

NDA COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

In compliance with the recommendation of the Kentucky “Healthy at School” initiative, the guidelines issued by the CDC and the Diocese of Covington, NDA has developed a comprehensive plan to mitigate the risk associated with COVID-19. The plan is focused on Healthy Buildings, Healthy Classroom, Healthy Policies and Healthy Schedules. (Harvard report: Schools for Health, Risk Reduction Strategies for Opening Schools, June,2020)

Healthy Buildings

NDA has made significant investments to ensure the health and safety of the students, faculty and staff returning to school. Investments were made in several areas including basic hygiene, surface cleaning and ventilation. The following items were acquired and are being integrated into the facility:

- Hands free paper towel dispensers for restrooms.
- Mobile and stationary hand sanitizing stations.
- Plexiglass barriers at counter spaces for the front office, CLC and other locations.
- Tabletop plexiglass barriers (sneeze guards) for cafeteria tables and booths in the CLC.
- UV-C light wands to sanitize shared computer equipment.
- Electrostatic disinfectant misting system.
- Portable air purifiers to augment HVAC system.
- Technology for streaming lessons to satellite classrooms and Remote Learners.
- Increased outside airflow to classrooms.

In addition to the daily cleaning that will occur with our supervised work study participants, NDA has hired a custodian specifically for the sole purpose of cleaning and sanitizing the facility throughout each school day. This person will be responsible for the following:

- Clean high-touch surfaces such as door handles, banisters and bathroom fixtures.
- Assist cafeteria staff during and after lunch periods with cleaning and sanitizing tables.
- Clean common areas such as the CLC, guidance quad and chapel during the day.
- Assist the IT staff in cleaning and sanitizing shared technology devices.
- Utilize disinfectant misting system to clean and sanitize athletic equipment.

Healthy Classrooms

Classrooms have been reconfigured to maintain social distancing as recommended by the CDC and others. To facilitate fewer students in a classroom, NDA has repurposed several spaces including the chapel, auditorium, theatre, Alumnae Hall and outdoor space to serve as classrooms.

Teachers will facilitate the cleaning of desks by the students after each class period. Each classroom will be supplied with hand sanitizer, a disinfecting cleaning solution and paper products to clean the desks.

Air handlers have been modified to allow fresh air to circulate into the classroom on a consistent basis. Designated classrooms and commons spaces will have portable air purifiers to supplement the capabilities of the main HVAC system where needed.

Healthy Policies

NDA is hiring a part-time nurse to assist with the implementation and management of the health-related protocols required due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Faculty, staff and students will be required to take a health assessment each day before coming to school. **Students or employees with a temperature of 100.4 or higher are not to come to school.**

Students must wear a mask (PPE) as they approach the school. A mask must be worn at all times during the school day unless eating lunch or in a classroom where social distancing is maintained.

Temperature checks will be performed each morning using a touchless thermometer. Students will be required to enter the school via multiple entrances. Markings will be in place indicating proper social distance while waiting for the temperature check. Once a student has been cleared on the temperature check, she should proceed to the first period or designated area.

If a student has not filled out the daily assessment or the student is running a temperature, she will be asked to report to the school nurse for further assessment. If the nurse (or principal) determines that the student may be ill, the student will be directed to go home. If the student did not drive to school, the student will be directed to a designated room to wait for a parent or guardian to take her home.

Signage has been posted through the facility to remind students and employees about the importance of following steps to stop the spread of the virus and promote everyday protective health measures. These include:

- Maintaining proper social distancing
- Properly wearing a mask
- Washing hands often
- Not sharing food or personal items
- Following directional signs
- Cleaning and sanitizing personal belonging

Visitors will have limited access to the building. All visitors and contractors will be subject to the same health protocol when entering the building.

Healthy Schedules

Transition time between classes has been extended to allow students to clean their desks prior to going to her next class and to reduce the number of students in the hallways to the extent possible.

Masks must be worn at all times when in the hallways or on the stairs. Most hallways and stairways have been designated as one-way to improve the traffic flow in the building and limit forward facing contact.

The cafeteria will be offering box lunches and snack items to students. Students are to use their badge to check out at the register. The touch pad will not be an option this year. Seating at cafeteria tables will be limited to four students per table. Students may eat outside, weather permitting.

Students will be allowed to take bathroom breaks if needed during class time to limit the number of students in the restroom during class transition time.

The attendance policy has been modified for this year to discourage students who may be ill from coming to school.

NDA is offering a Remote Learning (RL) option to students who are ill, who have family members that are ill, or are not comfortable with being on campus due to the pandemic. Classes will be streamed live via Google Meets on a daily basis.