

# MITIGATING THE IMPACT: COVID-19 HEALTH OF THE CAMPUS (Cary Christian School)

## Three Academic Scenarios

Cary Christian School will operate either in a Ready and Alert, Social Distancing, or Remote Learning Posture. This chart offers a quick glance at the protocols for each posture.			
Protocol for each academic posture	Posture of Ready and Alert	Posture of Social Distancing	Posture of Remote Learning
<b>Temp. Checks</b>	When Appropriate	Anytime you enter the building	Anytime you enter the building
<b>Gaiters</b>	<b>Upper School:</b> Anytime you are in the hall or when deemed appropriate  <b>Lower School:</b> In high traffic places (e.g., carpool, hallways, and lining up)	<b>Upper School:</b> Anytime you are in the building or when you cannot social distance  <b>Lower School:</b> In high traffic places (e.g., carpool, hallways, and lining up), may be lowered when seated in the classroom	
<b>Spacing in Classrooms</b>	<b>Upper School:</b> 5 feet between each desk  <b>Lower School:</b> 4 feet between each desk  A few students, with approval from parents, will be 3 feet apart.	All Desks: 6 feet apart	Not Relevant
<b>Remote Learning (Live-Stream and Recording)</b>	Available by request	<b>Upper School:</b> Students will be divided into 5 groups. Each group will rotate and remote learn 1 time per week.  <b>Lower School:</b> Students will be divided into 3 groups. Each group will rotate and remote learn 5 times in a three-week period.	All Students will Learn Remotely
		Community Support when needed is available upon request	Community Support when needed is available upon request
<b>Non-Essential Visitors</b>	Discouraged. Call, and someone will meet you at the door to assist you.	Not allowed. Call and someone will meet you at the door to assist you.	Not allowed. Call and someone will meet you at the door to assist you.

\* Protocols may change periodically depending on success of particular measures, health in the community, guidance from health professionals, etc.



The state of North Carolina is currently in a posture of Social Distancing. We are waiting for the Governor to move forward and loosen protocols. On July 28, we will announce our plan.

COVID-19 is a serious disease that has ended over 1,300 lives in our state since March. New treatments and a vaccine will help. At the same time, we should prepare ourselves for the strong possibility that COVID-19 will continue to be a part of our lives. Thus, just like we have with the flu and other serious diseases, we need to accept our responsibility and adapt our protocols so that we can return to the tasks and joys of our community. We cannot remove all the risks, but we can leverage our unique strengths to develop policies that are right for us.

We also understand that reasonable Christian adults disagree on practices related to COVID-19. We respect this. We understand that for some this may not be the time to return to campus. We are installing state of the art cameras in every Upper School room and in one class per grade in the Lower School. ***This allows us to offer a strategic remote learning experience. Your teacher will explain the details for how his or class will operate. You will have the opportunity to learn through either a live-stream or a recorded class.*** We are using the Microsoft Teams platform. If you would like to make a shift, reach out to [COVID-19@carychristianschool.org](mailto:COVID-19@carychristianschool.org) and the school will assist you in the process.

It is our responsibility to develop an approach that accomplishes the following:

- Demonstrate respect for our governing authorities.
- Balance the need for children to be in school with the challenges of this disease.
- Partner well with our parents.

The administration of Cary Christian School is excited to share our plans for how we will operate if we are in a posture of social distancing or if our whole school re-enters a posture of remote learning. We still believe that is unlikely that we will operate as a school remotely.

### **Explanation of our posture for Social Distancing**

#### **Lower School:**

- Up to 15 students will be present in the classroom with 6 feet of space between students. On a rotation, a small group of students remain at home to watch class via a live stream. In a 3-week block, students will be present in the classroom each day with the exception of 5 days of at-home where they will learn through live streaming.
- Childcare (K-6<sup>th</sup> grade) will be provided at no charge on campus Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. for those who need it. We encourage our families to stay home on their live streaming days unless there is a need for supervision.
- After school care will still be provided under our Social Distancing posture. All typical fees apply.



### **Upper School:**

Up to 20 students will be present in the classroom with 6 feet of space between students. On a rotation, a small group of students will be asked to watch class from home via a live stream, or a recorded lesson. Students will be present in the classroom 4 days each week with 1 day of at-home live streaming to enable all students to be at school as much as possible. Rhetoric School students will continue to follow their A-day, B-Day Block Schedule on both their in-person and their at-home live stream days.

We hope you enjoyed the video outlining our mask protocols and the beautiful picture of our students back in our classrooms. As you heard Mrs. McDonald say, Upper School students will start the school year wearing masks; as Mrs. Smyrski stated, Lower School students will be required to wear masks in high traffic areas. Below we expound more precisely on how our mask protocols will develop throughout the year.

A few notes to explain the attached chart:

1. The phrase “when appropriate” means that when there is no spread in the community, the administration in consultation with our healthcare panel will not check temperatures. If we can consistently operate without COVID-19, then we will loosen mask protocols as well. Even if we are in a posture of Ready and Alert, families should expect that Upper School Student will wear masks when the school year begins.
2. The American Academy of Pediatrics states when possible, spacing desks 3 to 6 feet apart and using cohort classes and outdoor space is recommended. Our policy exceeds the states expectation that desks can be less than 6 feet apart when facing the same direction.
3. We are developing mask protocols that balance the recommendations of health professionals, the nature of the school day, and abilities of young children.
4. If we are in a posture of Social Distancing or Remote Learning, our community is prepared to offer support for those who need it. Just as we served those who need to stay home during Ready and Alert, we want to serve those who need to stay on campus during Social Distancing and Remote Learning.

