

Boise Valley Adventist School

COVID-19 Response Plan
and
Handbook Addendums



Dear Parents,

BVAS wants to assure you that plans are in place to keep our students and staff as safe as possible from the Coronavirus. Our school plays a critical role in the well-being of our community, and we believe every student deserves access to a great education whether the teaching and learning occurs in a traditional classroom or online. While responding to the pandemic, we remain firmly grounded in our core beliefs and interests to:

- Offer a high-quality educational experience five days a week
- Be creative, flexible, and sustainable in our instruction and school operations
- Be empathetic and respectful of everyone's choices and individual needs

BVAS follows the Central District Health (CDH) recommendations and guidelines for implementing preventative measures. As COVID levels change and restrictions are lifted so do the protocols we implement to keep our students and staff safe. If a case is confirmed in our school, we will work within the CDH guidelines to notify parents and staff within the school. In the event of extended absences or school closure, information about the ability to continue education will be provided.

We currently have two learning models in place:

1. **Normal Learning:** *All students in the school building*
 - a. Normal school routines
 - b. Normal attendance policies
 - c. Normal grading policies

2. **Distance Learning:** *No students permitted in the school building*
 - a. Modified attendance and academic policies
 - b. All schooling via the Distance Learning model

It is our intention to begin the school year in the Normal Learning model unless conditions and safety deem otherwise. Whether we are in Normal Learning or Distance Learning mode, we will continue our mission to provide a Christ-centered academic experience.

Considering changes brought on by COVID-19, the following information reflects our COVID policies and addendums to the Parent/Student Handbook. Thank you for your prayers and patience as we continue to implement the following safeguards for our students and staff.

Parental Responsibility

BVAS parents will be expected to:

- Keep any sick child (and siblings) home from school until 24 hours after the illness symptoms/fever have passed
- Report any potential exposure of COVID-19 to the BVAS Office
- Self-quarantine school age children up to 10 days unless otherwise directed by the administration

In addition, we rely on parents to promote the same hygienic practices we direct students to practice at school, including:

- Covering coughs or sneezes with a bent arm or tissue and washing hands with soap and water or using hand sanitizer afterward
- keeping hands away from nose, mouth, and eyes and
- avoiding the sharing of food, drink, and personal items (i.e. lip balm, combs, clothing, etc.)

Hygiene Practices

BVAS has implemented protocols to social distance students where possible, keep surfaces sanitized, and protect the students from the risk of exposure or spread. BVAS will also:

- Follow CDH recommendations for the control and prevention of COVID-19
- Implement education on prevention strategies
- Increase cleaning and disinfecting of commonly touched surfaces
- Install a water station, UV air filters, and sanitizing stations throughout the building

In addition, staff and students will be expected to:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for the recommended length of time
- Utilize hand sanitizer between hand washings as needed
- Practice respiratory hygiene by covering coughs and sneezes with a flexed elbow or tissue
- Avoid touching the face
- Avoid sharing food, drinks, cosmetics, or personal care items

Student Screenings

Periodic temperature screenings will be performed to safeguard against COVID. Students whose temperatures are above 100.4° F (and their siblings) will be sent home until they are symptom free for 24 hours. In addition, students with ill family members will NOT be allowed to attend school until 24 hours have passed with no medicine and no symptoms.

Modified Learning

In the event we are unable to operate under the Normal Learning model, we will switch to the Distance Learning model. For Distance Learning, grading and academic guidelines will be modified at the discretion of each teacher.

In addition, we respect the right of families to keep students at home in the interest of their health and safety during this pandemic. Therefore, the Distance Learning model will be utilized for those students, as well.

If any circumstance deems that a student resort to the Distance Learning model, the following flexibilities will be implemented:

- Teachers will offer daily instruction (via Google Classroom, Google Meet, Zoom, Seesaw, etc.) as appropriate. All students will be expected to complete and submit classwork distributed by their teachers.
- Attendance policies will consider the special circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. Homebound students will not be penalized for their absences.
- Homeroom teachers will be in close contact with homebound students and will make weekly contact with parents (at a minimum).
- School materials will be made available to homebound students. Details will be coordinated between the teacher and that student's family.

Technology

In the case of Distance Learning, students will need to ensure access to technology at home.

Drop-off and Pick-up

Multiple doors will be used to control crowding during drop-off and pick-up times. Grades PK/K will enter and exit through the main lobby, grades 1/2 and 3/4 will enter and exit their classrooms' exterior doors, and grades 5/6 will enter and exit through the south entrance, and grades 7/8 will enter and exit through the library/office entrance.

To reduce the spread of COVID-19 on campus, parents are encouraged to utilize the pull-through for drop-off and pick-up rather than park and exit their vehicle.

Classroom Restrictions

The use of face masks, shields and barriers, keyboard protectors, spacing between desks, spacing in line, library usage, eating in the lunchroom, birthday celebrations, parent involvement, and attending fieldtrips, will now be implemented at the discretion of each teacher.

In addition, recess, PE, music, after-school clubs, contact sports, assembly, chapel, and the use of drinking fountains will resume as normal with no social distancing. In case of increased health concerns, these items may be modified or suspended.

Visitors and Volunteers

The number of volunteers and visitors will be limited inside our building. All visits and conferences should be arranged ahead of time.

Rental/Use of School Facilities

Measures will be taken to maintain all areas where outsiders use the school facilities. These include Pathfinders, church groups, clubs, and other renters. Each group will be expected to clean-up after themselves by wiping down items used, such as equipment, door handles, restrooms, tabletops, etc.

Procedure for Positive or Suspected COVID-19 Case

The following procedure is to be used if a student or employee is identified as COVID-19 positive or suspected positive while on campus.

- Student or employee is respectfully asked to isolate in the holding room
- For students, the office will call parents or legal guardian for pickup
- For employees, the office will coordinate with school leadership to manage follow-up effects
- A student or employee will be provided appropriate personal protection equipment and any employee interacting with the confirmed or suspected case will be provided with a mask and gloves
- The office will trace a list of potential campus exposures
- The office will coordinate (as appropriate) with parents/legal guardians to build a list of potential at home exposures
- School leadership will decide if a closure is necessary and the length thereof
- School leadership will provide CDH with appropriate details and exposure information
- School leadership will coordinate the closure decision with CDH, the BVAS school board, and school community
- School leadership will provide the school community with appropriate incident details
- BVAS will transition to the Distance Learning model for the closure period

***Please enquire with your child's teacher for clarification regarding any of our policies and see the BVAS Parent/Student Handbook for all other regular school policies.