



JULY 10, 2020

Dear WCS PARENTS,

The time since the closure of our campus on March 16, 2020 has been among the most unique and challenging seasons in the modern history of education. Even so, God has faithfully carried us through. We are grateful for the dedication of our teachers, staff, leadership team, students, and parents, who made the continuity of learning so successful in the midst of such unprecedeted times.

This document contains the first of three versions of our Campus Reopening Plan that we will be publishing over the course of the summer. The next two versions will expand upon this version and will be released on or about August 10 and August 24.

Our plan is based on the common-sense assumption that we will not be free from COVID-19 by late August, and that we will still need to exercise appropriate vigilance in preventing its spread. However, we are planning for our campus to re-open for on-campus learning on August 31 as scheduled on the 2020-21 school calendar.

Version 1.0 of our Campus Reopening Plan is designed to provide general information about our plans for the fall. However, we understand that our plans are subject to change, depending on the status of COVID-19 in our region in late August. The versions of the plan to be published in August will contain more detail about how we will operate in the fall, and will be informed by the status of COVID-19 at that time.

Thank you for your partnership and support during the COVID-19 pandemic. By God's abundant grace and strength we anticipate great things ahead as He continues to grant us the wisdom we need, and as He works out all things for our good.

As always, if you have any questions please reach out to me or a member of the Administration Team, and we will be happy to meet with you.

In Christ,


Dr. Roger Erdvig
Headmaster

FALL 2020 CAMPUS REOPENING PLAN, 1.0

We are pleased to present Version 1.0 of WCS's Campus Reopening Plan. You'll note that the plan at this stage includes general protocols and guidance instead of granular detail. Subsequent versions of the plan will contain more specific details in each section.



Social Distancing

When feasible, social distancing will be practiced in K-12.

- Interpersonal physical contact will be minimized.
- Early Learning Center (ELC) students will not be expected to use social distancing.
- Classrooms will be set up to maximize the distance between students when seated in their desks.
- Students will either eat in classrooms or in the cafeteria with assigned seats.

Face Coverings

All students and employees will be required to bring a clean face covering to school every day, and will wear them in scenarios such as the following, when feasible:

- Where close contact between students is required, such as in labs, reading groups, or hallway transitions.

Guiding Principles for Reopening the WCS Campus

The following list of core principles is guiding our planning process.

Reliance on God's grace and wisdom in planning and implementation of the Campus Reopening Plan

Care for the overall well-being (physically, emotionally, relationally, and spiritual) of our students and employees

Reliance on guidance from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Governor Carney's office, the State of Delaware Department of Education and Department of Health, the Delaware Association of Independent Schools, and other regional/national private and Christian school associations (ACSI, CAPE, etc.)

Collaboration with local private and Christian schools to pursue basic compatibility and consistency in plans

Honoring the input and perspective of our employees—those who are working with students each day

Sensitivity to the needs and questions of our WCS families

Regular communication with all stakeholders

Planning for a high degree of normalcy in operations and teaching/learning

Readiness to relax or tighten COVID-19 protocols as necessary

- Where close proximity between students and staff is required, such as in one-to-one instruction with a shared resource.

Students in the ELC will not be required to have or use face coverings at any time.

Sanitizing, Cleaning, and Facilities

We have implemented enhanced sanitizing and cleaning protocols.

- Teachers will be supplied with disinfectants for classroom use.
- For the fall, WCS will hire additional staff to clean and disinfect bathrooms, public spaces, and high touch areas regularly throughout each day.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be installed in locations all around the building.
- Ventilation will be maximized to allow more outside air in the building.

Personal Health Practices/ Hygiene

All members of the WCS community will be expected to meet high standards for personal health/hygiene practices.

- Students and employees will wash or sanitize hands upon arrival to school, before and after eating, and regularly throughout the day.
- Students and employees should avoid touching all high-touch surfaces as much as possible.

Health Screening of Employees and Students

To protect the health and well-being of all WCS constituents, health screening practices will be employed.

- All employees will be expected to implement a health screening routine every morning prior to coming to work,

including taking one's temperature and assessing for COVID-19 symptoms.

- Parents will be expected to implement a health screening routine every morning prior to dropping their child off at school, including taking their child(ren)'s temperature and assessing for COVID-19 symptoms.

Cohort Groupings

All students will be assigned to a cohort, which is a grouping of a few grades together to minimize contact with the broader school community. Cohorts will be used for various purposes, such as moving around the building, participating in chapel, or gathering for lunch.

Large Group Gatherings

For the months of August – October, WCS will not schedule any large group gatherings other than gatherings of the individual cohorts that will be formed.

Extended Care Program

The WCS Extended Care program will function on a normal schedule, but the daily schedule of activities in Extended Care will likely be adjusted to adhere to our school-day protocols.

Field Trips

All field trips (including overnight and day trips) will generally be postponed for the months of August – October. On a case-by-case basis, the administration team may make exceptions for day field trips.

Drop-Off/Pick-Up

Minor changes will be made to our drop-off and pick-up procedures, but we will not be changing the schedule for the beginning or end of the school day. Parents of students from Pennsylvania who receive transportation services should call their local school district for information about the status of transportation in the fall.

Guests to Campus

For the months of August – October, we will significantly limit campus visits by individuals who are not students or employees.

Music Instruction/ Performance Groups

The arts are a significant element of WCS life, and we will do our utmost to maximize our students' ongoing growth in musical abilities. At this time, we are unable to make specific decisions and/or announcements regarding in-person performances.

Athletics

For Varsity and Junior Varsity, we are planning for athletics to resume as normal with the August preseason workouts. However, since we are a part of the Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association (DIAA), the decisions about league competitions and sport-specific protocols are dependent upon direction from the DIAA, which has yet to be provided. Middle School sports will start when classes resume on August 31.

General Considerations for Distance Learning

WCS will be prepared to pivot to distance-learning as necessary. Our experience in the spring of 2020 taught us much about how to effectively provide continuity in teaching/learning in the event of a campus closure.

- In the event that the Governor mandates that all schools (including independent and private schools) in the state close for one week or longer due to COVID-19, we will pivot to distance-based learning. If local school districts cannot re-open or must close due to operational obstacles unique to the district(s) involved, WCS will make an independent decision about any campus closure.

■ Within each division of the school, the weekly/daily schedule and expectations for distance learning will be more standardized than in the spring of 2020.

- Prior to the start of the school year, WCS parents (K-12) will need to affirm that they have the following technology available to their children:

1. A Google Classroom-enabled device for each WCS student in the household. This can be a PC laptop, a Mac laptop, a Chromebook, or a Chrome-enabled tablet using Android or iOS. (Smart phones are NOT acceptable for WCS distance-learning purposes.) Students may be required to bring their device to school at times throughout the year.
2. A printer (one per household)
3. PDF scanning capabilities (one per household; can be a multifunction printer or smart phone app)

If a family is unable to acquire the needed technology, WCS may make low-cost equipment options and payment plans available to families.

