

REOPENING PLAN FOR VICTORY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Will VCA be having In-person instruction?

Yes. VCA will open on September 9, 2020 for all PreK-12th grade students. We will be having full day, five days per week of in school instruction.

Will there be any change to the school day time?

Not for the Kindergarten through 12th grade students. However, to limit the congestion Pre-K students will be dismissed at 2:30. We are implementing a new procedure where the parents will text us on arrival and wait for instructions.

Will students be required to wear face masks?

Yes. Students must wear a cloth face mask whenever social distancing cannot be maintained. Parents will have an adequate supply of face coverings for their child. Please remember they **will not be permitted in the building** without and appropriate face covering.

Face coverings will be required to protect against the spread of COVID-19 and must be worn when entering or exiting the building, travelling through the hallways, riding on buses, while in the restrooms, or any areas/situations where social distancing is not possible.

Exceptions include:

- Those who are medically unable to tolerate a face covering.
- During meals, instruction, and short breaks just as long as they maintain appropriate social distance.

How will students attend physical education, music art?

Due to scheduling and building constraints priority will be given to physical education as it is mandated by New York State Education Department. PE will be held outside weather permitting, indoor activities will be designed to allow the constraints of social distancing. Students will participate in a variety of activities that require limited (which can be easily disinfected) or no equipment and follow the guidelines for social distancing, while following the NYS Standards and with SHAPE America standards.

How will students have lunch?

Social distancing will be maintained and some lunch periods will be staggered. Recess will either be in the classroom or outside, weather permitting.

How will students who receive related services be accommodated?

Related services such as speech, resource room, occupational therapy will be provided in small group sessions as stated on their IESP.

How will classrooms be organized?

All classrooms have been reevaluated to find maximum capacity for students. Larger rooms will be sectioned off to create additional classroom space in order to accommodate students being six feet apart. Signage and hand sanitizer will be placed strategically throughout the building.

Modifications to social distancing for the younger child will entail latex painted distancing squares on the floor indicating their space, all manipulatives and or toys will not be shared, white boards on wheels along with intermittent daily reminders throughout the day of social distancing and proper respiratory etiquette, washing of hands and use of hand sanitizer will be ongoing and calling attention to signage placed strategically around the classroom. The installation of a second sink will be installed within their classroom.

What Can Students Expect?

As they enter the building their temperatures will be taken, cloth face masks must be on, lockers visited individually, and six foot distancing will be implemented. Students will be instructed not to share any personal items with other students.

OPERATIONAL QUESTIONS

Will staff be required to wear masks?

Staff must wear a cloth face covering whenever social distancing cannot be maintained. Face coverings will be required to protect against the spread of COVID-19 and must be worn when entering, exiting or traveling through the building, or any area where social distancing is not possible.

Exceptions include:

During meals, instruction, and short breaks just as long as they maintain appropriate social distancing.

How will students safely be transported to school on the buses?

Parents, please check with your bus company. Face coverings are a must and siblings of the same household are permitted to sit together. They should have social distancing measures and some companies are allowing one child per seat. Buses should be disinfected after each route has been completed.

What cleaning and disinfecting procedures will be put in place at VCA?

Cleaning and disinfection procedures for the school have been developed in accordance with the Center for Disease Control and Department of Health guidance. Most surfaces and objects will just need normal routine cleaning. Frequently touched surfaces and objects such as light switches and doorknobs will need to be cleaned and then disinfected to further reduce the risk of germs on surfaces and objects.

Special attention will be devoted to places where food is being eaten as well as periodic checks and cleaning of bathrooms.

Disinfecting the areas will take place daily after the students have left the premises. Areas will be disinfected the highly touched surfaces with an EPA registered antimicrobial product for use against the Novel Coronavirus SAR-Co V-2 (the cause of COVID-19).

Cleaning logs will be maintained that include the date, time and scope of cleaning and disinfection for each area.

What other measures is VCA taking to assist students while in the classroom or moving about the building?

Signage will be posted on the walls and constant reminders shared.

We are following hand hygiene, cleaning and disinfection guidelines.

We are following respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette.

We are properly storing and, when necessary, discarding PPE.

Will fire drills still be conducted?

Yes, schools must continue mandatory fire drills according to the existing statutory schedule. This drill will be conducted in a manner that maintains social distancing at exits and gathering points outside the building, while still preparing students to respond in emergencies.

NURSING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Will temperature be taken upon arrival for students and staff?

In accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations, students will have daily temperature screenings upon arrival at school. Students who present a temperature of 100.0° F or higher and/or have any gastrointestinal issues will be immediately isolated and sent home. **Parents should not send their child to school sick or on medicine used to reduce a fever.**

While we understand that students do get sick, during this time we must use extreme caution.

If your child is exhibiting excessive coughing, runny nose or gastrointestinal symptoms they are to stay home. For conditions that are reoccurring as an allergy, a doctor's note must be given to the administration.

Parents, to reiterate, please keep **your child home if they feel sick.**

Staff members will submit to a daily health questionnaire which includes fever monitoring when they enter the building.

What happens if a staff member is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day?

Any staff member with an oral temperature of 100.0°F degrees or above; or is exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19 is to be sent home or to an emergency health care facility immediately. They will be instructed to contact their health care provider for assessment and testing. Administration or designee will notify local health officials of any confirmed cases of COVID-19 by calling 311. We will follow the directives of the Department of Health on how to proceed.

What happens if a student is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day?

Any student with an oral temperature of 100.0°F degrees or above; or is exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19 is to be sent home. The student is to be isolated in an isolation room which has been set aside in the building. A staff member wearing appropriate PPE is to remain with student during that time. Parent is to be contacted to pick up their child immediately and will be instructed to contact his/her physician. Parent will be asked to report any COVID-19 diagnosis to the Principal as soon as possible. A record is to be kept of any staff or students that the ill child has encountered, in the event that there is a positive COVID-19 diagnosis and notification of those exposed needs to take place. **A doctor's note must be provided clearing the student to return to school.** The isolation room is to be closed for as long as possible (24 hours), and then thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Any area used by the sick student must be immediately disinfected and cleaned. VCA principal or designee will notify local health officials of any confirmed cases of COVID-19 by calling 311. They will follow the directives of the Department of Health on how to proceed with notifications of staff and families. Confidentiality will always be maintained while sharing any information as per the American Disabilities Act.

How will you address proper hygiene to students and staff?

There will be training given to all students, faculty, and staff on proper hand and respiratory hygiene. We will provide and maintain hand hygiene stations around the school, as follows:

For handwashing: Soap, running warm water, and disposable paper towels.

For hand sanitizing: An alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol for areas where handwashing facilities may not be available or practical.