Mt. Pleasant Christian School

BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN

COVID 19 GUIDELINES

2020-2021
To Parents and Families:

The information in this document is subject to change. It is intended for general information only and will be updated as needed. This is subject to change based on the requirements of the Alabama Department of Education and local school boards. This does not constitute a legal contract or legal advice.
School Start Dates: Teachers: August 19 – 21 Teacher in-service work days.

Student Start Dates: Monday, August 24

The School Will Offer: Traditional On-campus Instruction and Blended/Remote Learning

Traditional on-campus and blended/remote Learning: In following local campus attendance and instruction guidelines, the school will offer a combination of traditional on-campus instruction and remote/blended instruction.

K2 – K5: Students will attend campus five days a week, Monday – Friday. Students who are enrolled in the aftercare program will also attend campus five days a week.

Grades 1–12: Students will attend campus four days a week. Mondays will be reserved for Remote Learning. Students will attend campus on Tuesdays through Fridays, except in cases of illness or the need for the school to operate under a temporarily closed or restricted schedule. In the event of any delays, absences, quarantines, or partial or school-side shutdowns, classes will immediately shift to remote learning and will be continued without any break.

Please note: The school reserves the right to shift or adjust the days of on-campus instruction as is needed, depending on the recommendation of the ALSDE, the Department of Health, local conditions, and advice from medical authorities.

Teacher/Staff Responsibilities Grades 1–12: Mondays will be reserved for remote work for class preparation, lesson planning, grading assignments, and posting assignments and lesson plans. All lesson plans and assignments will be posted to the school’s online system: Praxis. Teachers will post complete lesson plans for the upcoming week for each subject by Monday, 12:00 noon. These lesson plans will be for a minimum of the following days: Tuesday through Monday of the next week. These plans will be ready at all times for remote learning, campus learning, absentees, quarantine, and any other reason that would cause the school to be closed or a student to be absent. No learning or instruction time will be missed. Under normal conditions, all Monday learning will be limited to the use of textbooks and the completion of required, previously-taught assignments. No zoom or google meetings will be required during this time. Should the school be required to close, either partially or entirely, then instruction will be given through video, google classroom, zoom meetings, or other remote-learning formats.

Student Responsibilities for Remote Learning: Students will attend campus on a blended schedule. Mondays will be reserved for all students for remote learning and students will attend campus on Tuesdays through Fridays. Students who need extra instruction may be required to attend Monday learning workshops on campus. All lesson plans and weekly assignments will be found posted to Praxis, where teachers will have these posted and ready ahead of each week. All students will be responsible to complete all assignments when they are due, including remote learning and on-campus learning, regardless of days missed or any absences.
Daily Wellness Protocols:

Students and Staff will stay home who: have recently had close contact with COVID 19; have symptoms of COVID 19; have a fever of 100.0 or above; chills; cough; congestion; shortness of breath; muscle/body aches; sore throat; or gastro-intestinal trouble, etc. The School will administer daily temperature checks, and any sick or symptomatic child will be quarantined and sent home.

In the event that a staff member, child, or teacher should contract COVID 19, proper procedures for quarantining one classroom, one group of students, one building, or the entire school will be followed. Parents will be notified of any contact or quarantines.

Teachers and other school staff will be in designated areas to welcome students to school each day. All arrivals and dismissal times will be designed to avoid students congregating in hallways or in large groups before the school day begins, before or after class times, or after school. In general, in the mornings, all students will be directed to their homeroom or first period class. For this reason, we strongly recommend that no student should arrive at school before 7:45 am. Please make arrangements with the school office if your children must arrive earlier.

On Campus:

Note: Essential ALSDE (Alabama State Department of Education) and CDC (The Center for Disease Control) guidelines State: Since COVID 19 is spread mostly by respiratory droplets released when people talk, yell, sing, cough, sneeze, etc., 1. People are considered at greatest risk who are grouped less than 6 feet apart for more than 15 minutes, or are in large groups. Because of this, at times, students may be required to use face coverings or masks. For example: When lined up in hallways or moving from one classroom to another.

In addition, students may be exposed to germs and illness by touching contaminated surfaces and then transferring germs to the nose or mouth by touching their faces.

In order to mitigate these risks, Mt. Pleasant Christian School will observe the following:

1. The school will maintain small class sizes.

2. Small groups of students stay together, preferably with the same teacher, throughout the day.

3. Groups will not mix between classes and during activities.

4. Students will remain a least 6 feet apart whenever possible.

5. Students will not share objects.

6. Desks will all face the same direction; students will not face each other.

7. Students will be asked to wear masks in hallways if it is difficult to remain 6 ft. apart.
8. Provide physical guides – tape on floor marking 6 feet distance; signs alerting 6 ft. distance.

9. Provide hand sanitizing stations at every entrance/exit.

10. Consider one-way traffic guides in hallways and large rooms.

11. Close Communal/shared spaces (for Mt. P. this would be the sanctuary, lunchroom, gym), otherwise, stagger use and clean between each use, and clean any equipment touched by students.

12. Groups – No large groups; no large gatherings; no physical fieldtrips (See ACEA and CDC Guidelines for sports/activities). Limit visitors to campus. Require visitors to abide by social distancing restrictions and possibly wear masks while in common areas.

13. Playtime – No PE unless strict adherence to Guidelines: Will cohort with small groups; No Mixing; clean after each group’s use; clean objects touched by students; outside play is better.

15. The school will observe enhanced sanitation practices and intense cleaning protocols.

16. Sharing facilities – any use by any group of any facility – the facility must be cleaned and sanitized after use before next group enters.

Cleaning Protocols:

The school will provide cleaning and sanitation equipment to ensure proper cleaning and sanitation.

Cleaning Staff: The School will develop and maintain expanded cleaning schedules to ensure daily sanitation and ongoing cleanliness of facilities. Restrooms will be sanitized multiple times daily – a minimum of morning, midday, and after school hours, and as needed. Hallways will be mopped a minimum of once each day. Dining room tables and seats, as well as all surfaces touched by students will be cleaned after each group – before a new group enters. Door glasses will be cleaned at least once daily. Door knobs and handles will be cleaned multiple times daily. This list will receive modification as plan develops.

Teachers: Teachers will be responsible for maintaining the cleaning and sanitation of their classrooms and will be provided with cleaning and sanitizing supplies to clean as needed and to sanitize desks and other surfaces between groups of students. Teachers will perform basic cleaning protocols during the school day for their classrooms and will assure that their classrooms are left clean and sanitized at the end of each school day. Teachers will mop their classrooms a minimum of once a week, at the close of the school week.

SOURCES: ADPH – Alabama Department of Public Health - Guidelines for Reopening Schools; ACEA Alabama Christian Ed. Association Guidelines for Summer and Sports Programs; ALSDE Alabama State Department of Education Roadmap to Reopening Schools; Expectations for Reopening Schools; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Various Local Districts’ Plans for Reopening Schools.