



NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

P.O. BOX 102

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## **New Life Christian School Covid 19 2020/2021 Reopening Plan**

The health and safety of all New Life Christian School students, staff, faculty, and families is of utmost importance to us, and we have planned the following procedures to keep all who are involved in the school safe. As a private, independent school in Olean, NY, serving students in grades K-12, our large physical space and small numbers allow us to respond to the current global health crisis with unique assets.

Since early March we have been eager to see the return of our students to school. The events in our country and our world since then have been extraordinarily difficult to process in isolation without the benefits of working together in our close-knit community. It has made our longing to return together even more acute.

We, the SSAC, have worked diligently to respond to the task of helping New Life Christian School open safely and healthily in the fall. The Safe School Advisory Committee (SSAC) was formed to provide preliminary recommendations to safely open the campus amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. The SSAC consists of healthcare professionals, educators, parents, and private sector leaders. A tremendous amount of work has gone into preparing a plan that will work for all. On our website, our reopening plan will continue to be updated with new information as we move closer to the date of our first day of school, September 9<sup>th</sup>. We will have in-class instruction 5 days a week. Below you will see an overview of our plan. Our resiliency was tested last spring, and our community responded with unity, creativity, and perseverance. Let us build on this solid foundation as we embark on an uncertain year together, anchored in HOPE. While we do not know the future, we trust the Shepherd who holds the future and look to Him for continued guidance toward restoration, green pastures, and still waters.

### **REOPENING SAFETY PLAN PROCEDURES**

#### **ENTRANCE**

- Students are to arrive with masks on and will continue to keep them on until they are in their classroom seats, properly distanced and their teacher indicates that the masks can be removed.

- Temperature checks will occur as students, teachers, and staff enter the building every morning. Anyone with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher will not be admitted into the school but will return to their parents' vehicle and go home.
- Students, staff, and teachers will be the only ones allowed to enter the building unless an appointment has been scheduled in advance.
- All students will be expected to enter and exit through the North Forest Avenue/Maple Street corner entrance.
- Students will be given a Covid screening quiz randomly throughout the week
- Parents will wait in their given vehicle until the student has been temperature checked and will only pull away after given the go ahead from the staff member checking the temperatures.
- Teachers will daily report their temperature and their general health to the Principal.

## CLASSROOM

- Students will be reminded in homeroom, where attendance is taken, daily of sanitation procedures and of social distancing whenever possible.
- Classroom desks will be spread a minimum of 6' apart.
- Faculty will avoid the use of shared materials. Students will be required to hold labeled individual supplies in their own locker for their use only.
- When changing classes students will use hallways and stairwells in the manner they are marked, with different stairways for going up and going down.
- Signs will be visible in every classroom reminding students of proper social distancing, proper hygiene, and mask wearing.
- Physical education/recess will only occur in a group of ten to twelve (10 to 12) students or fewer, and each group will hold it in their designated space with designated recess materials.
- Students will sanitize or wash hands prior to recess/physical education and lunch, and immediately after.
- New Life will make use of local parks for recess and fresh air whenever possible, weather permitting.
- Windows will be open for better ventilation weather permitting.

## BUILDING RULES

All individuals must be in possession of appropriate face coverings at any time while in school building or on schoolgrounds.

- Facemasks will be worn when social distancing cannot be had.
- Student lockers will be spaced out allowing for social distancing while at their lockers.
- With our large facility and small number of students, bathroom use will be one person at a time.
- Washing of hands will be mandated, and sanitizer will also be available.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be positioned in the hallways of each floor.

- High touch surfaces will be sanitized and thoroughly cleaned daily and throughout the day.

#### CAFETERIA RULES

- Students will be seated at least 6 feet apart during lunch
- Cafeteria usage will be staggered with no more than 20 people in the cafeteria at one time. (capacity is 211 people)
- In lieu of using a common source of drinking water, such as a water fountain, students, faculty, and staff should use their own, clearly labeled bottles that they bring with them each day.

#### ILLNESS RESPONSE

- School teachers and staff will be guided in recognition of signs and symptoms of illness. If a student shows ANY signs of any illness, he/she will immediately be taken to the isolation room and will continue to wait there until a parent can come and pick him/her up.
- Students or Staff who report to school with symptoms will be sent home until he/ she is symptom free for 72 hours before returning to school. To the extent practical, students and or staff will be required to obtain a doctor's note clearing them to return to school.
- A student or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 will be urged to comply with self-quarantine requirements as directed by the county public officials. To return to school, such individual must provide documentation from a health care provider evaluation, negative COVID-19 results and symptom resolution prior to returning to in-person learning,
- In accordance with the State's contact program and local health department, NLCS will provide the appropriate resources of support in tracing contacts of the individual with confidentiality being maintained as required by state and federal regulations.

#### EMERGENCY RESPONSE DRILLS

- Areas that will be used for emergency response drills will be adapted to provide appropriate social distancing.
- All individuals will be required to wear face coverings throughout the event.
- The first faculty or staff member to open the door during an evacuation will hold the door to reduce the number of individuals contacting the door hardware.

#### SIGNAGE

- Signs and posters will be posted throughout the school regarding public health protections against COVID-19 to include but not limited to:
  - Screening guidelines
  - Face covering guidelines
  - Storage and, when necessary, the discarding of PPE
  - Social distancing instructions o Reporting of symptoms, or exposure to COVID-19 guidelines

- Hygiene, cleaning and disinfection guidelines
- Respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette
- Signs will be posted at entrances and exits indicating appropriate designation for specific use.
- Social distancing markers will be posted in commonly used and other applicable areas on the site.

## COMMUNICATION

- The communication plan for students, parents or legal guardians of students, staff, and visitors includes applicable instructions, training, signage, and a consistent means to provide individuals with information.
- • The communication plan venues include the New Life Christian School webpage, text messaging, email.
- All individuals should express questions and concerns to the designated contact email [janicetrowbridge3@gmail.com](mailto:janicetrowbridge3@gmail.com)

### **New Life Christian School's Covid 19 Emergency Plan if schools are forced to transition back to remote learning**

- A. If school needs to close, parents will be notified immediately, and we will begin remote instruction.
- B. Teachers will continue to teach the classes that they were teaching prior to the shutdown.
- C. Classes will be taught with a hybrid system of biweekly packet exchange times as well as the use of Google classroom, WhatsApp, and Zoom.
- D. Highschool students' grades will be calculated using numeric value while elementary students will be given a pass or fail grade for that time period.