



MONROE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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ENGAGE • EQUIP • EMPOWER

Back-to-School Guide

2020-2021

**We are honored that you have chosen Monroe Christian School.
We have every intention of offering an excellent, Christ-Centered,
education for the 2020-2021 school year.**

**We will offer a full course-load without the need to alternate
days/weeks for the students. We understand that families have a lot
of questions about what returning to school looks like.**

Hopefully, we will be able to answer many of your questions here.

What resources were consulted when preparing the reopening plan?



CDC-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



OSPI- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction



DOH- Department of Health



Snohomish Health Department

Classes will begin on September 9.

What will “going back to school” look like for my child?

- ▶ For **most** students, Preschool-8th grade, learning will be in person and on campus.
- ▶ For students in grades 4-8, we have an additional option. Synchronous learning (on-line at the same time as peers are in class) is also available. Students that are not attending school in person may attend class on-line. Students will attend class virtually and follow the normal bell and class schedule. Attendance will be taken daily.

What are the top 5 procedures that you have put in place to keep everyone safe?



Daily Health Screening and temperature checks at each car.



Social Distancing- desks 6 feet apart.



Sanitizing throughout the day with nightly cleaning. **Handwashing!!!**



Cohorts- grouping students to minimize interaction.



Face Coverings and Shields



Before each child leaves their car, we will have you answer a quick health survey and check your child's temperature. This will be completed in the privacy of your car. Students can begin arriving at 8:00 to help keep our circle moving. Children with fevers or questionable health survey's will be required to go home immediately.



Each classroom has been set up with social distancing in mind.



As always you will need to check in the office before entering the building.



We will constantly be reviewing and implementing any changes in our routine to keep everyone safe.

What will the “daily health screening” look like?

- ▶ **We will give each family a questionnaire to keep in your vehicle. A staff member will meet you in the round-about during morning drop-off. As we are taking your child’s temperature, we will ask if you have completed the questionnaire. It will be that simple.**

Face Coverings

- We are asking that you help your child find a mask or face shield that your child feels comfortable wearing. Please send a backup mask to be labeled and kept in the classroom.
- Two face masks have been provided by the City of Monroe for each of our students. One of those can serve as a backup if it works for your child.
- We will provide break-away lanyards for each student to clip their mask to so there is no confusion when face coverings are removed throughout the day.
- We will also have disposable masks available at school.



On campus, all staff will be required to wear face coverings. Sometimes, teachers will opt to wear face shields so that younger students can see their expressions and see how letters are formed.



All visitors are required to wear a face covering.



For now, all students in Kindergarten- 8th grade will be required to wear a face covering. We will keep you updated as we are updated.



Are there exceptions?
A written note from your doctor or if your child has special needs.

What if my child does not feel well during school?

- ▶ We have designated a “sick room” in the office. We will ask your child to keep his/her mask on. Office staff will notify the parents by phone and we ask them to be picked up ASAP (within 1 hour of the phone call.)

What are cohorts?

- ▶ **Cohorts are groupings of students. Each cohort will stay together throughout the day to help minimize the risk of exposure to other students.**
- ▶ **The cohorts will be as follows:**
 - Preschool-PreK
 - Kindergarten-1st grade
 - 2nd-3rd grade
 - 4th-5th grade
 - 6th-8th grade
- ▶ **Throughout the day, cohorts will access their classrooms through their outdoor classroom doors.**

Will there be any breaks for students throughout the day from their face coverings/ masks?



- Yes! In addition to lunch, recess and PE; we plan on taking the students outside every chance we get. Many of our subjects can be taught indoors or outdoors. With that in mind, we are asking that every student brings a standard-sized yoga mat to school with their name on their mat. The mats will be used when we are outside learning. This will enable students to enjoy fresh air and sunshine as we get back into the routine of school.

What about recess, pizza lunch, fieldtrips & music?



Recess? Students will be grouped in cohorts to limit contact and encourage social distancing.

(Preschool- PreK, Kindergarten- 1st , 2nd - 3rd , 4th - 5th and 6th-8th)



Lunch? Students will wash their hands before and after lunch. No sharing of food. Students will wipe down their personal lunch space after they eat.



Field trips? As soon as possible we will return to enjoying field trips.



Music? We will be having music classes in our cohorts across the street at New Hope Fellowship. The space is set up for social distancing and we will open the windows for a cross breeze.

What about Physical Education, Chapel, Community events & Doughnut days?



PE? The students will be grouped in their cohorts for PE. limited contact and social distancing will be encouraged.

(Preschool- PreK, Kindergarten- 1st , 2nd - 3rd , 4th - 5th and 6th-8th)



Community Events?

Are on hold for a while too. We will still be preparing for our Christmas Program even if it is taped and sent home for you to enjoy. AUCTION?



Chapel? May look a little different the first several weeks of school but we are excited about our theme- Heroes of Faith.



Doughnut Days? No Doughnut Days or special lunches for a while.

COVID Symptoms

- FEVER
- COUGH
- SHORTNESS OF BREATH
- RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS
- CHILLS OR REPEATED SHAKING
- LOST OF TASTE OR SMELL
- MUSCLE ACHES

What will happen if someone from MCS tests positive for COVID?

If a student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, their family should notify the school immediately. Schools do not necessarily have to close when there is a **suspected** case of COVID. Once a case has been confirmed, local health authorities will advise the school on the next steps. Depending on the circumstances, we may be able to close just a classroom or a cohort. We are all depending on each other to send our children to school only when they are healthy. We are also depending on each other to carefully limit our exposures to others who are sick so that we can remain open for all students.

*** If you take your child in to be tested for COVID, please do not send your child to school until you have the results.

What is synchronous learning?

- ▶ Synchronous learning means on-line at the same time as peers are in class. Your student will **“join”** their classes from, home. We are offering synchronous learning so students can participate in each of their academic classes with their peers. At-home learners will follow the same bell schedule and get the same instruction as their peers who are on campus. Synchronous learning is a commitment to attend school daily, just virtually.
- ▶ Currently, we will offer synchronous learning to grades 4-8.
- ▶ Synchronous learning will require connectivity, access to Microsoft Teams and a willing learner. Classes begin on-line at 8:30 am.

We have taken extensive measures and we are **prepared & committed** to our plan to reopen MCS on **September 9** but as we found out in the spring, we must have a Plan B.

What is Plan B?

Why would we have to transition to Plan B?

- **Health and safety at MCS come first and if it is not safe to have students at MCS, students will learn from home. Some possible causes for us to transition back to Remote Learning are:**
 - State guidelines for schools or group gatherings change.
 - We move backwards in the state re-opening plans. (Back to Phase 1 or 1.5, etc.)
 - We are advised to quarantine due to a positive COVID-19 case, as instructed by Snohomish County Health Department or the Washington State Health Department.
 - We have invested in video cameras and microphones for each teacher so they can easily provide classroom learning virtually during normal school hours.
 - If needed, additional details to follow.

Do you have any additional questions or concerns?

Please, send us an email at
secretary@monroechristian.org. Your questions will
be directed to the person who can best answer your concern.
Or give us a call. 360-794-8200

***If you are considering using the synchronous learning option for grade 4 through grade 8, please send us an **email by August 24** so that we can prepare that option for you and your family.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers.