

Bethel Christian School Plan to Reopen School for 2020/2021 School Year Revised Feb. 2021

The BCS plan for reopening follows guidelines based on *COVID-19 Recommendations for School Reopening* as recommended by Shasta County Public Health.

Reopening our campus responsibly includes the promotion of healthy practices by all to maintain healthy environments. Below are guidelines we ask all (faculty, staff, students, parents, volunteers, guests, etc.) to be aware of and put into practice. BCS promotes personal responsibility when it comes to health and safety.

Health Screenings

Every person that enters the BCS campus is required to complete an at home self-examination or parent/guardian examination of children prior to entering campus. For information on how to self-exam see this [CDC self-check symptoms site](#). Students and staff members may NOT come to school if they are sick, have a fever (100.4 or higher), or have COVID-19 symptoms. BCS will minimize outside individuals' access to our campus. Parents are required to sign our COVID-19 Waiver of Liability prior to August 18, 2020 which we will send out shortly.

Any students or staff who were in close contact with someone diagnosed with or suspected to have COVID-19 are to home quarantine for 14 days from the date of exposure, or until the person you were exposed to has tested negative ([click here for more details from the CDC](#)). BCS also has a plan for the possibility of temporary use of distance learning for cohorts when directed by the local health department to do so.

Hand and Personal Hygiene

We will be teaching and reinforcing the cleaning of hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after contact with frequently touched surfaces, using the bathroom, before eating, after blowing their nose, coughing, or sneezing from allergies. If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer may be used that will be placed in each classroom and throughout the campus. Additionally, students and staff are expected to cover coughs and sneezes, avoid contact with one's eyes, nose and mouth.

Face Masks for Children

On July 17, 2020 the Governor of California requires all children to wear a mask while in school. BCS will inform parents when this policy is changed.

Students with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering are exempt from wearing a face covering. A note from the parents explaining the condition will be required if the student cannot wear a mask which will be kept on file.

Cohorting (Closed Home Room Groups)

To reduce possibilities for infection, students must remain in the same space and in cohorts/home room groups including for recess and lunch. We will keep the same students and teacher or staff with each group to the greatest extent practical.

If a child or employee develops an infection, cohorts will reduce the number of exposures between classes and years.

Physical Distancing

The objective of physical distancing is to reduce the likelihood of contact leading to transmission; BCS will establish separation of students through means, such as, six feet between desks where practical, partitions, markings on classroom floors to promote distancing or arranging desks in a way that minimizes face-to-face contact. Plexiglas dividers will be used in classroom spaces that are not able to provide enough distance between students. Larger gatherings (such as chapel) will be held either outside, or inside with attendance limited to ensure the audience sits at the suggested distance apart. Some classes will view large gatherings on video from their classrooms. Staggered lunch and recess schedules will minimize the number of students gathering at the same time in each area.

Food

Students who bring their own meals will be expected to not share food. Disposable utensils or dishes are recommended. School lunches will be provided through the Bethel Church commercial kitchen and served as prepackaged individual meals. Any food offered at any BCS event will be commercially prepared prepackaged individual servings. Every student will need a water bottle as drinking fountains will not be available except for refilling water bottles.

PE/Sports

Contact sports will not be permitted during Physical Education classes or recess times. Recreational and sports equipment will be regularly cleaned and sanitized. Students will not dress out for PE due to the size of the locker room and proximity to other students. Students are encouraged to wear athletic shoes during the school day or to keep an extra pair of athletic shoes. After school sports programs will be limited to those allowed by Public Health.

Arts

Until notified by Public Health and the Shasta County Office of Education, choir will need to move outdoors, increase social distancing in large rooms, or be more instructional in nature as opposed to participatory.

Environmental Cleaning

We will have increased, routine cleaning and disinfection campus-wide with EPA standard cleaning and disinfecting products (storing products securely away from children). Regular deep cleaning by Bethel Church custodial staff of frequently touched surfaces, such as door handles, light switches, tables, student desks, and chairs within the school, daily and/or between use as much as possible.

Risk for Students at Higher Risk for Severe Disease

Some children may be at higher risk of adverse outcome from COVID-19 due to underlying medical conditions. It is not BCS's desire to limit these students' attendance at our school. Due to limited faculty and staff BCS may not be able to accommodate the needs of all students. Parents of students in a high-risk category will need to contact the school administration to speak with staff and discuss the school's ability to meet their student's needs.

Contact Tracing

BCS will follow guidelines as prescribed by Shasta County Public Health to track positive COVID-19 cases and close contacts.

Regular Testing

BCS will establish regular COVID-19 testing for staff.