



## Pleasant Valley Christian Academy

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### **HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

- **HEALTH CHECKS** are to be done every morning. The families are supplied with a “Daily Health Check” Flow chart. We like greeting our students in the morning, therefore at least one staff will be greeting the students and asking them if they have any symptoms. Parents are to wait in their vehicles until we give them the go ahead to go. **STUDENTS ARE NOT TO BE ALLOWED TO ENTER IF THEY FEEL SICK!**
- **STAGGERED ENTRANCE:** The Morning Health Checks will also ensure that the students enter the school entrance in a staggered fashion. Thus, avoiding crowding as they enter the school. When the students enter the school, they will immediately take off their outside footwear and place them in their assigned cubby and then walk, in socked feet, to their classroom. Their inside shoes are to be kept in the classroom.
- **AFTER SCHOOL:** Students will walk out with their teacher at the end of the school day. They will then wait with their teachers, outside, for their parents to drive up to the school entrance to be picked up. This allows for the teachers to be sure there is no crowding in the hallways or school entrance as the students exit.
- **STAFF HEALTH CHECKS:** The staff also follow the “Daily Health Check” flow chart. Once they enter their classroom, they have a spot to record on the attendance records that indicates they are feeling healthy.
- **ABSENCES:** Parents are requested to text their child’s teacher when a child will be absent.
  - They are also requested to list the symptoms if the child is absent due to illness.
  - The family is requested to follow the “Daily Health Check” Flowchart (attached). This chart will guide them to know what to do if they have symptoms and when it is safe to return to school.
- If a student **STARTS FEELING SICK WHILE AT SCHOOL:**
  - They are to be isolated in a supervised area until they are picked up.
  - They will be provided with tissues to cover their coughs or sneezes if needed.
  - The parents are to be contacted to pick the student up as soon as possible.

- The family is to be reminded to follow the attached flow chart indicating what to do next and when they can return to school.
  - All areas that the ill student was in contact with are to be cleaned and disinfected.
  - Everyone will practice diligent hand hygiene after being in contact with someone who is ill.
- Staff and students are both encouraged to only bring necessary items to school.
- **LEARNING GROUPS:** PVCA will have 2 “Learning Groups” - Grades K-3 and Grades 4-8. Each group is allowed 60 persons during Stage 2. The principal is responsible for adding names to each learning group if there are volunteers wanting to join a particular group. Within those groups:
  - The students may interact normally but remembering to avoid physical contact and minimize close, prolonged face-to-face interactions. Seating arrangements where students face one another will be avoided where possible.
  - The staff are to wear masks unless they are sitting or standing at a workstation area or able to social distance.
- We are still to **AVOID PHYSICAL CONTACT** as much as possible.
- **Outside of their assigned Learning Groups**, students and staff will be reminded to social distance as best as possible. To help with this:
  - We have changed the 2 groups recesses and assemblies so that they are at different times.
  - We have adjusted the directions and times the students walk as a group to avoid a crowded hallway/common area if possible.
  - The morning staff that health checks the students will also monitor the flow of students as they enter the school to avoid crowding.
  - At the end of the day, the staff will wait outside with the students and encourage them to stay in family groups as the parents arrive to pick up their children.
- There is to be **NO CROWDING**.
- **RECESSES:** Outside is encouraged! We encourage all classrooms to take their PE and recesses outdoors unless it is wet outside.
- **OUTSIDE:** We can have recess together at the same time. If we do, the 2 Learning Groups will play in different areas of the play field. We must remember no physical contact.
- **INSIDE/GYMNASIUM:** Only 1 Learning Group can be present in the Gymnasium at a time. We have created a schedule to allow that to happen.

- Only **ESSENTIAL PERSONS/VISITORS** (volunteers, service providers, etc.) are to be permitted in the school - and ONLY AFTER THEY HAVE RESPONDED THAT THEY HAVE NO SYMPTOMS.
  - They are required to wear a mask while in the school,
  - Requested to use hand sanitizer upon entrance,
  - Fill in the visitor sheet and
  - Give their signature ensuring us they have no symptoms of illness.
- **TEACHERS-ON-CALL** follow the Visitor Protocol and a copy of this document is provided for them.
- **HOT LUNCHES:** No sharing of any homemade food items, such as birthday treats, bake sale items etc. We can do pizza deliveries, however...Due to dependence on volunteers, hot lunches have been cancelled til further notice.
- **WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED AS PART OF LEARNING** and is consumed by the students who prepared it, the following health and safety measures should apply:
  - Follow normal food safety measures and requirements.
  - Follow Covid cleaning and disinfecting protocols.
  - A minimum of one attending adult should have their Food Safety Level 1 Certificate.
- **DRINKING WATER:** The water fountains are turned off. We request that the students bring their own personal water bottles to school. We have filtered water taps in each classroom where the students can fill their bottles.
- **HANDWASHING:** Wash hands with plain soap for at least 20 seconds, temperature does not matter. It is encouraged that the students are given lessons on handwashing regularly so that it is constantly on their minds. There are signs posted reminding the students to wash their hands frequently. Each classroom is provided with a sink/hand washing station.
- **PLANNED & FREQUENT HANDWASHING:** We are to wash our hands as soon as we get to the school; before and after going outside; before and after going to the bathroom; before and after eating; before and after group activities; before and after wearing disposable gloves.
- **DISINFECTING:** General cleaning - once a day; Hi touch surfaces - twice a day.
  - Commercial approved disinfectants are used.
  - A disinfectant fogger machine is used for efficiency.
  - There is no evidence that the COVID-19 virus is transmitted via “paper” products. There is no need for these items to be cleaned and disinfected or quarantined... or for hand hygiene to be practiced before and after use.

- **HALLWAY TRAFFIC FLOW:** We have placed arrows on the floor to show the desired traffic flow. The general rule will be to stay to the right in the hallway.
- **MASKS K-3:** Masks are optional for students in Grades K-3.
- **MASKS 4-8 & Staff:** Grade 4-8 & Staff are to wear masks while indoors. (Exemptions are made for health reasons.) We understand that some families will not send their child to school if they are required to wear a mask, therefore, accordingly, we will respect their wishes and heed the Ministry of Education's statement that "No student should be prevented from attending or fully participating at school if they do not wear a mask." This means we will accept notes from families, saying that you will not send your children to school if they are required to wear a mask and asking us to allow your child to attend school. We want to respect your wishes, and we also want your children to come to school.
- Please understand that there are also times your children will not be wearing masks.
  - If they find it intolerable, they may request to not wear the mask.
  - If they are involved in high intensity physical activity, they should NOT wear a mask. (They will still be encouraged to wear a mask indoors if they are only walking, etc.)
  - If a barrier has been put in place for face to face work a mask is not required.
  - While they are eating or drinking, they will not wear a mask. 😊
- **GROUP EVENTS:** We are still not allowed group gatherings yet. We may have to cancel other events. You will notice on the yearly calendar that some events say, "IF POSSIBLE". We will notify you about Group Events as we get close to each date. We may have to be creative with some. 😊
- **EVACUATION DRILLS:** continue to be a priority. Our outside area allows us to be able to follow the safety protocols.
- **PROTOCOLS** are reviewed on a regular basis during school staff meetings. Any changes will be updated as they happen.
- **FIELD TRIPS:** Due to not being permitted to use volunteer drivers during Covid protocols, we are unable to go on field trips unless they are walking distance away. And we must be sure safety protocols are in place where we go.
- **STAFF MEETINGS/PRO-D DAYS** are held either outside or in the resource room. Both areas are large enough that we can social distance while seated in a circle. The Pro D Day options will be by Virtual attendance.
- **The school's VENTILATION SYSTEM** is serviced 2-3 times a year and operating to specifications.

We are very happy that we can have all our students in school on a full-time basis! Please remember that these protocols allow us to have our students here.

**PLEASE HELP US follow these protocols!**

THANK YOU!!!!

For more detailed information, please refer to the "Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings".

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidelines.pdf>