



2021-2022 COVID-19 School Safety Plan



Our Aspiration

At Calvin Christian School it is our mission to *educate God's children to boldly follow Christ for kingdom service*. To accomplish this well, **there is no substitute for being together**. God designed us to be in relationship with him and others and it is our deep desire to grow in our experience of his family here at Calvin.

We have been committed to providing students with meaningful, connected learning experiences. We will continue to embrace the very best that is available to us to ensure that our students can grow and develop as image bearers in their distinct God-given giftedness and purpose.

As we make plans and look to the future, we continue to have this posture:

This is not easy.

We are learning. We are listening.

We are working together as a community.

We have hope. God is with us - and we are thankful for his provision.

Our COVID-19 School Safety Plan follows the guidance we have received from the Illinois Department of Public Health, the [Illinois State Board of Education](#) and the Center for Disease Control.

Calvin has many advantages:

- **Expanded Classrooms (up to 1400 square feet) and average class sizes of 20 that allow us to easily meet the recommended 3 feet for physical distancing in classrooms.**
- **A large campus with both shaded areas and green space for outdoor learning.**
- **A committed staff who are energized to serve students and families well. These times have required creative thinking, nimble planning, and a steadfast commitment to our mission.**

Today we face a unique set of challenges - but I can't think of a better community to struggle through this with. We will strengthen our unity and testimony as the people of God called to this special place, despite the uncertainty ahead.

Thank you for your patience and your prayers. We look forward with deep hope to a great year ahead of us at Calvin.

Randy Moes, CCS Principal

Andrew Fentress, CCS Assistant Principal

Please be advised, Calvin Christian Schools's COVID-19 School Safety Plan is a fluid document that may be amended at the discretion of the CCS board and administration.



At A Glance

The following priorities and assumptions guided the development of our 2021-2022 COVID-19 School Safety Plan.

Our Priorities:

- Learning in-person, on campus.
- Focusing on the physical, social, emotional and spiritual well-being of students and staff.
- Reducing the risk of spreading the virus.
- Being flexible as guidance changes.

Our Assumptions:

- For most of their day, students will move throughout their day in their class “cohort.”
- Classroom spaces remain doubled-sized and desks will be set up in the classrooms 3 to 6 feet apart to help students practice the recommended physical distancing.
- All students will be on campus 5 days/week (Monday-Friday) from 8:15am-3:00pm, except for Wednesdays, which will have a 2:15pm dismissal.

As of early March, there is low community transmission in Cook County and Lake County and the Executive Order that required masks issued by Governor JB Pritzker has been lifted.

We continue to follow guidance issued from the CDC and IDPH as well as particulars for education provided through ISBE. We are currently awaiting updates. Some things will

stay the same as the 2020-21 school year; there are many things that we will change. Here is a short summary of protocols that we are currently following:

Continue	Changes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ascend Daily Screener <input type="checkbox"/> No before school outside recess <input type="checkbox"/> Air purifiers in classrooms <input type="checkbox"/> Hand sanitizing <input type="checkbox"/> Daily use of water bottles and water bottle filling stations instead of water fountain use. <input type="checkbox"/> No microwave <input type="checkbox"/> Chromebooks for each 4th-8th grade student, iPads for each K-3rd student <input type="checkbox"/> Using Seesaw and Google Classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Open to adjustments in protocols throughout year based on guidance <input type="checkbox"/> Universal mask optional for students and staff inside and outside. <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms <input type="checkbox"/> Band and choir with safety protocols <input type="checkbox"/> A whole class will quarantine for 5 days after 3 COVID-19 infections occurring within 14 calendar days of each other and linked by known exposure with respect to place and time and classroom rapid testing post outbreak <input type="checkbox"/> Field trips and athletics resume <input type="checkbox"/> Chapels will return with carefully sized groups of students (and live streamed) <input type="checkbox"/> Relaxation of outdoor recess cohorting for some grades <input type="checkbox"/> No Homebound Learning option, no live streaming <input type="checkbox"/> School week Monday-Friday <input type="checkbox"/> School day (8:15am-3:00pm, Wednesdays 8:15am-2:15pm) <input type="checkbox"/> No temperature checks



Health & Testing Decision Matrix

In order for this plan to work we must all abide by a shared set of expectations. Students and staff who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 must remain at home unless the symptoms are due to another condition that is clear and documented. We will use the following matrix, based on guidelines provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health and the CDC, to make decisions that support the health of our entire community. Students or staff who plan to return after recovering from COVID-19 must call the school at least one day in advance to request permission to return. Any individual in the school environment who shows symptoms during the school day will immediately move to a designated location and be sent home or given consent to administer a COVID-19 rapid antigen test in our lab at school. Exceptions will be made for known conditions with a prior doctor's note.

Status	COVID-19 diagnostic test Positive (confirmed case) OR COVID-19 diagnosis without diagnostic testing (probable case)	Symptomatic individual with a negative COVID-19 diagnostic test** (negative COVID-19 diagnostic test must be from a specimen collected 48 hours after symptom onset)	Symptomatic individual with an alternative diagnosis without negative COVID-19 diagnostic test	Symptomatic individual without diagnostic testing or clinical evaluation	Asymptomatic individual who is a close contact to a confirmed OR probable COVID-19 case
Return to School Guidance	<p><u>Stay home</u> at least 5** calendar days from onset of symptoms including 24 hours with no fever (without fever reducing medication) AND improvement of symptoms. First day of symptoms is Day 0.</p> <p>Strict mask protocols for 10 days, school and home</p> <p>IDPH/ISBE Scenario #1</p>	<p><u>Stay home</u> until symptoms have improved/resolved per return-to-school criteria for diagnosed condition.</p> <p>Follow provider directions, recommended treatment & return to it school guidance as per school policies and IDPH Communicable Diseases in Schools.</p>	<p><u>Stay home</u> until symptoms have improved/resolved per return-to-school criteria for diagnosed condition.</p> <p>Follow provider directions, recommended treatment & return to school guidance as per school policies and IDPH Communicable Diseases in Schools.</p> <p>IDPH/ISBE Scenario #2</p>	<p><u>Stay home</u> until symptoms have resolved for 48 hours, including fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication.</p>	<p>SCHOOL Close Contact - Test-to-Stay Protocol Flowsheet for all students/staff (regardless of vaccination status).</p> <p>Close Contact Protocols- IDPH/ISBE Scenario #3</p> <p>Strict mask protocols for 10 days, school and home</p>
Quarantine of Close Contacts**	<p>Refer below for updated definition of Close Contact.**</p> <p>See Test-to-Stay Protocol Flowsheet for asymptomatic close contact in a school setting- regardless of vaccination status.</p> <p>Household siblings, family members who do not meet criteria for exclusion from close contact must quarantine, if the suspected case is not tested in 24 hours and there is high suspicion the case has Covid-19. Thereafter follow matrix***</p> <p>Close Contact Protocols -IDPH/ISBE Scenario #3 Strict mask protocols for 10 days, school and home setting.</p>				
Documentation Required to Return to School	See Return to School Guidance above, for improved symptoms and strict masking protocols	<p>Negative COVID-19 test result</p> <p>EUA approved tests: Rapid Antigen, PCR, no home testing.</p>	Primary Care Physician's note with alternative diagnosis recommended.	Note from Primary Care Physician recommended.	<p>Two - Negative COVID-19 test results per Test-to-Stay Protocol Flowsheet</p> <p>EUA approved tests: Rapid Antigen, PCR, no home testing.</p>

- **+ “Close contact” means** an individual who was within 6 feet of a confirmed or probable case for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period. **However, a close contact is NOT:**
- A student who was within 3 to 6 feet in a classroom setting for at least 15 minutes with a confirmed or probable student case if both case and contact were consistently masked for the entire exposure period.
 - Students and staff aged 18 years and older who have received all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses, including boosters for any individual who completed the Pfizer-BioNTech primary vaccination series beyond the past five months, the Moderna primary vaccination series beyond the past five months, or Johnson & Johnson Janssen’s (J&J) primary vaccination dose beyond the past two months (and additional primary doses for some immunocompromised people).
 - A student aged 5-17 years who completed the primary series of a COVID-19 vaccine.
 - An individual on school transportation within 3-6 feet if both the confirmed case and the exposed individual were consistently and correctly masked during the entire exposure period and windows were opened (front, middle, and back, or overhead) to allow for good ventilation or HEPA filters were in use during transit.
 - An individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days from date of exposure.
 - An individual who is solely exposed to a confirmed case while outdoors; however, schools may coordinate with their local health department to determine the necessity of exclusion for higher-risk outdoor exposures.

Matrix Footnotes:

- **** Severely immunocompromised or severely ill may need to be isolated for 20 days as per guidance from an individual’s infectious disease physician.
- ***** Consider quarantine for other close contact if there was poor adherence to physical distancing or use of face coverings.

COVID-19 Testing

There are Rapid Covid-19 tests available free of charge in Calvin’s office by appointment for symptomatic students. Please email Care Coordinator, Lisa Dykstra, to register for Rapid Covid testing: care@calvinschool.org and complete the [online consent and registration](#) if you would like to schedule a test for your child.

Physicians Urgent Care or Physicians Immediate Care	Midwest Express Clinic	South Suburban Community College
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highland, Frankfort, Orland). • Rapid or longer test, determined at the appointment • M, W, F at Highland and Frankfort; Orland has availability on more days • Online appointment needed • No doctor referral required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hammond IN/Calumet Park IL and Dyer IN • Rapid Covid-19 testing • Appointment needed • No referral needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Holland • Not rapid • Free for anyone, no doctor referral needed. • Drive through, 8am-4pm, 7 days a week
UChicago Medicine	NW Indiana 24 Hour ER & Hospital	Walgreens South Holland IL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing by appointment • 773-702-2800 • 8am to 4pm, Monday-Friday • Results in 24-48 hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hammond just off the highway next to Cabellas • Testing by appointment • 7am-10:30pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive through testing • Appointment needed

Travel Guidance

The Illinois Department of Education has a helpful document available [here](#) with the latest guidance (Question #52). Cook County has a travel restrictions website that is updated every Tuesday and in effect every Friday. It can be found [here](#) (domestic) and [here](#) (international).

Adjustments to Daily Routines

Drop-off & Pick-up

The Ascend screener will be completed before school each morning by students and staff. Multiple door entry points will be used to control crowding during drop-off and pick-up times. Students arriving between 8:00am and 8:15am will go directly to their classrooms. At the end of each day (3:00-3:10pm), there will be 2 different pickup zones: PK and K-8.

Hallways

Teachers will ensure that students maintain increased spacing in lines as they move through the hallways. Markings on the floor will help guide students when walking and waiting. As much as possible, schedules and procedures will be planned to prevent classes from crossing each other in the hallway.

Classroom Seating & Lockers

Desks and chairs will be separated around classrooms to accommodate 3 foot physical distancing. Backpacks and lunches will be kept in the classroom. Students will have staggered access to their lockers to maintain physical distancing.

Bathrooms, Drinking Fountains & Meals

All bathrooms have automatic flush and faucet operations so that touching most surfaces is not needed. Barriers will be installed between sinks and every other urinal will be shut off. Drinking fountains will be turned off and 5 water bottle filling stations will be available; all students will be asked to bring along or have a water bottle to school. K-2 will eat lunch in their classrooms. 3rd-8th students will have staggered lunch periods in the gym with additional seating added for distancing. Microwaves will not be available.

Facial Coverings

Currently, students are required to wear facial coverings inside the building when in close proximity to others and should have 2 with them every day. Students will have the option to take their mask down/off when seated at their desk distanced from others. Families of students who are unable to wear a mask due to a documented reason should contact Calvin's administration.

Chapels & Assemblies

In-person chapels will be scheduled PK-2, 3-5 and 6-8 classes and live-streamed for those not in attendance in the gym.

Physical Education Classes

Physical education will be held outside as much as possible. We are planning on a full slate of athletics for sports. We expect to have limitations on guests and fans and all equipment will be sanitized prior to reuse.

Art, Music, Spanish, Library & Multi-Media Literacy Classes

Art, Music, Spanish and Multi-Media Literacy classes will go back to being hosted in their own dedicated spaces. The Library is back with a completely renovated space. Band and Choir will also return.

Outdoor Recess

Middle school recess will not be cohorted. For grades 3-5, some days will not be cohorted. For grades K-2, cohorting will continue. Students will be able to be mask-free and play with students from their cohort.

Designated Space for Sick Students

A monitored room just outside of the front office will be set up for sick and symptomatic students that are evaluated and/or waiting to be picked up.

Air Ventilation

Air scrubbers help purify the air in every room. Every room is air conditioned. Heat is provided by drawing in and warming outside air at each classroom.

Extended Care

This program will be available before and after school. Students will be separated in classrooms with similar age students and distanced from one another. Four separate rooms/spaces will be available.

Daily Sanitation Protocols

School-Wide Disinfection

We use EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) registered disinfectants to clean desks,

common tables, countertops, doorknobs and handles, handrails, hands-on learning items, phones and bathroom fixtures every day.

Hand Sanitizer Stations

Hand sanitizing stations are at all entrances and in other high-traffic areas of the building. Students and staff regularly wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus.

Partnering with Families

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

- covering coughs or sneezes with a bent arm or tissue and washing hands or using hand sanitizer afterward;
- washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, drying hands with a paper towel;
- keeping hands away from nose, mouth, and eyes;
- avoiding the sharing of food, drinks, and personal items.

FAQs

What about parents and volunteers?

Parents and volunteers will only be allowed in the building for essential and critical school and classroom needs. All visitors must wear a face covering when in close proximity to others and go through a health screening protocol that includes a temperature check.

How can I talk to my children about COVID-19?

Consider the following [helpful guidance](#) found on the CDC website.

Can we purchase a plexiglass barrier for around our child's desk?

We believe that frequent hand washing, physical distancing and the option of wearing masks will be strong mitigating factors, but concerned parents may purchase prescribed barriers at their own expense (contact the school office for more details).

Does Calvin have a Home Learning Policy if a student is quarantined?

We do. You can find it at this [link](#).

Procedure for Positive or Suspected COVID-19 Case

The following procedure will be used if a student or employee becomes symptomatic during the day:

1. Student or employee will be asked to isolate in the holding room.

- For students, the front office will call parents or guardians for pickup.
- For employees, the front office will coordinate with school administration to manage follow-up actions.
- Any employee interacting with the suspected case will use PPE (mask and gloves).

The following procedure will be used if we learn that a student or employee has tested positive:

- 1. School administration will contact IDPH with appropriate details and exposure information.**
 - The front office will coordinate (as appropriate) with parents or guardians of the student or directly with the employee to compile a list of potential exposures (contact trace).
 - Further steps may be taken after consultation with the Illinois Department of Public Health.
- 2. School administration will update the school community (parents/guardians) with appropriate details.**

Our thanks to the following persons who have labored as an ongoing multi-disciplinary group to develop and revise this COVID-19 School Safety Plan:

- **Amy Boerman-Cornell**, 4th Grade Teacher
- **Leah Casson**, Pathways Director
- **Mark W. Dykstra**, Board Treasurer + Executive Committee Member
- **Andrew Fentress**, Assistant Principal
- **Dan Hanenburg**, Maintenance
- **Julie Jann**, 2nd Grade Teacher
- **Lisa Dykstra**, Middle School Teacher and Care Coordinator
- **Randy Moes**, Principal
- **Karen Scurry**, CCS Parent + Mothers Prayer Co-Leader + TRIP Coordinator, Physician Assistant at Lawndale Christian Health Center
- **Kim Bolkema**, Middle School Teacher