



## COVID-19 Plans

(Revised 8/20/21)

Based on the guidelines and recommendations from medical, public health, and government officials, Strong Rock Christian School's health and safety protocols have been developed and reviewed by the staff and administration in conversation with medical and public health professionals within the Strong Rock community. In a shifting health environment, the protocols will continue to be updated throughout the year to reflect requirements as they become available to the school.

Most importantly, in order to protect our faculty and staff and our students, this will require sacrifice and service for the benefit of each other. All parents, students, and staff members have a role and responsibility to mitigate risk and slow the spread of the virus. Successfully reuniting requires a collective conviction to comply with the expectations and protocols of the school.

We will monitor communications and guidelines from the Center for Disease Control, the Georgia Department of Public Health, Henry County Department of Public Health, and the Georgia Department of Education and revise our plan as needed. As we have researched, we have noted some key words of wisdom: "Plan to change your plan." We will be constantly evaluating and revising our plan. Thank you for your prayers and for your partnership.

Please direct all questions with regard to our COVID-19 plans to one of the members of our Executive Leadership Team:

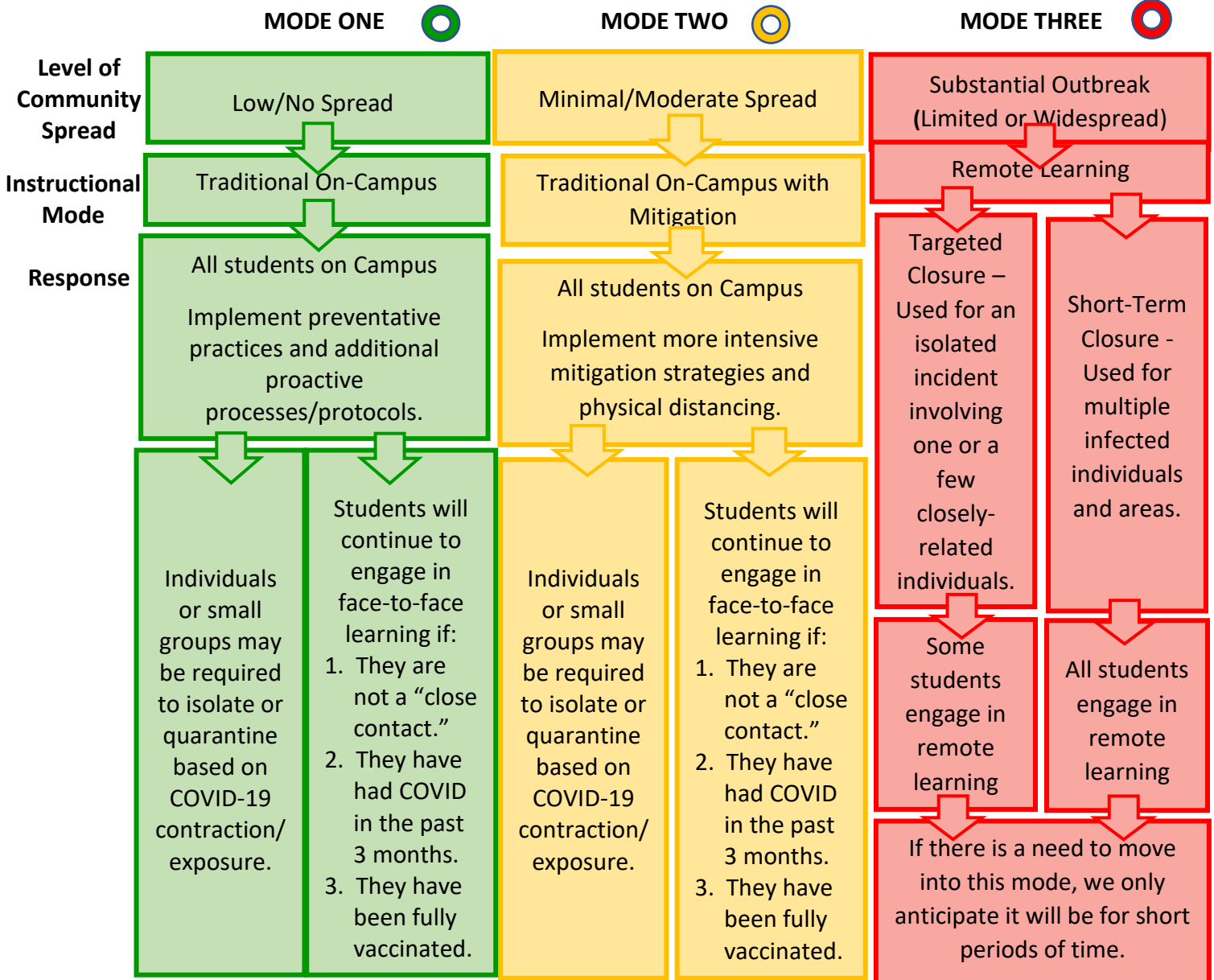
- Paul McCracken, Head of School/CEO
- David Mann, President/Director of Missions
- Judy Johnston, Academic Dean/Elementary Principal
- Darrell Herring, Academy/High School Principal

**The content of the Strong Rock Christian School COVID-19 Response Plan is subject to change as deemed necessary by the Strong Rock Christian School leadership.**

# Modes of Operation

Strong Rock Christian School is currently in **MODE TWO**

Our three modes of operations account for possible scenarios related to the amount, duration, and timing of the spread of COVID-19, and we anticipate movement among these modes at different points of the school year with seamless transition. Because our school places such a high value on the importance of close relationships and Christ-centered community, our goal is to provide as much on-campus engagement for students as possible while maintaining a primary focus on the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff.



We will monitor both what is going on in our community (Henry county and other surrounding counties) as well as the number of cases and absenteeism patterns within our school when determining trends for a potential move to a different mode or possible closure. We do not anticipate closing for an extended period of time as was necessary in the spring of 2020.

# Attendance

Attendance is being monitored closely this year, and data is being collected to track trends in overall absences and absences due to COVID-19. With additional protocols for health and safety, it is anticipated that absenteeism will be higher this year.

Teachers will work closely with students and families when absences are necessary. Procedures are in place to ensure professionalism, privacy, and sensitivity in handling situations where a staff member or student needs to be quarantined or isolated.

Strong Rock Christian School will not be offering a synchronous remote learning option for students as a part of our regular instruction program, but we will work with students and parents if an extended absence is required due to COVID-19 contraction/exposure.

## Co-curricular and After-School Activities

Recognizing that health and safety measures are critical beyond the end of the academic day, attention is being given to co-curricular activities and the After-School Enrichment Program (ASEP). Strong Rock will be doing the following:

- Evaluate activities and programs to determine what safety measures and precautions are needed in order to maintain safety.
- Monitor communications and guidelines from the Georgia High School Association on workouts, practices, and competitions. Coaches will contact parents and students regarding changes in work-out schedules and practice times.
- Keep abreast of communications from the Center for Disease Control, the Georgia Department of Public Health, and the Georgia Department of Education on guidelines.

## Daily Screenings & Class Protocols

**Health screenings will be conducted upon arrival to check temperatures.** Anyone with a temperature of 99° or higher will be sent to the nurses' office for a second check and/or additional monitoring. Individuals with a temperature of 100° or higher will not be allowed to remain at school.

Screenings will be administered with care, respecting the privacy and confidentiality of the employee or student. Any concerns will be shared only with essential members of the school leadership team or nursing staff.

All students checking in after the designated start time will receive a temperature and symptom check by a staff member upon arrival.

# Determination of When to Stay Home

SRCS staff monitor the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and follow the requirements of the Georgia Public Health Department.

The Georgia Department of Public Health issued the following Administrative Order on August 2, 2021: "Following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on quarantine remains the safest way to protect teachers and students from the spread of COVID-19. However, recognizing the importance of in-person learning, schools may elect to adhere to different quarantine requirements as developed by the local school district to facilitate in-person learning. Individuals subject to quarantine may only adhere to such different quarantine requirements as long as the point of exposure occurred in the school setting and as long as they remain asymptomatic."

Based on this latest Administrative Order, the following serve as guidelines for Strong Rock Christian School staff and students who have been identified as a Close Contact of someone in the school setting with COVID-19 and need to quarantine.

## **Employees and students should remain at home based on the following criteria:**

- Employee or student has fever  $\geq 100^{\circ}$  F.
- Employee or student feels sick (see Symptoms).
- Employee or student has been diagnosed COVID-19 positive.
- Employee or student has had direct exposure with confirmed COVID-19 positive person.

## **Symptoms:**

According to the CDC, people with COVID-19 have a wide range of symptoms, ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

People with any of these symptoms (not exhaustive) may have COVID-19:

- fever or chills
- cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- fatigue
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- new loss of taste or smell
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea

## **Notify the administration immediately if the answer to any of these questions is yes:**

- Within the last 14-days, have you experienced a new cough that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
- Within the last 14-days, have you experienced new shortness of breath that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
- Within the last 14-days, have you experienced a new sore throat that you cannot attribute to another health condition?

- Within the last 14-days, have you experienced new muscle aches that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
- Within the last 14-days, have you had a temperature at or above 100 or the sense of having a fever?
- Within the last 14-days, have you had close contact, without the use of appropriate PPE, with someone who is currently sick with suspected or confirmed COVID-19? (Note: close contact is defined as any individual within 3 feet of an infected person for 15 cumulative minutes or more during a 24-hour period.)

Strong Rock Christian School will work with the Department of Public Health in making decisions with regard to quarantine and isolation procedures. We understand each situation is unique, and there is not a “one size fits all” decision.

## **WHO NEEDS TO QUARANTINE?**

**People who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19.**

### **What counts as close contact?**

- You were within **3 feet** of a person with COVID-19 for **15 cumulative minutes or more during a 24-hour period.**
- You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
- You shared eating or drinking utensils
- They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you

## **INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS COVID-19 IN A NON-SCHOOL SETTING SHOULD ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:**

### **Stay home and monitor health.**

Take the following steps during the quarantine period:

1. **Quarantine.** Individuals should quarantine at home except in case of emergency or to be tested for COVID-19. Adults and children should not attend childcare, play groups, or public activities during this time.
2. **Check for temperature and symptoms.** Twice a day check temperatures and assess for the below COVID-19 symptoms using the following checklist:
  - fever or chills
  - cough
  - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - fatigue
  - muscle or body aches
  - headache
  - new loss of taste or smell
  - sore throat
  - congestion or runny nose
  - nausea or vomiting
  - diarrhea
3. **Alert the school facility.** Alert Strong Rock Christian School IMMEDIATELY if COVID-19 symptoms develop. Depending on when symptoms developed and the last day in school, additional contact tracing may need to be done.

**The following Georgia Department of Public Health guidelines apply to discontinue quarantine:**

- A. Quarantine can be discontinued after 10 full days have passed since a person's most recent exposure occurred, if the person fulfills BOTH of the following criteria:
  1. Is NOT tested for COVID-19.
  2. Does not experience any symptoms during the monitoring period.
- B. Quarantine can be discontinued after 7 full days have passed since a person's most recent exposure occurred, if the person fulfills all THREE of the following criteria:
  1. Is tested for COVID-19. You should not have a sample collected for a test until after the person has completed 5 full days of quarantine.
  2. Receives a negative result. The person may not discontinue quarantine until the person has completed a minimum of 7 full days since the most recent exposure, even if the person receives a negative test result earlier.
  3. Does not experience any symptoms during the monitoring period.
- C. Anyone who has had close contact with someone with COVID-19 and who meets either of the following criteria does **NOT** need to stay home.
  1. Someone who has been fully vaccinated and shows no symptoms of COVID-19. In general, people are considered fully vaccinated:
    - 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
    - 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine
  2. Someone who meets the following:
    - Someone who has had COVID-19 illness within the previous 3 months **and**
    - Has recovered **and**
    - Remains without COVID-19 symptoms (for example, cough, shortness of breath).

**INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS COVID-19 IN A SCHOOL SETTING SHOULD ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:**

**Stay home and monitor health.**

Take the following steps during the quarantine period:

1. **Quarantine.** Individuals should quarantine at home for **5 full days** except in case of emergency or to be tested for COVID-19. Adults and children should not attend childcare, play groups, or public activities during this time.
2. **Check for temperature and symptoms.** Twice a day check temperatures and assess for the below COVID-19 symptoms using the following checklist:
  - fever or chills
  - cough
  - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - fatigue
  - muscle or body aches
  - headache
  - new loss of taste or smell
  - sore throat
  - congestion or runny nose
  - nausea or vomiting
  - diarrhea

3. **Alert the school facility.** Alert Strong Rock Christian School IMMEDIATELY if COVID-19 symptoms develop. Depending on when symptoms developed and the last day in school, additional contact tracing may need to be done.

**The following Georgia Department of Public Health guidelines apply to discontinue quarantine:**

- Quarantine can be discontinued after 5 full days have passed since a person's most recent exposure occurred, if the person does not experience any symptoms during the monitoring period.
- Anyone who has had close contact with someone with COVID-19 and who meets either of the following criteria does **NOT** need to stay home.
  1. Someone who has been fully vaccinated and shows no symptoms of COVID-19. In general, people are considered fully vaccinated:
    - 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
    - 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine
  2. Someone who meets the following:
    - Someone who has had COVID-19 illness within the previous 3 months **and**
    - Has recovered **and**
    - Remains without COVID-19 symptoms (for example, cough, shortness of breath).
  3. Someone who was wearing a mask.

**WHO NEEDS TO ISOLATE?**

**People who have COVID-19.**

- People who have symptoms of COVID-19 and are able to recover at home
- People who have no symptoms (are asymptomatic) but have tested positive for COVID-19

**Stay home except to get medical care.**

- Monitor your symptoms. If you have an emergency warning sign (including trouble breathing), seek emergency medical care immediately
- Stay in a separate room from other household members, if possible
- Use a separate bathroom, if possible
- Avoid contact with other members of the household and pets
- Do not share personal household items, like cups, towels, and utensils
- Wear a mask when around other people, if you are able to

**Find CDC's recommendations for your situation below.**

1. **I think or know I had COVID-19, and I had symptoms.**  
You can be with others after
  - At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**

- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
- Symptoms have improved
- Always follow your doctor’s recommendations for returning. Some situations may require staying in isolation longer.

**2. I tested positive for COVID-19 but had no symptoms.**

If you continue to have no symptoms, you can be with others after:

- 10 days have passed since the date you had your positive test

**IF MY CHILD DOESN’T HAVE COVID-19, WHEN SHOULD I KEEP HIM/HER AT HOME?**

A child must be fever free (under 100°) without fever-reducing medicine for 48 hours before returning to school. Students must also be symptom free (no fever, vomiting, or diarrhea) for 48 hours to return to school.

**Definitions**

- **Quarantine** separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.
- **Isolation** separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.

## **Emergency Closing**

**Communication of Closure**

Faculty, staff, and families will be contacted by email, text, or voicemail if a closure is necessary.

**Expectations for Google Classroom and Apps (PreK3 – 12 Grade)**

- Google Classroom will be the online platform used in the event of a prolonged closure. RenWeb will remain the academic support system for recording, reporting, and conveying information pertinent to grades.
- Information about Google Classroom and RenWeb should be included on every syllabus and clearly communicated to parents.

**Modified Closing Schedule**

- In the event that there is a 3-10 day COVID-19 or other related closure, all staff will report beginning on Day 3 (unless day 3 falls on a Friday) to provide scheduled online instruction.
- Videos will be available for review at later times to accommodate families with multiple children or to help alleviate technological issues that may arise.
- Fridays will be used as a “catch up” day. Classes will not be held on Fridays, even if Friday is Day 3. Classroom instruction would start on Monday.
- Elementary teachers will use Google-Meets, recorded videos, and detailed lessons posted through Google Classroom. Teachers will be available from 8:00 until 12:30 each day.



- The following schedule, which includes 10-minute breaks between classes, will be used Monday through Thursday for Academy/High School classes:

| Period | Time          |
|--------|---------------|
| 1      | 8:00 – 8:30   |
| 2      | 8:40 – 9:10   |
| 3      | 9:20 – 9:50   |
| 4      | 10:00 – 10:30 |
| 5      | 10:40 – 11:10 |
| 6      | 11:20 – 11:50 |
| 7      | 12:00 – 12:30 |

## Family & Visitor Protocols

Strong Rock will limit access for families to both main entrances of the school, and restrict access for nonessential visitors.

We are discouraging non-essential visitors from entering the campus during school hours.

## Hygiene

Hygiene practices will be promoted consistently throughout the day. Practices will be reinforced through training and signs posted throughout the building.

### Respiratory Etiquette

Respiratory etiquette includes covering coughs and sneezes with tissues or elbows. No-touch trash cans will be readily available to discard tissues.

### Handwashing

All students will be required to wash their hands with soap and water when they arrive each morning. When handwashing is not possible, students and staff will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer. The CDC recommends, “handwashing strategies include washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the restroom; before eating; and after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing.”

# Lunch

The goal this year is to provide safe and efficient lunch operations. Students will have a variety of choices for lunch including main courses, crossroads menu, soup, pizza, deli, and salad, as well as a gluten-free station. SAGE Dining and Strong Rock will both follow hygiene guidelines.

Seats at tables will be assigned at lunch to limit the number of individuals at each table for physically distancing. Tables will be cleaned and sanitized between groups of students. Additionally, lunch periods for the Academy and High School will be split to reduce the number of students dining at once and create better distancing.

SAGE Dining is implementing additional hygiene guidelines. Sage Dining will return to paper products and switch to serving salads, sandwiches, and pizza. Having no buffets, common utensils, or self-service will greatly reduce serving utensil usage and surface contamination. SAGE staff will wear masks and follow specific food service protocols.

Visitors will not be allowed to come for lunch unless the school is in Mode 1, and only prepackaged food for birthday celebrations is allowed unless the school is in Mode 1.

# Masks/Face Coverings

Masks/face coverings for staff and students in PreK – 12<sup>th</sup> grade are optional.

Prints and patterns are acceptable, but all masks must meet the following guidelines:

- Nothing controversial
- Nothing scary or inappropriate
- Must be washed regularly

# Physical Distancing

According to the CDC, “keeping space between you and others is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to the virus.”

Strong Rock will adhere to physical distancing guidelines whenever possible in order to maintain a safe learning environment.

Scheduling and classroom assignments were designed for fewer students per classroom to provide appropriate physical spacing. Individual classroom sizes may allow for variations in student capacity. Teachers will eliminate close contact group work within classes wherever possible.

Elementary classes will operate in pods to limit exposure among students.

Chapels will move to a hybrid of virtual/live to enable better distancing among students.

Parents and students are asked to:

- Stay at least 6 feet (approximately 2 arm lengths) from other people
- Not gather in large groups (Lunch, chapel, playground, and recess have been revised)
- Follow visual aids in lobbies and hallways

## **Sanitizing & Cleaning**

Strong Rock has established heightened deep-cleaning and disinfection protocols.

- Each classroom has its own HVAC system, so the air flow space is limited to individual rooms.
- Deep cleaning and sanitization will be done as needed.
- Buses are cleaned and sanitized after each use.

Strong Rock follows the CDC, Georgia Department of Public Health, and Bright From the Start recommendations:

- Clean, sanitize, and disinfect frequently touched surfaces multiple times per day
- Avoid use of items that are not easily cleaned, sanitized, or disinfected
- Verify and maintain that all ventilation systems continue to operate properly
- Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep products away from students
- Provide hand soap and sanitizer, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in bathrooms, classrooms, and/or frequently trafficked areas
- Disable all water fountains requiring touch and install touchless water fountains. Water bottle fillers are available.