Butler Christian Academy

COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

Updated: 12/08/20

Dear BCA Family,

Thank you for your cooperation as we work through this pandemic together. Your participation and support has enabled us to keep our students and campus safe. As we strive to offer your child(ren) the best education possible, we ask that you continue to follow the Policies and Procedures outlined below.

Below, you will find detailed procedures that provide clear expectations to support safety and well-being. This plan provides updated strategies for responding to an evolving health crisis and provides information concerning: health and safety, monitoring illnesses, mask requirements and lunch protocol.

We ask that you continue to partner with us by praying for God’s wisdom and guidance as we move forward through each school day and to adhere to all areas of the following policies and procedures.

We are thankful for God’s blessings on BCA and we ask the He continue to provide guidance and unity in all we do.

May God richly bless you and your family!

Health and Safety

The following safety measures will be enforced during throughout the school year:

* Following [CDC guidelines](https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/etiquette/index.html) on hygiene <https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/etiquette/index.html>
* Daily temperature screenings for all faculty and students will take place upon arrival.
* Fever-reducing medicines should not be administered prior to arrival.
* All high touch areas throughout the school will be cleaned 3x’s per day and fogged each night.
* Hand sanitizing stations available throughout the school.
* Limited parental and other adult access to campus in compliance with DPH/CDC guidelines.
* Water fountains will not be used. Please bring water bottles.
* HVAC system modified in the main building and portables.
* BCA is requiring students to wear face masks at all times while in the school building/portables. (Students will be allowed to remove masks while outdoors. As weather permits, outdoor lunch and breaks between classes will be permitted.)
* Food will ***not*** be served during lunch or break. Parents are asked to send lunches/snacks that *will not* require heating. ***Note: Lunch drop-off or take-out lunches will not be allowed.***

Monitoring Illness

BCA will follow the guidelines as stated in the [Georgia’s Path to Recovery for K-12 School](https://www.georgiainsights.com/recovery.html) (<https://www.georgiainsights.com/recovery.html>) for the safety of our BCA family. In addition, if a student, faculty, or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, BCA will maintain health protocols and adhere to CDC procedures:

* Parents will be required to keep their child at home and transition to virtual learning if (the student):
	+ Has a temperature of 99.0 or higher
	+ If the student experiences:
		- ONE of the following COVID symptoms (fever, chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new cough, or new loss of taste or smell) OR
		- TWO of the following symptoms (sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, chills, muscle pain, extreme fatigue/feeling very tired, new server/very bad headache, new nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose)
	+ Receives a positive lab result
	+ Becomes exposed to a person with COVID-19.
* Anyone displaying symptoms will be required to be tested for COVID-19.

**Isolation of Confirmed COVID Cases:**

* **Symptomatic** students with confirmed COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19 can return to school after:
	+ 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
* **Asymptomatic** students with confirmed COVID-19 can return to school after:
	+ At least 10 days have passed since the positive laboratory test and the person remains asymptomatic
		- * Note: asymptomatic persons who test positive and later develop symptoms should follow the guidance for symptomatic persons above.

**Quarantine of those Exposed to a COVID Case:**

All close contacts MUST be quarantined and excluded from the school setting, regardless of students, teachers, or staff wearing masks or the use of physical barriers.

A 14-day quarantine period is still recommended; however, students may opt for a shorter quarantine period by following the below criteria.

* **Asymptomatic** persons who have a known exposure to a person with COVID-19 can return to school:
	+ **After 7 full days have passed, if:**
* **Tested** for COVID-19 (PCR/molecular or antigen test) after the 5th day of quarantine. If an individual is tested more than 48 hours prior to the release from quarantine, they must be retested after the 5th day or follow the 10-day guidance.
* **After 10 full days have passed, if:**
* Not tested for COVID-19 **AND**
* Does not experience any COVID symptoms during the quarantine period.

After stopping quarantine after day 7 or 10, students who do not have symptoms should

* Be closely monitored for COVID-19 symptoms for an entire 14 days.
* Continue wearing masks, social distance and wash hands.
* Parents are to contact the school and keep their child home if they have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19. There are now two options available:
	+ 14-day quarantine would begin starting the day after exposure.
	+ In order to return after 7 days of quarantine, the student must fulfill ***all THREE*** of the following criteria:
		- A diagnostic test (PCR or antigen) must be collected after 5 full days of quarantine
		- Receive a negative result
		- No symptoms experienced during the 7-day period.

We request that parents alert Rachel Padgett (rachel.padgett.bca@gmail.com) if anyone in the household has tested positive for COVID-19 or has had prolonged one-on-one time (less than 6 ft. for more than 15 minutes) within a 14-day period with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

In the case of a positive lab result, BCA will:

* Contact parents to make them aware
* Close the primary area where the student was located for deep sanitization and leave for up to 24 hours, per CDC guidelines.
* With GDPH guidelines, BCA will monitor diagnosed cases within our community to allow for a better understanding of the overall school, campus, building, and classroom health conditions.