



Heritage School Reopening Plan FAQs

We truly believe that early childhood education is best done in person and to make this possible, Heritage School will reopen in the fall. A task force committee comprised of medical doctors, parents, teachers, and administration met to formalize a Heritage School Health and Safety Plan for reopening our school (attached) as outlined by the PA Department of Education.

Sadly, we are not returning to the same school we left. Please be patient, positive and view our changes with an open mind as we seek to keep staff and students safe during this unprecedented time.

Below are some frequently asked questions:

● **How will face coverings be handled at Heritage?**

Governor Wolf's State Mandate requires masks, gaiters, or face shields, (referred to as "face coverings" for this document) to be worn by all people 2 years of age and older in public settings. Therefore, we will require children, staff, and administration to wear face coverings until this policy lifts. We understand this will be difficult for both children and adults, however, this is believed to one of the best forms of preventing the spread of COVID-19. Children will be permitted to pull their face coverings down during outdoor play times if they can maintain a safe distance of 6 feet. Please provide your child with an extra face covering if one becomes soiled, damaged, or lost. Face coverings must be washed daily and clearly labeled. Please practice wearing face coverings over the summer so children will be comfortable in the fall.

● **What happens if a student or staff member becomes ill during the school day?**

While COVID-19 is a top priority, it is important to remember that childhood illness will continue to be a part of our everyday lives. Heritage School will continue to follow the sick policy outlined in our Parent Manual. If the child becomes ill during the school day, the child will remain with an administrator in a quarantined area until the caregiver arrives for pick up.

- **What happens if a student or staff member becomes ill with COVID-19?**

Once a positive COVID-19 test has been reported to the school, parents of the classroom involved will be notified and online learning for all students in the classroom will be in place for 14 days based on CDC guidelines for quarantining. The State Health Department will be contacted for additional instructions.

The student who tests positive for COVID-19 must stay home until ALL the following criteria are met:

- *No fevers (off Tylenol) for 3 consecutive days
- *Improvement in symptoms
- *At least 10 days since the onset of symptoms

The students of that class will quarantine at home for 14 days per CDC guidelines.

If a staff member or student is confirmed positive for COVID-19 but do not have symptoms, they should stay home for 10 days after the test was done.

If staff member or student has negative COVID-19 testing, then they may return to school per usual school policies.

- **What happens when I return from a trip?**

As per Governor Wolf's policy, if you travel or plan to travel, to an area where there are high amounts of COVID-19 cases, it is recommended that you stay at home for 14 days upon return to Pennsylvania. Heritage School will post updates on states that have a high number of cases as well as any other pertinent changes to policies. You will need to complete a travel form, which will be located on our website, at www.heritagekids.org so we are able to keep records in case the State Health Department needs to trace the origin of the virus.

- **How will Curbside change?**

To maintain a safe distance and to efficiently screen for the virus, Curbside will be mandatory for all students. Aides in PPE (face shields, masks, gloves) will screen students in their car seat using a non-touch thermal thermometer. If the child's temperature is 99.5 or above, they will not be permitted to attend school on that day. A list of Health and Safety Questions has been compiled to facilitate in depth screening. The questions are included in the Heritage School Health and Safety

Reopening Document and will be posted at all Curbside areas. It is the parent's responsibility to alert the staff member if any of the answers have changed. Curbside will take place in different areas of the campus to prevent overcrowding and promote social distancing. Parents are required to wear face coverings and to buckle and unbuckle their child from the car seat to prevent cross contamination. If this proves difficult, the parent may pull to a parking spot and park.

- **What happens if we have an ALL school closing?**

This year we are implementing an educational app to streamline our online learning. The Seesaw app allows students to sign in to receive messages and lessons from their teacher while protecting their privacy. Students and parents can add posts, respond to activities, view announcements, and comment on their own work. Students cannot see or comment on other students' work. Material for portfolios is stored and updated each year and access to materials is available to parents. Teachers will be able to record themselves demonstrating lessons, reading stories, and completing activities.

- **What is the new cleaning protocol?**

Cleanliness is a high priority. Keeping our school clean is a key piece to our Health and Safety Plan. We will increase ventilation in the classrooms. Two staff members have been hired to maintain cleanliness, specifically in high-touch areas, such as the LMR, bathrooms, and staircases. All staff will have a role in continuously cleaning classroom surfaces including tables, chairs, manipulatives. Students and staff members will be required to wash their hands upon arrival, after mealtimes, using the restroom, and as necessary. The use of food handling gloves, disinfectant wipes/spray, and soap and water will be utilized to meet this goal. A Biomist Machine has been purchased by Church of the Saviour to sanitize each classroom at the end of the day after staff members and students dismiss. The Biomist machine uses a vaporized concentrated alcohol/ammonia solution that should be effective according to the EPA and is non-toxic.

- **How are we Social Distancing?**

With the use of visual cues, such as colored tape, signage, and floor markers, the children will be kept at a safe distance. Each classroom will be self-contained to avoid intermixing with other classes. Schedules will reflect the staggering of communal

spaces. Only one class will play outside, use the bathroom, or be in the LMR at one time. Children will sit four to a table, facing the same direction, to limit direct face to face contact.

● **What is the new snack and lunch protocol?**

Snack will continue to be provided by the parent, however, the use of labeled, disposable bags is required this year. Snack and lunch will be eaten in the classroom. Students will need to be able to open snack independently to avoid cross contamination. In the event a child needs help, food handling gloves will continue to be available for staff members to use. The use of a reusable water bottle and containers is still permitted. Staff members will refill water bottles as needed.

● **Will school supplies be shared?**

Heritage School will provide a supply box for each student to use this year. Parents will be required to purchase supplies for their child. A list of supplies will be included in your Back to School mailing in August. This will help prevent cross contamination from everyday use items. Each class will have a collection of sand and outdoor toys for their own use and these items will be sanitized daily. Classroom manipulatives will be disinfected by a staff member prior to classroom use. Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes will be readily available.

Please review the Heritage Health and Safety Reopening plan for more in-depth procedures. We are grateful to the task force committee for the time and knowledge spent formulating this FAQ document as well as the Heritage School Health and Safety Reopening Plan.

Sincerely,

The Task Force Committee

(Dr. Dawes, Lorraine Lewin, Dr. Swapna Chelli, Dr. James Park, Dr. Lauren Starr, Cindy Wells, Renee Dennis, Kate Stedjan)