ensure the wellness of all persons and proactively limit risk of exposure:

Hot Lunch - Hot Lunch will take measures to serve more individually wrapped items as well as limit the handing of items by staff and students.

Campus-specific plans - We will utilize various physical distancing plans when necessary during group gatherings, as well as chapel and assembly events.

Off-campus lunches – Students are prohibited from going off-campus for lunch. They must bring their lunch, have it delivered to the front office, or order lunch from the SCCS lunch room.

Face coverings – SCCS supports the authority of the parents to make the decision regarding face coverings. The wearing of face coverings will not be enforced by SCCS. However, masks and other PPE will be available for all who request throughout campus.

Play - Students will be allowed to enjoy the use of playground equipment, toys and balls, which will be regularly disinfected. Hand-sanitizing will be required at the conclusion of recess.

STEP FOUR: STUDENT LEARNING & STUDENT LIFE

At the heart of any school and discipleship program is the dynamic interaction that occurs between students and teachers. To balance the effective learning, interaction, and safety for every student during this time, the following measures will be taken:

Set-up - Each classroom and learning space will be configured to ensure physical distancing according to the number of students and square footage of the classroom.

Chapel – As a church ministry, corporate worship is essential and will happen weekly with the student body and staff. This will take place corporately, as well as at times in the form of small group sessions, outdoor chapels, and classroom worship experiences.

STEP FIVE: FACE COVERINGS

Teacher guidelines - Teachers will be given the freedom to determine the use of PPE in the classroom and may encourage and enforce stricter guidelines in their classroom when they consider it necessary.

Masks – Students will wear masks under the authority of their parents and when asked by a school employee. If a student is unwilling to wear a face covering when requested by a staff member, the student will be sent home until a meeting with the parents can occur following the cessation of symptoms that initiated the request. In addition, similar to dress code guidelines, masks worn must be solid colors or patterns. No images or messages.

Teachers - Teachers may wear masks or shields whenever distancing is not possible.

Lunch and recess - Face coverings will not be required during lunch or recess.

Differences of opinion - The issue of face coverings and masks can be divisive for a community. We hope that the above guidelines allow for a safe experience of teaching and learning and that all members of our community will respect others on this matter and act accordingly.

It is acknowledged by each employee as well as by each partnering family that entering the SCCS campus carries the risk of exposure to COVID and other infectious diseases. The decision to enroll your child assumes the responsibility and consequences of this potential and it is agreed that Santa Clarita Christian School will not be held responsible for exposure or contraction of COVID.

STEP SIX: POSITIVE TEST PROTOCOLS

If a staff member or student tests positive for COVID-19, the following steps will be taken:

Off campus - Any person testing positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine at home for at least ten days (as determined by local health officials) and remain off campus until symptoms are no longer present for 24 hours.

Quarantines and siblings - Family members (siblings, parents, children) of those who test positive for COVID-19 will be asked to self-quarantine and monitor themselves for possible symptoms unless vaccinated. Notification should be done at your soonest opportunity.

Privacy - The privacy of all persons who test positive for the virus will be maintained in accordance with Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requirements.

Contact tracing - Any person in close proximity to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be notified of possible exposure and instructed to self-monitor for symptoms.

Possible closure - A positive test may result in a class and/or campus closure up to five days in length, allowing health officials to determine the actual impact/exposure. Closure is not at the sole discretion of our administration but will be enacted in cooperation with the SCBC Elder Board, SCCS Committee, and local health officials (Los Angeles County Department of Health). The breadth (number of students) and length (number of days) of closures will depend on the safety measures that were in place at the time of the transmission of the virus as well as the social interaction that took place between the positive student and others.

COVID-19 NOTICE AND RELEASE

Santa Clarita Christian School ("SCCS") is hereby providing notice there are risks which may be encountered as a result of attending "SCCS". Participating in this program may result in the exposure to certain risks including exposure to coronavirus (COVID-19), or other biological agents, virus or similar bacteriological agents, and the risk of illness that may result in medical care, hospitalization, or death.

Therefore, families entering campus affirm that any legal representatives, heirs and assigns, hereby release, waive, and discharge Santa Clarita Christian School, its officers, directors, employees, agents, and representatives from any and all liability for any and all loss or damage, and any claim or damages resulting therefrom, on account of any injury, illness or exposure to and/or contracting the corona virus (COVID-19) or other biological agents, virus or similar bacteriological agent by the voluntary participation in Santa Clarita Christian School's educational program, including any medical expenses, injury, and/or death.