



# Eternity Christian School and Pre-Kindergarten

1122 West Road, Houston, Texas 77038 281-999-5107

## COVID-19 Health and Safety Operational Procedures

(Revised 7/5/2021)

ECS Administration prepares to continue on-campus school operations in August, we will follow specific health precautions in accordance with local, state, and federal requirements. The AAP strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school. The importance of in-person learning is well-documented, and there is already evidence of the negative impacts on children because of school closures. Lengthy time away from school and associated interruption of supportive services often results in social isolation, making it difficult for schools to identify and address important learning deficits.

### INSTRUCTIONAL OPTIONS

ECS plans to offer In-Person Instruction and Remote Virtual On-line Classroom learning, five days a week.

**Traditional In-Person Instruction** will require additional health and safety precautions because the safety and well-being of students, families, and staff will remain ECS's top priority. Traditional In-Person Instruction will consist of a safe environment that is in alignment with local health protocols. Social distancing will be adhered to as much as instructionally possible.

**(Grades 2-10<sup>th</sup>) Remote Virtual On-line Classroom Instruction for students that test positive, exposed, or close contact with COVID-19** will be delivered by the teacher from the classroom setting, providing teachers access to instructional materials and resources. Any parent may request that their student be offered remote virtual instruction.

### ATTENDANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

Per Texas Education Code (TEC), §25.092, students must attend 90% of the days a course is offered (with some exceptions) in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade. This requirement remains in force during the 2021-2022 school year. Given the public health situation, student attendance may be earned through the delivery of remote virtual instruction. Daily on-campus and remote virtual attendance for students will be required.

### PREVENTION AND RESPONDING METHODS

#### 1. Teacher Screening for COVID-19

Teachers and staff are to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day. The self-screening should include teachers and staff taking their own temperature, and checking for COVID-19 symptoms. Teachers and staff should not report to the school if they have multiple symptoms or have been exposed to the COVID-19. All teachers and staff must follow the COVID-19 Exposure Policy in the employee handbook.

**COVID-19 Symptoms:** Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit when taken by mouth; Sore Throat, Uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (or, for students with a chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline); diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain, onset of severe headache. (Revised TEA 7/2020)

#### 2. Student Screening for COVID-19 (8/4/2020)

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as above), child has had close contact. The student will be required to receive remote instruction until the below conditions for re-entry which are 14-days from exposure are met.

#### 3. Individuals Confirmed or Suspected with COVID-19 (revised 7/2020)

1. Any individuals who themselves either: (a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed above) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until at least fourteen days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
2. In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to the campus until at least fourteen days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

#### 4. Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus

Students who report feeling feverish should be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19. The principal will determine separate areas for well and sick students. Any student with a temperature greater than or equal to 100°F and/or showing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will be

masked as developmentally appropriate, isolated, and the parent/guardian notified for pick up. Schools should clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as is feasible.

#### 5. Response to a Lab-Confirmed Case in the School

1. If an individual who has been in the school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school will notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
2. The School will close off the areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 3 days have already passed since that person was on campus. (Revised 7/2021)
3. Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, the school will notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in the school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers, or staff; and require COVID-19 testing.

## HEALTH AND HYGIENE PRACTICES

### Operational Considerations:

Universal signage in the facility hand washing/sanitizing. On the first day a student attends school on campus, the school will provide instruction to students on appropriate hygiene practices and other mitigation practices: hand washing and Covid-19 facts.

#### 1. Absence caused by Illness:

Any student that is absent and has an illness involving a fever, coughing, or stomach illness with diarrhea and/or vomiting will need a doctor's note to return to school.

#### 2. Hygiene Practices:

**1. Handwashing:** ECS has hand washing stations with soap and water in every classroom. Teachers, staff and students are required to practice frequent and good handwashing techniques throughout the day, encouraging hand washing after using the restroom and before eating. Poster of good hand washing hygiene are posted in each lavatory.

**2. Masks:** The use of masks or face shields for adults or students for whom it is developmentally appropriate is not mandatory, but will be based on parent's preference and child's actions within the classroom. Masks include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth.

**3. Coughing and Sneezing:** Teachers, staff and students will be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and if not available, covered in their shirts. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash, hands should be washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or hand sanitizer should be used.

#### 4. Social Distancing and MISC. Strategies:

- Desks will be socially distanced as much as physically possible, or contain plastic barriers.
- The school will provide individually plated meals with disposable food service items for students who do not bring their own lunch.
- When possible, communal supplies will be eliminated.
- Shared supplies will be sanitized between use.
- Hand washing sinks, tissues, and trash cans will be available in the classrooms and common areas to limit student and staff movement.
- Each classroom door will be open to eliminate multiple touches by students and staff.
- Lockers will be assigned to each student.
- Students will be encouraged to bring water bottles to school for their personal use.

#### 5. Maintenance and Cleaning

- Each classroom and restroom will be disinfected daily.
- High touch surfaces (i.e. table tops, chairs, door handles) will be disinfected regularly.
- Disinfectant wipes will be provided to each classroom and common area to maximize room-to-room cleanliness.
- The cafeteria will be disinfected between lunch periods.
- Staff will have access to disinfectant wipes to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.
- Classrooms and campus areas will be cleaned and disinfected upon assessment of an ill student/staff member.