



Health & Safety Policy

The health and safety of our children and families is of the utmost importance to Hopewell Christian Preschool. To mitigate the risks of COVID-19 while children attend preschool, we have adopted additional health and safety measures based on CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Health, Chester County Department of Health and American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines. *Given the evolving situation, we will continue to update these protocols as necessary.*

Facial Coverings

Based on current guidance, all staff and students are required to wear a face mask when inside the building. Masks should be well fitted and worn over the nose and mouth. Masks are optional when outside. Students are required to keep at least 1 extra mask in their backpack.

Health Checks

All children and staff will go through a brief health screen upon arrival. This will include some general questions as well as a visual check for signs of illness. Temperature checks will be administered as needed.

Parents are required to sign an affidavit and a waiver at the beginning of the school year, in lieu of signing a health screen daily. The affidavit is a promise not to send the student to school with symptoms related to COVID-19. Any existing chronic conditions need to have a doctor's note on file.

Safe Distancing

In accordance with current distancing guidelines, arrival and dismissal will be coordinated in different locations depending on classroom location. As much as possible, classes will remain with the same group each day to limit co-mingling.

Snack

Snack is provided by the preschool and distributed by the teachers. Students will eat snack in a designated "snack room" with dividers or spaced accordingly.

Sanitation

Handwashing and disinfecting throughout the school day will continue to be a priority.

Exposure to COVID-19

- If your child has been vaccinated a copy of their vaccination card should be on file with the preschool.
- If your child has had COVID-19, they are considered “vaccinated” for 90 days, please submit the date of their infection to the office.

Close contact is defined as someone who was within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes or more within 2 days prior to illness onset, regardless of whether the contact was wearing a mask.

If your child is fully vaccinated or has had COVID in the last 90 days, they do not need to quarantine. They should wear a **well-fitting** mask around others at all times for the next 10 days and watch for symptoms. If possible, they should test for COVID on day 5 after exposure.

If your child is not vaccinated or has not had COVID in the last 90 days then they will need to quarantine for 10 days, or test for COVID on or after day 5 of exposure and may return to school on day 7 if that test is negative. Parents should watch for symptoms up to 10 days after exposure.

As always, parents should watch for symptoms and keep your child home if they develop any, whether they have knowingly been exposed or not.

A child who tests positive should isolate for 10 days and be fever free for 24 hours and symptoms should have improved before returning to school.

Considering that 96% of our student population is unvaccinated if there is an ongoing COVID exposure in the home, please strongly consider keeping your child home, regardless of their vaccination status, for the duration of the exposure.

Thank you for partnering with us for your children’s early education and for adhering to current protocols as we navigate through the current health climate.