

Freedom Christian School Reopening Plan

Freedom Christian School has adhered to official recommendations and restrictions since the Covid-19 outbreak and closure order on March 13, 2020, and has followed hand sanitizing protocols since the H1N1 outbreak of 2009. Our total staff and constituent families are committed to safe practices while conducting school activities on campus, as well as taking responsible, well-advised health precautions when away from campus, and doing self-monitoring according to screening protocols set forth by the CDPH.

The school's facilities are large and varied enough to enable each individual cohort to have sole use of a large space in a separate building during the challenging times of this pandemic. Classrooms have been moved from the traditional setting to large assembly rooms to give each of our 60+ students a minimum of 6-feet of individual space within the classroom. The outdoor space includes a grassy field of approximately 2 acres where students can participate in outdoor activities within their cohort while maintaining social distancing practices.

Cleaning and Disinfecting – Hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes and tissues are available on every table. Students, staff, and everyone entering a room will be required to sanitize their hands. Also, three times each day students will be directed to sanitize their hands. Tables and multi-touched surfaces will be disinfected at the same intervals. Each evening after school the equipment and touchable surfaces of all areas used by students or staff will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. (Recommended disinfecting products have been obtained from a government source.) Hand sanitizing stations and posted instructions are located at every entrance for anyone who enters a building.

Employees will be provided gloves for duties such as cleaning, first aid, or food handling.

Each building has its own restroom facilities so students will share restrooms only with their own cohort, and they will be used by one person at a time. All restrooms will be sanitized by one janitorial staff person in the middle of the school day as well as in the evening when all buildings are cleaned and sanitized.

Each student will be provided with a Sterilite container that will remain at their desk and contain their educational and personal items so there will be no sharing of equipment.

Students will bring their own water bottles from home or can purchase one within their classroom. Each classroom has its own water station for refilling water bottles as needed.

Stuffed animals and other toys that are difficult to clean and sanitize will not be permitted on the campus.

Cohorting – The school has relocated classes from the usual classrooms into large rooms and separate buildings so students will not be interacting with those in other cohorts. Cohorts will have lunch within their separate buildings, and their lunches will be brought from home or be supplemented with prepackaged items within the building. Recess times will likewise be scheduled by cohorts and be conducted on a large grassy field. Each cohort will have its own supplies for games and activities.

Physical Education and recesses will be conducted by cohorts in their own times and areas.

Entrance, Egress, and Movement Within the School – Entrances to all buildings and classrooms will be marked at 6 foot intervals to help students observe physical distancing. Students will be able to enter their own classroom with their own teacher at 8:00 a.m. and remain in that cohort throughout the day until 3:30. Classes will begin at 8:30 and end at 3:10. The few who are in extended care before 8:00 or after 3:30 will be in a different building from the classrooms and will be physically distanced or shielded from each other. They will be led at 6 foot intervals by the extended care director from the extended care building to their classrooms at 8:00, and similarly to the extended care building by their teacher at 3:30.

In addition to cohorts remaining in their separate buildings, teachers are all trained in first aid and CPR and will be equipped with basic first aid items and such supplies as will minimize the need for students to leave their cohort and go to the office. In the infrequent event of a staff member outside the normal cohort entering a group they will be masked and will sanitize hands when entering and leaving the group.

Parents and guests to the campus will only have access to the campus by coming to the school office door, using the intercom to identify themselves, and being screened for health symptoms and the purpose/need for their being on-campus. The goal is to limit unnecessary introduction of others into the school environments.

At pick-up time, 3:10-3:30, each class/building has its own parking lot area and access points from the road so that parents can drive near their child's building and use the intercom to call for their child to come out or use cell phones to contact their child. This will avoid children congregating outside buildings, and teachers will ensure physical distancing during entrance and egress.

Face Coverings and Other Essential Protective Gear – While students will be expected to provide their own clean face coverings, Freedom Christian School has purchased face coverings for all staff and students. Face coverings will be worn by all staff members and students in grades 3 and above, and as much as possible in grades K-2. A good supply of PPE (face coverings, gloves, sneeze guards, sanitizer, disinfectant etc.) will be maintained throughout the pandemic. The administration will ensure compliance with these policies.

Health Screenings for Students and Staff – Every staff member will be tested for Covid-19 before the opening of school and must be Covid-free. Additional testing will be conducted as per compliance with ongoing instructions from local health authorities. All staff will conduct self-screening for symptoms of illness each day before coming to school, and will not come to the campus with any signs of sickness.

The CDC does not currently recommend schools to conduct universal symptom screening, but strongly encourages parents or caregivers to monitor their children for signs of infectious illness every day. Thus, we are using the CDPH guidelines for self-checks at home and instructing parents to monitor their own households and students so as not to send to school any child who shows possible symptoms of Covid-19. Each family will complete a daily checklist online to confirm their students and the household are not showing any symptoms of Covid-19. Staff and families must immediately report to the school any symptomatic information from the household or from contacts with people infected with Covid-19.

Each teacher will have an IR touchless thermometer to use when a student's temperature is in question. Should any student or staff person manifest possible symptoms of Covid-19 or have a temperature of 100.4 or more while on campus, the school will immediately remove them from their cohort, and a designated staff person will wait with them in the quarantine room and follow pre-arranged plans of the family for travel home or to appropriate medical help.

Healthy Hygiene Practices – The school will teach and reinforce prevention behaviors including social distancing, use of face coverings, handwashing, cough/sneeze etiquette

etc. as important strategies in slowing the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

Tissues will be available on every student's table. Hand sanitizer will also be available on all student and teacher tables, for 4th-6th grade students. and K-3rd grade teachers will monitor their use. In addition, disinfecting wipes are available in each classroom for teacher use.

Each cohort and the staff members working with that cohort have a separate restroom with multiple sinks for their individual cohort to use as handwashing stations. Students will conduct handwashing throughout the day. All staff members will direct students in the use of all of these resources.

Students and staff will wash/sanitize their hands at the following intervals:

1. When entering their classroom in the morning
2. When re-entering their classroom after being outside
3. After coughing or sneezing and using the restroom
4. Mid-morning (10:00 am)
5. Before lunch
6. After lunch
7. Mid-afternoon (2:00 pm)
8. At the end of the day before leaving the classroom.

Tables and multi-touched surfaces will be disinfected at the same intervals. Students will be reminded to immediately dispose of used tissues into trash containers. During the first week of school, teachers will establish this routine with their students, ensuring all students are trained in the protocols that will be used. Hand sanitizing stations will be placed at every entrance/exit. Anyone entering or exiting a room will be required to sanitize their hands.

Posters will be visible in all areas advocating sanitation and healthy practices. Staff will use materials from the CDC, SCPH and CDPH to instruct students in healthy practices. Regular reminders will be sent to families advising them of information and instructions on the CDC, SCPH and CDPH websites for responding to the Covid-19 concerns.

Examples are the following:

[Covid-19 - Sacramento County](#)

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

[What to Do If You Are Sick](#)

[Covid-19 Updates](#)

Identification and Tracing of Contacts – The superintendent of the school is the contact person responsible for tracking and communicating with the local health department instances of direct exposure or confirmed cases of Covid-19. Whenever a person within a staff or student household is directly exposed to or becomes a confirmed Covid-19 case, they are to report immediately to the superintendent of the school who will report it to the SCPH, and risks can be defined and appropriately mitigated as per guidance from the SCPH and medical professionals. Contact tracing will be supported and required steps taken in the school to see that exposure is prohibited or contained.

Physical Distancing - In addition to cohorts each staying in their own rooms in separate buildings, desks will be arranged so students each have 6 feet between them and other students. When such distancing inhibits needed interaction, face masks and plexiglass sneeze-guards will be used. Teachers will likewise maintain 6 foot distance when teaching or will wear face-masks when needing to interact more closely. Wherever on campus there is the possibility of multiple people entering at once there will be markers on pavement or floors indicating the 6-foot distance to be maintained.

Staff Training and Family Education – During staff orientation before the school reopens, all faculty will be trained in the appropriate use of face coverings, hand sanitizers, and disinfectant wipes in the classroom (see “Healthy Hygiene Practices”). In addition, staff members will receive instruction about how to help students develop the routines outlined in the Reopening Plan such as how to maintain social distance, how to maintain healthy hygiene practices, how to use PPE, and how to move on the campus (see “Entrance, Egress and Movement Within the School”) and how to store their books and resources to ensure equipment and resources are not shared with others. The staff will also receive guidance about how to identify and isolate students who might have Covid-19, what to do when a student becomes ill in the classroom, how to use infrared thermometers and what to do if the staff member is sick. This will be reviewed during a weekly staff meeting for the first month after the school reopens and monthly after that time. Any staff member hired after the school reopens will have a training session about all of the above before beginning work.

Families will be given the reopening guidelines. During a video orientation, the administrator will instruct parents about all the topics in the Reopening Plan so they and their students understand all the policies and protocols for reopening including all the topics above as well as how to know when they should keep their student home from school according to the CDC, SCPH and CDPH (see sites listed below) and how the

school will conduct digital classes if a classroom is closed due to Covid-19 exposure. During the first month of school, parents will receive a weekly digital reminder of these topics. After that time, monthly reminders will be sent to all parents.

The school administrator will ensure protocols are followed on the campus by staff, students and parents.

Resources used include the following:

[Covid-19 - Sacramento County](#)

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

[What to Do If You Are Sick](#)

[Covid-19 Updates](#)

Testing of Students and Staff - Staff will all have been tested for Covid-19 before school begins and will not be allowed on campus unless tested negative, healthy and posing no risk. Further periodic testing will be done as per ongoing guidelines from the SCPH. Students who have had confirmed cases of Covid-19 or been exposed to it will be required to be tested before being admitted to the campus.

Families will all be required to provide the school answers to screening questions from the CDC before the school year begins in order to make the school aware of any cause for initial concerns or restrictions. In addition, daily confirmation via an online form that inquires whether students and families are free of Covid-19 symptoms (as outlined by [CDC](#) and [Sac County](#)) will be required from each family in order for the student to come to school that day. (See section titled “Health Screenings for Students and Staff”)

Any staff person, student or member of a student household that exhibits potential symptoms of Covid-19 must be rapidly tested with results in 48-72 hours, and be quarantined until the results of the test show negative. They are to report immediately to the school superintendent the results of the test and provide any information that would enable tracing of contacts prior to or following the manifesting of symptoms.

- If staff/student is exposed to COVID-19, they must quarantine the full 14 days and self monitor for symptoms. A negative test does not cancel a 14-day quarantine period after exposure.

Those who need to be tested can click on the link below to find testing sites.

[TESTING SITES](#)

COVID-19 Diagnosis or Exposure - If a student or staff member was symptomatic with mild to moderate illness and thinks or knows they had COVID-19, they must isolate at home. **They may return to school when all 3 of these criteria have been met:**

- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared **and**
- At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
- Symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved.

If a student or staff member had no symptoms of illness, but tested positive for COVID-19, they may return to school when:

- There has been 10 days since their first positive test and they continue to have no symptoms.

If a student or staff member has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, they may return to school:

- Following a 14-day quarantine if they have no symptoms.

An exposure is defined as someone who has had close contact (less than 6 feet) for at least 15 minutes. Get more information on when to quarantine [HERE](#).

If a student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, the school will work closely with Sacramento County Public Health to determine if and for how long the school site should close. Contact tracing will be used to notify families if their child has a possible exposure to COVID-19. Should the physical school site need to close for any period of time, instruction may continue through distance learning.

Triggers for Switching to Distance Learning - Cohorts will be switched to distance learning if someone in the cohort tests positive for Covid-19. This includes a teacher.

The school will switch to distance learning if 5% of the school has confirmed Covid-19 cases.

Communication Plans – The school office maintains regular email and/or text communication with parents on all matters, and will convey with immediacy any advisories or changes that need to be made to protect health and prevent disease transmission, and do so maintaining confidentiality consistent with privacy requirements such as FERPA and HIPAA.