

# FIRST BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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## COVID-19 Mitigation Plan

### **Introduction:**

As an organization that has been entrusted with the safety and well-being of young people, we take very seriously the need to safeguard students. While progress has been made during the summer with the containment of COVID-19, it currently continues to be active in the community as a threat to personal and public health. As of 7/29/21, Harris County is experiencing a high level of community transmission. <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view> Therefore, the school continues to take precautionary measures to maintain a healthy campus. Here are some basic guidelines we have adopted for COVID-19 mitigation:

### **Cleaning Procedures**

- Each teacher will be provided with hand-sanitizer, alcohol wipes, and cleaning supplies.
- Hand sanitizer stations will continue to be available throughout the campus for use by all.
- The school will continue to sanitize high touch surface areas during the day, including restrooms and cafeteria areas. Students will be encouraged to follow best practices for hygiene regarding hand washing, etc. Two members of FBP housekeeping are normally working during the day to clean bathrooms and other areas.
- The building will continue to be cleaned each evening.
- In the event of an active COVID-19 positive case, FBCA will conduct a deep cleaning of the areas impacted.
- A Clorox 360 machine will be used weekly to sanitize classrooms.

### **Personal Protective Equipment**

- Masks are optional for all students at FBCA. The current recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics provide helpful information.

[AAP Covid-19 Guidance for Safe Schools](#)

[Guidance for Covid-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)

The student/families' choice concerning mask wearing will be respected by all employees and students.

- The plexiglass shields have been removed from the classroom.

### **Attendance**

- As has been the policy at FBCA, students with communicable illness will not be allowed on campus. COVID-19 is a communicable illness. It is the school's general practice for students who have a positive COVID-19 test result to be allowed to return to school 10 days out from the start of symptoms and are fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication, and symptoms have improved.
- Parents may elect to keep their student home from school in the event of a positive COVID-19 case in their child's classroom. The absence will be excused with a note from a parent/guardian.
- Perfect attendance awards will not be presented.

- Students who are lab-confirmed positive for COVID-19 shall be excluded from in person instruction for 10 days from symptom onset, are fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication, and symptoms have improved. Parents who have students who are lab-confirmed positive for COVID-19 may notify the school nurse by emailing her at [Diana.Nipp@fbcatx.org](mailto:Diana.Nipp@fbcatx.org)

### **General Information**

- If the school receives notification of a positive COVID-19 case, it will be the school's general practice to notify the parents in that student's grade level/class that the school has received such notification. Since the school will not be performing contact tracing, parents are encouraged to use their discretion and judgment to determine what action would be in the best interest of their child.
- The school may elect to close/mask/quarantine a class or an entire grade level when it becomes evident that COVID-19 is spreading rapidly.
- Students who are exposed to those with COVID-19 should do one of the following:
  - remain off campus for 10 days from exposure.
  - remain off campus until a note from a medical provider is secured that specifies that the student is safe to return to the school.
  - remain off campus until the student presents a negative COVID-19 test to the school.
- Students who are vaccinated and exposed to those with COVID-19 need not quarantine as long as they remain symptom free.
- The nurse is still obligated by law to report all confirmed cases to Harris County Public Health for their contact tracing team.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Students will no longer be in cohorts as was our previous practice.
- Water fountains will be opened for student use.
- Parents will be allowed to attend functions on campus as in years prior to COVID-19. All visitors must follow standard check in protocols as in previous years. This includes
  - If not coming to a general gathering (such as a graduation ceremony) visitors must submit their driver's license to the appropriate building receptionist for a visitor's badge through our Raptor background checking system.
  - Parents are asked to drop off and pick up students by proceeding through the carline.
- Families are encouraged to consult with their medical provider concerning face coverings, vaccinations, or other precautions.

### **Concluding Statement**

Since it is impossible to foresee the impact created by COVID-19 in this next semester, the school reserves the right to revise this policy if circumstances develop where a change would be in the best interests of student health and safety. Should conditions escalate where there may be an outbreak of COVID-19 in the student population, the school may deem it necessary to take precautionary measures to ensure the health and safety of its school population. We appreciate your prayers and understanding as we attempt to do what is best in this regard.