

Lighthouse Christian Academy COVID-19 Policy

It is our goal at Lighthouse Christian Academy (LCA) to allow for as much in person learning as possible. And also allow for participation in school activities and sporting events without cancelations due to multiple quarantines, while always striving to maintain the health and safety of our students and staff.

Following the guidance of the Maryland State Department of Education as well as the Allegany County Board of Health regarding masking guidance and quarantine, these policies have been developed, and will be put into place and followed until further notice.

1. Masks will be optional for all students, unless required for completion of in school quarantine.
2. Any student who is sick or has been sick and is waiting on results of COVID-19 test must remain home until results are confirmed negative or Positive. If your student is positive please call the school with the results and the school nurse will give you the date of return for your child and discuss any pre-return procedures.
3. Any student who is tested and is positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate/quarantine. They will be required to isolate at home for the first 5 days, then if they are asymptomatic (must be evaluated by the school nurse and cleared) they can finish the rest of the 10 day quarantine at school with a well-fitting mask. If your child is symptomatic they may return to school at the end of their 10 day isolation period as long as they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.
4. Any student living with a family member who tests positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine. (Please call the school nurse to discuss return dates as soon as positive results are received)
 - a. Students will be required to quarantine at home for the length of their family members quarantine. Or 5 days from the positive test date.
 - b. Upon return the student will have to check-in each morning for a period of 2 weeks with the school nurse, or office if she is unavailable, and be evaluated for symptoms. If at any time the staff feel they are developing symptoms they will need to isolate for 5 days at home and then reevaluate, or show proof of a negative test.
 - c. The student can opt out of morning checks after the family member's isolation with proof of a negative test on days 1 and 5, after the family members quarantine has ended. These tests can be performed at a clinic of your choice or by the school nurse with your written consent.

- d. The student will be required to wear a well-fitting mask during this period.
 - e. Students who are fully vaccinated and or boosted within the previous 6 months or have had a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 90 days are exempt under section 4, unless they become symptomatic.
5. Any student who has had an in school exposure will not be required to mask or quarantine, unless they develop symptoms or test positive.

LCA will continue to offer COVID-19 Testing and screening to students, staff and family members on an as needed basis, through the Maryland K-12 Testing Program. These tests are free of charge to the parents, and no insurance is needed. Please note that no student will be tested without express written parental consent.