

GCA Return to School Plan 2022

Grace Christian Academy has been entrusted with the safety and well-being of our students, staff and faculty, and the Eagle community at large. We take very seriously the need to safeguard students. While progress has been made over the past semester regarding the containment of COVID-19, it continues to be active in the community as a threat to personal and public health. Therefore, the school continues to take precautionary measures to maintain a healthy campus, including rigorous cleaning practices.

GCA will implement the following protocols effective January 24, 2022

Students who are lab-confirmed positive for COVID-19:

1. Notify the school that the student has tested positive
2. Exercise one of the options below (per CDC guidelines):
 - **Option 1- Quarantine for five (5) days from the day of positive test**
The student may return on day six (6) if the student is fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications, has improved symptoms, receives a negative rapid test after day 5, and wears a mask at school for the next five (5) days.

GCA can perform a rapid test on campus. On day 6, the student must report to the nurse's office before attending the morning assembly to take a rapid test. If the student receives a negative test result, the student will be allowed to return to class. If the student receives a positive result, a parent /guardian will be called to pick up the child from school.

- **Option 2- Quarantine for ten (10) days from the onset of symptoms or positive test.**
The student may return on day 11 if they are fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved.

Positive Covid-19 cases (staff and students) will be reported to the local health department and the Texas Department of State Health Services as required by TEA.

If the school receives notification of a positive COVID-19 case, it will be the school's general practice to notify the parents via email in that student's grade level/class that the school has received such notification. Parents are encouraged to use their discretion and judgment to determine what action would be in the best interest of their child.

GCA may elect to close/mask/quarantine a class or an entire grade level when it becomes evident that increased measures are necessary for the safety of our students and staff and mitigation of COVID-19.

Students who are exposed to a person who tests positive for COVID -19 (Per CDC guidelines)

1. Parents should monitor their student's health conditions for symptoms of COVID-19
2. Those deemed close personal contacts (CPC) will be asked to quarantine for five (5) days. If no symptoms emerge, the student may return to school on day 6 wearing a mask for the next five (5) days.
3. Classroom/grade level quarantine will be determined by the prevalence of infection within the grade or division level.

Note: Asymptomatic vaccinated students do not need to quarantine but should wear a mask indoors for ten (10) days or until they receive a negative test result on or after the fifth day from the exposure date.

GCA faculty and staff members who tests positive for COVID -19

- Must contact their supervisor if they test positive for COVID-19

Per CDC guidelines, the person is to remain away from others until:

- a. Five days have passed since the positive test result
- b. 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medication)
- c. Covid symptoms are improving
- d. Staff members must have a negative test before returning to active duty on campus
 - i. Staff members may take a rapid test at GCA on their return or from an outside source within 24 hours of their return.

GCA faculty and staff members exposed to a person who tests positive for COVID-19

Per CDC guidelines:

1. vaccinated and asymptomatic, no quarantine is necessary,
 - a. wear a mask for five (5) days, get tested between days 5-7
 - i. Negative, continue wearing masks for another five (5) days
 - ii. Positive – enter COVID protocols stated above
2. Unvaccinated
 - a. Quarantine 5 days after exposure. If asymptomatic after 5 -day quarantine period, may return to school wearing a mask for the next five (5) days
 - b. If symptoms develop, enter COVID protocol above

Since it is impossible to foresee the impact created by COVID-19 in the coming months, GCA reserves the right to revise this policy if circumstances develop where a change would be in the best interests of student health and safety. Should conditions escalate, GCA may elect to close/mask/quarantine a class or an entire grade level when it becomes evident that increased measures are necessary to ensure the health and safety of the GCA community. GCA will notify the staff and GCA community of the change if additional actions are required.

GCA COVID-19 Protocol Levels

GREEN

- > No change in operation other than what has been outlined above in the 2022 Return to School Plan
- > Positive cases on campus are less than 10%

YELLOW

- > 25% confirmed positive cases in any grade level/division - 15% confirmed positive cases on campus
 - Communicate via email change in impact level
 - Seating charts will be initiated
 - CPC tracing initiated
 - Quarantine those with confirmed cases of COVID-19
 - Focused cleaning of the area

ORANGE

- > 40% confirmed positive cases in any grade level/division - 20% of confirmed positive cases on the campus
 - Communication of elevated impact level
 - CPC tracing initiated
 - Quarantine those with confirmed cases of COVID-19
 - Focused cleaning of the area
 - Move to distance learning protocol for 2 -5 days

Red

- > At the discretion of Administration
- > Evidence of widespread outbreak
 - Communication of elevated impact level
 - Campus shut down for five (5) days
 - Distance learning implemented campus-wide

NOTE: GCA reserves the right to revise this policy if circumstances develop where a change would be in the best interests of student health, safety, or academic integrity. Should a revision be deemed necessary by Senior Administration, GCA will notify the staff and GCA community of the change.