

# Riverpointe Christian Academy's 2020-2021 Safe Restart Health & Safety Plan

Riverpointe Christian Academy is committed to the safe return of students, teachers and staff to school this fall. Our "Safe Restart" plan, developed collaboratively by staff and administration, places health and safety as a top priority following recommendations of state and local health experts. The plan is guided by two basic principles:

- 1) Students' academic, social, and emotional needs can best be met if students are in school.
- 2) Students', teachers', and staff's health and safety must be a top priority.

We are faced with issues that might require schooling to be different, but that does not mean that we will have to sacrifice the quality of schooling or compromise health and safety. Instead, we will face this as an opportunity to strike a successful balance for the well-rounded health of our students and our community at large. We will remain flexible, and as health and medical conditions change, RCA will adjust accordingly. The success of this Safe Restart plan requires the awareness, understanding, and support of parents, teachers, staff, students, and the entire RCA community. As we enter uncharted waters, we will guide our actions around the greater good achieved when students are both learning and healthy.

The following is offered as a summary of the RCA Safe Restart plan:

## Public Health

RCA will be guided by the latest health and safety conditions in all facets of the Safe Restart. Working closely with state health agencies and local health experts, RCA will exhaust our efforts to provide safe and healthy learning environments for students, teachers, and staff. Flexibility and adaptability are keys to the success, and we will make changes in the start date and operating protocols as needed in consultation with health experts.

### ➤ **Group Gatherings and Social Distancing Requirements**

There are currently state and local public health orders in place limiting the size of group gatherings and a 6 feet social distancing expectation. We believe similar orders will exist when the fall semester begins.

**In an effort to abide by these requirements, RCA will limit certain activities and events.**

- Limitations will be placed on congregate events such as assemblies, performances, field trips, and other group gatherings to ensure safety.
- Certain activities may be postponed or cancelled to protect the health and safety of the community. These may include in-person events that bring large numbers of staff and community members into buildings. Attempts will be made to offer virtual alternatives.
- Announcements will be made when it is determined that we must cancel certain activities.

**Limitations and/or modifications may be made to how building facilities are traditionally used.**

- This includes large areas such as gymnasiums, libraries, cafeterias, labs, media centers, and others.

**Social Distancing Requirements**

- Maintain 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people whenever possible.
- Avoid school wide gatherings such as assemblies, performances, and staff meetings.
- Maintain social distancing outside – including recess and other physical activity time.

**Classroom design for social distancing**

- Desk arrangement: Student seats will be spaced 3-6 feet with protective dividers used.
- Table arrangement: Student work tables will have protective dividers to separate students as they work.
- Desk arrangement in the Learning Center protects the front and each side of the student. When the student leaves their desk a mask will be required.

**Face coverings**

- Students and staff are expected to wear face coverings at all times whenever 6-foot spacing cannot be followed. Students will wear face coverings as they enter the building and move about the building or classroom at all times. Face coverings can be removed when students are seated at their work spaces. Students will also be expected to wear face coverings on buses.

- Students will be educated on how to properly wear masks, how to properly cover coughs/sneezes, and provided training on how to protect themselves by keeping away from close contact with others.
- Face coverings must cover nose and mouth at all times while being worn.
- If face coverings are not worn, the student will not be able to attend school that day. If the student's mask becomes unusable the office will supply a disposable one if available. Otherwise the student's parent will be called to provide one or pick the student up.

### ➤ **Number of Students and Staff Requirements**

- RCA has sufficient space to afford enough space per person in our buildings and classrooms.

### ➤ **Building Traffic Guidelines and Facilities Modifications**

- Visual cues such as floor decals, colored tape, and signs may be utilized to indicate to students, staff and visitors the flow and direction of traffic (when applicable) and to maintain social distancing. Additional cues may be used to indicate 6 foot intervals when standing in a line.
- Furniture will be arranged to support social distancing practices, including in waiting rooms, lobbies, classrooms and other shared spaces.

### ➤ **Student Movement (Arrival, Transitions, Dismissal)**

- Students will be directed into classrooms or other cohort areas to avoid large group gatherings
- Students will be dismissed directly to their mode of transportation and will not gather at exit points
- Transitions around the building will be limited to avoid multiple groups of students interacting with one another.
- Children's developmental levels will be considered when planning for all new routines and procedures.

## • Visitor Procedures

- To abide by local health regulations, only essential visitors will be admitted to RCA buildings.
- All visitors must have an appointment prior to arrival, present photo identification and sign in and out at reception.
  - No drop-in or walk-in visitors will be allowed and all scheduled meetings should be instructional or behavioral in nature.
  - Virtual meetings and conferences will be available.
- All visitors who enter buildings beyond the front lobby will undergo a temperature screening and must wash their hands prior to entry.
  - All visitors will be told prior to their appointment to refrain from reporting to their appointment if they are ill or experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19.
- All face-to-face meetings will employ social distancing.
- Efforts will be made to limit access to outside vendors to times when students or staff are not present in buildings to the extent possible.
  - Outside vendors will be screened and will be subject to the same entry procedures as building visitors.

## ➤ Screenings of Students & Staff

- All students and staff who enter the building will undergo a temperature screening prior to entering the building as well as wash their hands upon entry.
- Signs will be placed on all entry doors alerting individuals of the symptoms of COVID-19 and asking them not to enter if they are experiencing these symptoms.
- Staff and students will be reminded with an age-appropriate message daily during morning announcements to report to their teacher if they feel unwell. Students of concern will be referred to the office for further evaluation.
  - Parents are encouraged to monitor students for illness at home and should consider checking their temperature daily. Any student with a temperature over 100.0 degrees without medication should stay home and contact the front office. **All sick students should remain home.**
  - Staff are encouraged to monitor themselves for illness and specifically for the signs & symptoms of COVID-19. Any staff member who is feeling ill should remain home.

## COVID-19 Symptoms

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting (including upset stomach)
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms.

## ➤ Drop off & Pick up

Drop-off:

- Parents must park in the parking lot and walk their child(ren) to the appropriate door.
- Parents are not allowed in campus buildings.
- A staff member will sign the child(ren) in, conduct the required screening, confirm with the parent that the child may attend that day and the staff member will walk the child(ren) into the building.

Pick-up:

- Parents will park in the parking lot, turn off their vehicle and come to the appropriate door for pick-up.
- A staff member will walk the child out of the building to the parent and sign the child out after they are appropriately supervised by the parent.
- Learning Center Students will be directed to their parent's vehicle at dismissal.

## ➤ **Visitor Procedures**

- All visitors must have an appointment prior to arrival, present photo identification and sign in and out at reception.
  - No drop-in or walk-in visitors will be allowed and all scheduled meetings should be instructional or behavioral in nature.
  - Virtual meetings will be available and meeting scheduling methods will be advertised at all schools and offices.
- All visitors who enter buildings beyond the front lobby will undergo a temperature screening prior to entry.
  - All visitors will be asked prior to their appointment to refrain from reporting to their appointment if they are ill or experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19.
- All face-to-face meetings will take social distancing into consideration to the fullest extent possible, including possible virtual participation of some team members.
- Efforts will be made to limit access to outside vendors to times when students or staff are not present in buildings to the extent possible.
  - Outside vendors will be screened and will be subject to the same entry procedures as building visitors.

## ➤ **Transmission Mitigation and Cleaning Procedures**

- Sanitation & Cleaning of RCA buildings

RCA will take extra steps to ensure that all school facilities are providing safe and healthy learning environments, with protocols and actions that include:

- DISINFECTION of bathrooms and high-touch surfaces twice each day.
  - FOGGING with disinfectant equipment of the entire building at least one time a week.
  - HVAC FILTER upgrades and replacement of older fresh air equipment.
  - WATER FOUNTAIN use will be restricted to refill water bottles only.
  - HAND SANITIZER made available in all classrooms.
- Windows will be opened to circulate outdoor air as much as possible as long as it does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff.
  - To the extent possible, students and staff will limit the sharing of all supplies, utensils, devices, toys, books, and learning aids.
    - Any shared materials will be immediately properly cleaned and disinfected according to manufacturer's instructions.

- Custodial Services cleaning practices will be focused on cleaning for health, which includes an emphasis on disinfecting high-touch surfaces where bacteria or viruses are most likely to be transmitted (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, bathroom fixtures, classroom sink handles, countertops).
- The Custodial Services Department will follow CDC guidelines, to ensure appropriate and timely measures are taken to preserve the health and safety of our students, staff, and community.

## Operations

### ➤ **Transportation (if provided)**

- Students will have assigned, alternating seating on the bus.
  - To the fullest extent possible, students will be seated individually, but in some cases students may be seated in pairs.
  - Seating will not exceed more than 50% of bus capacity
  - Individuals from the same household may be seated in pairs.
  - No more than two students will be seated together.
- Students will be loaded from the rear to the front and unloaded from the front to the rear.
- High-touch surfaces will be cleaned between each bus route and buses will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected twice daily, after completion of morning and afternoon routes.
- Hydrostatic spraying with disinfectant after morning and evening routes.
- Hand sanitizer will be available on all buses for use by all students and staff.

### ➤ **Food and Nutrition**

RCA will, for now, suspend food services.

- It is expected that students will eat in their classrooms to avoid large gatherings in the school cafeteria.

### ➤ **School Safety**

- RCA will limit access by visitors and parents to the school beyond the front reception area. This is an attempt to only have staff, students, and essential personnel moving about the building.

- Exterior building doors and classrooms doors will continue to remain closed and secured. No doors will be propped open and all existing security procedures related to door security will remain in effect. Although door handles are a high-touch area, increased Custodial procedures will be in effect.
- Safety drills will continue as usual, following all State guidelines for the mandated number of drills as well reporting. No deviation from current drill protocols will occur unless mandated by the State.
  - Efforts will be made to social distance students during both indoor and outdoor drills, to the fullest extent possible, while still maintaining safety.
  - In the event of a true emergency, safety procedures related to evacuation or sheltering would take precedence over social distancing for both students and staff.

### ➤ **Facilities Usage**

- All Facilities Usage Agreements will be evaluated to ensure that all buildings and other facilities will be used safely by outside organizations in light of current public health conditions, including social distancing requirements and limitations on congregate events. Outside usage will be kept to a minimum.

## **Nursing & Health Services**

### ➤ **Health Room Operations**

- Normal Health Room procedures and treatment will continue daily in addition to modified procedures related to the current public health situation.
- As is always the case, the Health Room should be used for the care of minor illnesses and injuries that occur at school and health concerns that occur outside of school should be treated at home or by your health care provider.
  - Parents are encouraged to evaluate students for illness prior to sending them to school each day and all students who are ill should remain home.
  - The School Staff cannot diagnose or prescribe treatment

### ➤ **Health Planning**

- Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) will be developed and updated for students as needed. Completed plans will be in front office.



## ➤ Medications

- All necessary medications will be expected to be on-site and stored in the office for any time the student is at school and should be signed in one time for the entire school year.
  - In the event of a prolonged school closure, special arrangements will be made for sign out of student medications.
  - Students are not permitted to travel back and forth to school with their own medication unless they have Self-Monitor/Self-Medicate Orders on file with the office.

## ➤ Immunizations

- DHEC Immunization requirements for students attending school remain in effect. For more information about required immunizations, please visit [DHEC Immunization Requirements for School & Childcare](#)
  - Parents are encouraged to contact their child's health care provider early to avoid a delay in receiving the required immunizations

# Riverpointe Christian Academy

## Medical Advisory Council



**Ryan Speidel, MSN, MBA, RN, NE-BC, CCRN-K**

Mr. Speidel is the Director of Critical Care and Rapid Response (28 bed mixed ICU and 24 hr dedicated Rapid Response team) at Trident Hospital. Clinical care services offered/provided in the ICU are focused on the highest acuity critically ill patients. He closely collaborates with Respiratory Therapy, Infection Prevention, Emergency Services, Surgical Services, and several other departments. Mr. Speidel's 3 children have attended Riverpointe for the last 3 years. He is happy to provide any insight, clinical suggestions, and/or assistance to RCA.



**Danielle Wineberg, BSN, RN**

Mrs. Wineberg is the Prep and Recovery Manager for Surgical Services at The Medical University of South Carolina. There she is an RN III and works in the Surgical and PACU department. Mrs. Wineberg's 2 children attend Riverpointe. She is pleased to provide her help and suggestions in any way possible.