



Midland Adventist Academy's COVID Reopening Safety Procedures

(updated August 9, 2021 and effective August 11, 2021)

Midland Adventist Academy is dedicated to fulfilling our mission statement of “developing passionate followers of Christ who love God and serve people.” To best meet this goal, we are planning for in-person school for the 2021-2022 school year and have developed the following plan to provide a safe and effective environment for education.

Face Coverings

All students (K-12) and staff are required to wear masks as a strategy to minimize the spread of COVID among all individuals and specifically among the student population at Midland.

In addition to eating and drinking times, masks may be removed during PE class and recess. Masks are also required when riding on school transportation.

School Arrival

Parents should keep students home if they are experiencing any illness. Please self-screen at home before leaving for the day.

Students will report immediately to the gymnasium when arriving at the school between 7:30 am and 8:00 am. They will remain seated while in the gymnasium. If students arrive after 8:00 am:

- elementary students will go to their classroom
- high school students will go to the gymnasium

Exclusion Based on Symptoms

Midland states in the handbook that students should not attend school if the following general illness symptoms are present:

- fever (greater than 100 degrees)
- severe cough
- vomiting
- diarrhea

Should a fever be present, the fever will need to be gone for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication before returning to school.

If a student becomes ill while at school, his/her parents will be asked to take him/her home. If school authorities are unable to reach the parent or legal guardian, the person listed as an emergency contact on the registration form will be notified.

Specific to COVID, a student will be excluded from school if they have one primary symptom or two secondary symptoms:

Primary symptoms

- new cough
- difficulty breathing
- new loss of taste and/or smell

Secondary symptoms

- chills
- muscles or body aches
- headaches
- sore throat
- diarrhea/nausea/vomiting
- congestion/runny nose
- fever (greater than 100 degrees)
- extreme fatigue

Consult the [CDC's guidance](#) on the symptoms that are caused by COVID. If you believe the symptoms that your child is experiencing are the result of contracting COVID, please keep your child out of school and contact your physician.

Returning to On-site School After Being Excluded Due to Symptoms

There are three ways to return to school once a student has been excluded from on-site school because of the presence of symptoms:

1. If the student took a COVID test and the results came back negative, then they are allowed to return to school after the fever (if present) is gone for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication and the other symptoms are improving.
2. Your health care provider determines the symptoms are not the result of COVID and provides the school a written explanation.
3. If the student tested positive for COVID (or did not test for COVID and does not have a doctor's note), then all three of the following must be met before returning to school:
 - a. required to stay out of school for 10 days from the date the symptoms first appeared
 - b. symptoms must be improving
 - c. fever (if present) must be gone for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication

A PCR test is recommended for all COVID testing.

Exposure to a Confirmed Positive COVID Individual

A student will be excluded from school for a minimum of 7 days after the last exposure to a confirmed positive individual from within their household. The student can return to school on the 8th day after their last exposure if the student has a negative COVID test result and never developed symptoms. The COVID test sample may not be collected more than 48 hours before the planned ending of exclusion from school. (For returning after a positive test result, see point #3 above.)

If no COVID test is taken, then a student is able to return to school on the 11th day from the last exposure date if no symptoms have developed.

Students who have been exposed to a confirmed positive COVID individual from outside of their household will not be excluded from school as the result of the school's decision. It is recommended that students in this situation get tested for COVID.

If there is a positive case of COVID at school, a letter will be sent home to the families of those individuals the school believes were in contact with the COVID-positive individual. This will be sent out as soon as the school receives this information.

School Day

- High school lockers will be assigned to keep class cohorts together and allow as much social distancing as possible.
- No drinking fountain use. Students will supply their own water bottles. Two water bottle refilling stations will be available for use throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer and disinfecting supplies will be provided in each classroom and in the front entryway.
- Students will have assigned seating in classrooms and the cafeteria.
- Desks will be separated to allow for maximum distancing given the number of students within each classroom.
- HEPA air filters will be used in each classroom.

Meals

- Hot lunch staff will use face coverings and gloves at all times.
- Students will wash their hands before eating lunch.
- Students will be separated from each other to allow the maximum distance given the number of students in the cafeteria.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Students are educated about hand washing/sanitizing and general hygiene practices through posters, videos, and class talks.
- Sneeze guards are present in the front office and between bathroom sinks.
- Shared spaces will be cleaned thoroughly at the end of each day.

Distance Learning for Excluded Students

- Elementary teachers are able to package work for parents to pick up for their student. Some work will be available online through ClassDojo, Google Classroom, or other online platforms.
- High school teachers will utilize Google Classroom for students who have been excluded from school.
- Upon request, teachers will be available immediately after school for tutoring through Zoom to those students who have been excluded from school. Families must request this at least one day in advance directly to the teacher.

Midland Adventist Academy has put the above measure in place in response to COVID-19 during the 2021-2022 school year. Despite the above efforts, there is still a risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 while at school.