



OUTDOOR CONNECT CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

“BEYOND ACADEMICS”

8692 Echo Drive. La Mesa Ca. 91941
619-867-5133 office@occa.education

COVID-19 re-opening Letter

August 10, 2020

Dear OCCA Families,

It is our hope and prayer that you are having a great summer with your children. We are very grateful for your support during the last school year. Although many things are changing because of COVID-19, our goals and core values remain the same.

Our school applied for the new COVID-19 Waiver for Elementary Schools TK-6 and will wait for processing between 14-20 working days. In the meantime, we are planning to start the school year as planned in August 24 via homeschool and virtual support program offering tuition discounts.

Once waiver is granted to our school, we plan to have an in-person school year with all health and safety precautions in place for our returning and new students. However, we recognize that different families are on different spectrums of their comfort level with the safety issues regarding COVID-19. For that reason, any parent or student who does not feel ready to return to the in-person school, arrangement will be accommodated in the homeschool and virtual support program mentioned above. Keep in mind that if we are required by law to go back to distance learning, we will continue with the same homeschool and virtual support program. This way, students and parents are familiar with the transition and know curriculum procedures.

Plan A: Homeschool and Virtual Support program TK-12	Plan B: In-person TK-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive Christian Curriculum (3-day, or 5 –day plan) • Arts and Spanish Electives (middle and high school) • Receive Teaching Assistance • Access to daily lessons in school’s website at any time • Weekly outdoor activity plan • Ability to accommodate to home needs and schedule • Live assistance using swivl robot and zoom (times vary to grade level). <p>*Instruction and academic load will vary to grade level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christian Curriculum • Outdoor setting • Extracurricular activities: Planting, STEM, music, Art, entrepreneurship, and Spanish <p>Full time: 5-day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday- Thursday: 8 am-3 pm • Friday: 8:00 am- 12:00 pm <p>Homeschool combination: 3-day school days</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 am-3:00 pm

Re-opening plan In-person

Sick teacher, staff, or student:

In accordance with California Department of Public Health guidance, when a student, teacher, or staff member or a member of their household tests positive for COVID-19 and has exposed others at the school, we will implement the following steps:

1. In consultation with the local public health officials, our Administration will consider whether an entire school closure is necessary and the length of time of closure will be based on the risk level within the specific community as determined by a local public health officer.
2. In accordance with Federal, State and local guidance for isolation at home after close contact, the classroom or office where the COVID-19-positive individual was based will need to close temporarily for disinfection and cleaning.
3. Any person(s) having contacted a known COVID-19-positive individual at our campus will also be asked to isolate at home.
4. Areas of the school visited by the COVID-19-positive individual may need to be closed temporarily for cleaning and disinfection.
5. We will address any academic needs at this time and assess what changes, if any, need to be made.

Protocol for parents

Outdoor Connect Christian Academy will adhere to strict health and safety guidelines issued by the Federal Government, State Government, local government and recommendations from the Southeastern California Conference. These laws and guidelines will apply to all parents, teachers, students and adults attending and working on the campus.

Parents will be expected to check the temperature of their child before bringing their child to the campus and to confirm student wellness before leaving home. Parents are expected to NOT bring their child to school should they have a fever. Strict cooperation with the following is required by the State of California:

1. In-home temperature check. (To be done by parent at home)
2. Temperature check when a student arrives at school. (To be conducted by school staff)

3. Mandatory student pick up if a high temperature is detected in student or other symptoms or illness issues (Parent or designated adult will pick child up from school)

We will inform parents of sick students that students are NOT to return until they have met Federal, State and Local laws and guidelines about ceasing home isolation.

Outdoor Connect Christian Academy Protocol

Before School for Students:

Our staff will interact with students arriving on campus in symptom screening, visual wellness checks and no-touch thermometer temperature checks. Screening will include verbal completion of a questionnaire with questions regarding fever in the last 24 hours, cough or shortness of breath that is getting worse in last 7 days, having fever, sore throat, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, change in taste or smell, or having been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 14 days. Students with temperatures at or above 100.4 degrees will not be admitted unto campus.

During School for Students:

Masks are required when arriving to school, while on school grounds and when leaving campus. Every attempt will be made to keep our students 3 to 6 feet apart while on campus. Where we are not able to keep our students 3 to 6 feet apart, masks will be worn and/or dividers will be utilized.

STUDENTS

Age	Face covering requirement
4 yrs. of old - 2 nd Grade	Strongly encouraged
3 rd - 6 th	Yes! Unless expemt

1. Keep in mind that we are a micro- school, activities take outdoors, and the limit of students is 12; which makes social distance more feasible. Regular indoor classroom will be used mostly for transitions, bathroom, or severe weather. Indoor classroom will be used implementing required health and safety protocol. To minimize contact with surfaces students will keep all their school supplies, books, toys, soup, tissues, and their own science and gardening equipment contained in their assigned working area and

portable cubbies. Implementation of stationary and portable washing stations.

Students who develop symptoms of illness while at school will be immediately separated from others right away and moved to an isolated area through which others do not enter or pass. If more than one student is in the isolation area, we will ensure physical distancing.

Any students or staff exhibiting symptoms will be required to immediately wear a face covering and wait in an isolation area until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility. Students will remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult.

Health Protocols for Staff:

According to Center for Disease Control criteria, staff members are expected to wear masks always. Teachers may utilize face shields. We will follow established guidelines for triaging students in the health area of the campus, recognizing not all symptoms are COVID-19 related. All our staff will be required to have their temperature taken upon arrival to campus, prior to starting their work duties.

Periodic wellness checks will be conducted on the children as well as the staff. Staff members who develop symptoms of illness will be sent home or to a medical care facility. The teachers will have emergency substitute plans in place. Staff members who are ill will be advised not to return until they have met Center for Disease Control criteria, along with any local laws and regulation to discontinue home isolation.

Health Protocols for both Students and Staff:

In addition to screen and temperature checks, students and staff will be expected to wash their hands upon arrival at school, and regularly wash or use the hand sanitizer on their hands throughout the day following the routines set up by each teacher and or the administration. Implementation of stationary and portable washing stations. Teachers will wear Face Shields during group and individual instruction.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PROTOCOLS

The following procedures and protocols have been put in place for implementation regarding arrival and departure from school on a regular day:

Elementary TK-6

1. Arrival at School: When students arrive at school, students are to go to the front gate of the outdoor classroom area where their temperature will be checked. If they don't have a fever, students will be directed to their assigned spot where they will remain with other students under the supervision of a teacher (6 feet apart). If the student has a fever (temperature at or above 100.4o F or 38o C), he or she will need to leave campus immediately. Parents must wait to see that their children are cleared before driving off.

2. End of the Day: Students must remain in the outdoor classroom area until the teacher is alerted that their ride has arrived. Then they may leave. Students must remain on school grounds practicing distancing guidelines and wearing masks until their ride arrives.

3. All students must leave campus by 3:15 pm. No students will be expected to be on campus after 3:15 PM.

4. Congregating: Students are not to congregate in any location outdoors, and they must maintain the 6-foot distancing guideline and use a face mask at all times.

WHAT ELSE WILL BE DONE TO KEEP THE CAMPUS SAFE FOR MY CHILD?

1. We will discourage sharing of instructional items that are difficult to clean or disinfect.
2. We will try to keep each child's belongings separated and in designated and individual storage areas.
3. We suggest families purchase a refillable water bottle and label it with their child's name.
4. LUNCH TIME Lunch will be eaten outdoors 6 feet apart. All students must bring their own lunch.

5. PLAYGROUNDS AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

- We will provide filling stations to encourage the use of reusable water bottles.
- We will limit use of shared playground equipment and engage in physical activities that require less contact with surfaces.
- We will be limiting the number of students using playground or equipment
- We are suspending use of drinking fountains and instead encourage the use of reusable water bottles.

CLEANING AND SANITATION

2. We will have a daily, upgraded and organized cleaning and disinfecting protocol. This will include frequent cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces following guidance from the Center for Disease Control criteria, along with any local laws and regulations.
3. We will acquire adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high-touch materials and objects and to the extent possible, limit the sharing of art supplies, books, learning aids, electronic devices, toys, and games, but where allowed, we will disinfect between use and have students wash hands before and after use.
4. We will disinfect surfaces between uses, such as: desks, tables, chairs, dividers, keyboards, etc.
5. We will disinfect frequently touched surfaces that include but are not limited to door handles and light switches
6. Classrooms, bathroom, halls, play equipment, and door handles will be cleaned and sanitized every day.
7. Implementation of stationary and portable washing stations

FIELD TRIPS

Tentative plans for activities and trips beginning in 2021 may begin, but no monetary deposits or payments are to be made unless full refunds are possible.

SUMMARY:

- A deep cleaning and regimented cleaning protocol will be implemented in classrooms and facilities
- Students will be screened prior to the start of each school day, increased hand washing routines, the use of masks for your children, follow 3-6 feet social distancing recommendations
- School activities are mostly outdoors practicing social distance
- Staff will receive health checks and practice proper hygiene protocols
- Parents will sign a health protocol agreement to pick up your child immediately upon notification of illness and or fever
- Implementation of washing stations and used of mask

With these things put in place we are expecting to have a great school year under the circumstances. If we begin with the homeschool and virtual program, a letter will be emailed with different policies and protocol. It is our hope that you will give us your continued support as we navigate these uncertain times together as one family. Our goal is always to make progress in meeting the needs of our students and their families who support them. Please feel free to share

any thoughts or concerns.

Blessings,

Tannia Mercado

School Teacher/ Principal

08/09/20