



ABILENE
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

2020-2021 RE-ENTRY PLAN

Message From the President

Dear ACS Family,

The unprecedented closure this spring created challenges on many levels for everyone in our school community, but I am proud to have witnessed a resiliency among our students, parents, and faculty/staff members. I am sincerely grateful for our faculty/staff and their response to this challenge, and to you for your perseverance and dedication as we closed out the 2019-2020 year.

Our administrative team has been closely monitoring the guidelines to reopen, and we are working diligently in preparation for what may be the most anticipated school year in quite some time. Although some things will look different, it will be a blessing to see this campus come alive again with kids and teachers. This “Re-entry Plan” has been created with the goal of fulfilling the mission of ACS regardless of the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are grateful for guidance from the National Christian Schools Association, Texas Private Schools Association, Texas Education Agency, and seven different local and state medical professionals. Their input has been invaluable during this process.

You will see three categories of instruction and a brief explanation of each in this plan. While we are preparing to excel in all three categories if necessary, we are hearing that Governor Abbott has no intentions of initiating an executive order to close all schools across the state again this coming year. Most believe control is going to be left up to the local districts. **We are committed to face-to-face instruction for the entire school year as long as we can provide it in a safe and healthy environment.** We believe the safety measures documented in this plan will allow us to do so.

Please rest assured that we will take every feasible precaution available to protect your children while striving to maintain the family atmosphere that makes our school so special.

Can't wait to see you on August 13 for the first day of school!

Kirk

The Re-entry Plan

THE PLAN IS...	THE PLAN IS NOT...
a fluid and evolving set of guidelines	policy
comprised of essential actions designed to protect students/staff and guide planning	an exhaustive list of actions the school will take as we return to school
a product of collaborative decision-making that meets the specific needs of the ACS community	a prescribed return to school playbook
a set of guidelines that will be re-evaluated as new information and data is released	a static document

RIGOROUS CURRICULUM FLEXIBLE DELIVERY



FACE: ON-CAMPUS LEARNING

Excelling in the traditional, rigorous face-to-face classroom instruction designed to prepare students for success at the collegiate level



FUSION: BLENDED LEARNING

Excelling in a blended learning environment that includes both face-to-face instruction and distance learning



FLEX: DISTANCE LEARNING

Excelling in a virtual learning environment with innovative and rigorous instruction

HOW IT WORKS



FACE:
On-Campus
Instruction

Governor opens schools and intentional safety protocols are put in place to ensure the health and safety of students and staff



FUSION:
Blended
Instruction

Governor opens schools but orders a closure for a minimum number of days at some point during the school year before a return to face-to-face instruction



FLEX:
Distance
Instruction

Governor orders that all schools cease on-campus instruction

Modifications to Normal School Life

- **Grandparents Day has been suspended for the 2020-2021 school year, and the school calendar has been adjusted to take the entire week off at Thanksgiving. The latest data indicates that persons infected with COVID-19 shed the virus for nine days. This calendar modification will provide a nine day break for everyone in late November.**
- **Large Group Gatherings:**
 - Chapel will be held in the classroom, gym, in small groups/class meetings, or outside with appropriate social distancing among the grades
 - The number of students in the cafeteria will be reduced by having a rotation of classes that eat in their classroom
 - Self-serve items typically in the cafeteria (i.e. salad bar) will be removed and pre-packaged
 - There will be no gathering of families in the gym at elementary parent orientation. Mrs. Johnson will pre-record her remarks, which will be provided to all families. Parents and students will still have the opportunity to come up to meet their teachers and see their classroom, but this will be done in waves (more info to come) as to allow for social distancing.
 - Only sixth grade families and those of new students will attend secondary parent orientation. Mr. Gravitt's remarks will be streamed live and then archived for those unable to watch at the time. Returning students will be allotted time before school to come pick up their schedule (and make changes if necessary) and organize their locker.
 - Recess time will be staggered so as to allow each grade access to the playground by themselves.
 - Pep Rallies will be held outside in the quad this year.

Preventative Measures to Protect Students and Staff

- Enhanced cleaning measures will be taken by our housekeeping staff in the evenings and faculty/staff members throughout the school day.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and common areas.
- **PPE will not be mandated for students or staff.**
- Disposable masks will be provided for those students that would like them.
- Disposable gloves will be provided for those students that would like them.
- Parents and other visitors on campus after drop-off will be strongly discouraged as we attempt to limit exposure.
- **SCREENING PROTOCOL:**
 - Faculty/staff will self-assess each morning.
 - All students will have their temperature taken at the point of first contact on campus. This includes early morning arrival and first period classes for secondary students. Elementary teachers will open their doors at 8:00 this year and check students as they come in the door.
 - Students that are tardy to school will have their temperature taken by building administrative assistants, which will be noted on their admittance slip to class.
 - A fever will be defined as a temperature of 100.4 or greater (this is consistent with the CDC definition of a fever).

Preventative Measures to Protect Students and Staff (continued)

- **STUDENT TEMPERATURE IS 100.4 OR HIGHER**

- Student will be immediately referred to school nurse where an assessment will be performed, and the temperature will be taken again after a 10 minute waiting period. If less than 100.4, student will be sent back to class and monitored throughout the day.
 - Student will be sent home after second confirmed reading.
 - Students that test positive for COVID-19 must notify the school and follow the prescribed “Return to School” protocol.*
 - Students that test negative for COVID-19 may return with a note from their physician.
 - Students that test positive for flu, strep throat, etc., may return with a note from their physician.
 - Students that elect not to see a physician will be assumed positive and must follow the prescribed “Return to School” protocol.*
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- Administration will alert families of a classmate that has tested positive for COVID-19. Attendance standards will be relaxed for those families that choose to keep their child at home for the recommended quarantine period. Work will be sent home as if they were absent due to illness and expected upon their return.

*Return to School Protocol will be the latest recommendations by the CDC at the time. Protocol at the release of this document is as follows:

At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and, at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

Extra-Curricular Activities and Update

- **Athletic offerings will adhere to recommendations and requirements set forth by the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS).**
- **Field trips will be considered on a case-by-case basis.**
- **Decisions on concerts, programs, and events such as the Lone Star Legacy and Medieval Fair will be made as soon as feasible.**
- **Student travel with appropriate social distancing is being examined at this time.**



The Dr. John and June Estes Family Cafeteria is on schedule and looks fantastic! Can't wait for you to see it.