

Knoxville Adventist School COVID-19 Restart Plan

SAFETY:

What will Knoxville Adventist School do to protect children and staff from communicable disease?

Knoxville Adventist School plans to meet the following recommendations and guidelines from the Tennessee Department of Public Health and the CDC.

- Daily screening questions and temperature check for all students, staff, and faculty.
- Daily use of electrostatic handheld sprayers to sanitize prepared surfaces and all public spaces
- Only EPA approved disinfectants safe for the school setting will be used
- Maintenance and cleaning of the HVAC/AC system with placement of high-grade filters in the entire facility
- Continued use of hand sanitation stations near classrooms and in all outside entrances to the school building.
- Providing shields, masks, and gloves for all faculty and staff to use following CDC guidelines
- Providing school approved mask for use by students (optional at all times or as required indoors by public health department)
- Posting personal hygiene practices throughout campus
- Suspending the use of microwaves and water fountains
- Increased sanitizing of frequent touch points in the building by operations staff throughout the day
- Providing professional development regarding personal hygienic practices and sanitizing protocols to appropriate custodial staff and faculty

What if someone at school tests positive for COVID-19?

Knoxville Adventist School is obligated to inform both the Tennessee Department of Public Health and the school-wide community regarding the infection. The public health department will then offer guidance regarding tracing, testing, sanitizing and re-entry procedures as recommended by both the Knox County Health Department and CDC. Family members of an infected individual will also be excluded from the in-person instruction setting until all attending family members receive negative tests and full clearance from a physician.

What if my child becomes sick during a school day?

Knoxville Adventist School strives to ensure the health and safety of students and faculty. Should your child become ill with a fever over 99.5 degrees during the school day, they will be isolated until picked up by a parent/guardian. Arrangements to pick up an ill child should take place within an hour of notification.

If a child goes home or is held at home due to fever and or symptoms of COVID-19 the student needs a doctor's permission and/or negative COVID-19 test result.

Knoxville Adventist School does not have an on-site nurse. All staff have been trained in First Aid, CPR, AED, and the use of an EpiPen. When an emergency arises, staff immediately notify parents, and when necessary contact 911 for emergency response.

How will I know if someone at the school has been diagnosed with COVID-19?

The Knoxville Adventist School Board has authorized the school administrator, Mr. White, to determine when to inform parents regarding a positive diagnosis of COVID-19 of someone in the school building. Mr. White is required to report confirmed diagnosed individuals to the Knox County Health Department, and will then work in consultation with them to communicate the following:

- scope of the problem (number of known cases)
- background information including symptoms, spread, and incubation period
- any additional measures taken to mitigate disease spread (quarantine, etc.)

Knoxville Adventist School recognizes that an individual's health status is personal and private. Therefore, the school administrator will handle the information regarding the person's health status in accordance with state and federal laws, and handbook policies governing the confidentiality of student and staff health records.

Are there risks with my child attending school in-person?

Knoxville Adventist School strives to ensure the health and safety of each child and employee in its care. The administration recognizes that communicable diseases that may afflict those in the school range from common childhood diseases, acute and short term in nature, to chronic, life-threatening diseases. The Knoxville Adventist School Board relies on the advice of the public health and medical communities in assessing the risk of transmission of various communicable diseases to determine how best to protect the health of both students and staff. Management of common communicable diseases will be in accordance with Tennessee Department of Public Health guidelines and communicable diseases control rules.

A student or staff member that exhibits symptoms of a communicable disease that is readily transmitted in the school setting may be temporarily excluded from school attendance. Knoxville Adventist School reserves the right to require a statement from the student's or staff member's primary care provider authorizing the person's return to school. The school administrator, as designated by the school board, will determine which additional staff members, if any, have a need to know of the affected person's condition. Only those persons with direct responsibility for the care of the student will be informed of the specific nature of the condition, if it is determined there is a need for the individual to know this information. Parents of other children attending the school may be notified that their child has been exposed to a communicable disease without identifying the particular person who has the disease.

The risk of contracting COVID-19 remains in our community. Parents are welcome to review the written safety protocols, observe the facility/equipment when school is not in session, and discuss any concerns with school administration. Knoxville Adventist School understands that the novel coronavirus, COVID-19 has been declared a worldwide pandemic, and is extremely contagious. Although the school has implemented feasible and developmentally appropriate measures to reduce the spread of Covid19, it cannot guarantee that you or your child will not be infected with COVID-19.

Can you tell me about class size restrictions?

Knoxville Adventist School will be following the CDC recommendation that students and staff maintain social distancing. This means that the classrooms will be arranged to implement developmentally appropriate and feasible social distancing. Although no class size limitations are currently in place, the physical size of the classroom does place some limitations on the number of students that can utilize that space while maintaining the appropriate distance.

Faculty and administration are currently working together to rearrange the classrooms to maximize the space available and accommodate the students that have enrolled for the 2020-2021 school year. Fortunately, there are many spaces within our current building that allow us flexibility with instructional spaces. We continue to explore these options. With the beautiful campus, we also plan to utilize the outdoors, God's first classroom, to enhance our educational opportunities. You will notice that a camp chair may have been added to the student supply list to enable teachers to provide instruction either in the classroom or outdoors when appropriate.

Will the school continue to sponsor events or attend chapel programs?

Knoxville Adventist School Administration and School Board continue to monitor the requirements for gathering in larger groups. At this time, chapel programs will try to be offered in the out of doors with large space or virtually to each classroom.

When restrictions on gatherings are lifted, we fully intend to continue with the traditional programming that enhances our spiritual and learning community.

OPTIONS:

Will virtual education be available during the 2020-2021 school year?

Knoxville Adventist School offers families two education options to choose from during the 2020-2021 school year if quarantine is required.

Option #1 - Required Option for healthy students

Knoxville Adventist School will open for in person instruction using appropriate health and safety protocols on August 11, 2020.

Option #2- Option for unhealthy or quarantined students

A short term virtual/hybrid option is available for students to watch live video feed of instructional activities happening within the classroom. This is intended as a stop-gap measure to allow quarantined students, who remain well enough, to receive adequate instruction remotely. Should your family need to start the school year in the virtual setting, please contact Mr. White immediately.

What if the school is quarantined again?

Knoxville Adventist School Board and Administration continue to review possible scenarios as they prepare for the 2020-2021 school year. The faculty successfully provided virtual instruction for students in all grades K-8 during the last quarter of 2019-2020. A virtual program will be available for students in K through 9th grade. Although no plan is certain, contingency plans are in development for the following possibilities.

1. Normal/Back to School Education offering the full program of aftercare, sports, music, arts, field trips, etc.
2. Amended Back to School program with limited extracurricular activities as health/safety guidance allows.
3. Intermittent Education - Pivoting between in-person and virtual instruction as health/safety guidance allows.
4. Fully Virtual

Live instruction in the classroom remains the goal for the school year, and Mr. White will continue to work with the Knox County Health Department to ensure that health and safety standards are met appropriately. Thank you for joining us in prayer as we hold up our community leaders during the decision making process this July and August!

Will the virtual options be any different for families of Forest School students in K-2?

Knoxville Adventist School recognizes the significant difficulty of providing virtual instruction to children in the Kindergarten-2nd grade setting. It is our hope that we can continue to provide in-person instruction, thus allowing parents the opportunity to work. However, in the event that the entire school is quarantined again, Mrs. Thomason is prepared to offer a limited screen-time virtual instructional program to meet as much of your child's spiritual and academic needs as possible in this setting. This virtual program will continue to include a few important aspects of Forest School via video.

What if the school is required to be in quarantine, and virtual education does not fit our family's needs?

Knoxville Adventist School understands that families face difficult choices. Policies regarding student withdrawal can be found within the school handbook. We will continue to uphold your family in prayer - praying that you are able to find the support needed to ensure your child's spiritual, academic, social and physical success!

SCHEDULES:

Will there be changes to the published school calendar?

Knoxville Adventist School published the 2020-2021 school calendar to meet the requirements set forth by accreditation bodies. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, parents should be prepared for possible changes that are not within the school's control. The administration and faculty have done their best to prepare a virtual and in person option that will abide by the published calendar, but all should understand that unforeseen circumstances may force changes to the plan.

Will enrichment activities be part of the school curriculum?

Knoxville Adventist School, following recommendations **at this time**, has suspended or amended the following activities: Before/Aftercare, After School Sports, and off-campus field trips. However, we are increasing outdoor education opportunities for all students. Time outside lessens the likelihood of illness and is beneficial to the physical, emotional, mental, social, and spiritual well-being of our students.

What will the virtual attendance requirements look like?

During the 2019-2020 school year, attendance policies were amended due to unexpected school closures. However, moving forward, attendance and grading policies will follow those outlined in the student handbook.

Knoxville Adventist School has designed a schedule that provides for academic experiences in both the in-person and virtual settings. The virtual option was designed as a stop-gap measure to meet short term needs due to the pandemic, and thus should not typically exceed the 21 day exclusion period. Students in the virtual settings will be required to attend the scheduled classes during the same periods as those within the building. Parents with students in the virtual setting assume responsibility for the supervision of their child, including timely log-in to attend virtual instruction. Should a child not attend class either in person, or in the virtual setting, they will be counted as absent. Please see the attendance and absence policies located in the school handbook.

Preparing for virtual instruction requires extensive planning on behalf of the teacher, parents and student. Those families needing virtual instruction must complete a request for approval to the school administration that includes the following:

1. Reason for the request
2. Length of request
3. Virtual access
4. Contact information for person assigned to supervise the student(s)

TUITION:

Will there be any refunds or tuition credits should the school return to quarantine and virtual education?

Knoxville Adventist School strives to treat families fairly and with understanding. During the past quarantine, funds not utilized for hot lunch remain available for future credit.

Virtual instruction, although outside of the school building facility, increases the costs of the school substantially. With this in mind, the tuition and fees for the 2020-2021 school year will remain the same for both in person and virtual options.

With the exception of refunds or prorated credits for optional services such as aftercare or hot lunch, which are not utilized during a quarantine period, there will be no tuition or registration fee refunds. Those facing financial difficulty are asked to contact Mr. Denney or Mr. White as soon as possible to discuss possible financial assistance.

Why do tuition fees remain the same while the school is in quarantine and functioning virtually?

The Knoxville Adventist School Board prepares budgets for the school each spring. The single largest line item for the budget remains instructional staffing. Salaries for these individuals make up 75% of the school budget. When the school pivots to the virtual setting, these costs remain the same. Furthermore, the virtual setting requires additional technology purchases including: equipment for casting, subscriptions for virtual resources, replacement of broken Chromebooks, increased postage for mailing materials, etc. Unlike a school designed only for virtual instruction, the building must continue to be maintained during a closure. While we understand the impact that supervising your own children during a quarantine brings, unfortunately, the financial requirements to function both in the virtual and in person setting is considerably increased.

****This Document is subject to change as more restrictions, mandates, or updates occur. ****

Resources:

[CDC Guidelines & Recommendations](#)

[Tennessee Department of Education Restart Guidelines](#)

[Knox County Health Department](#)

[Colorado Pediatric Doctor in Favor of In-person school and why](#)

[Smart UV Room Disinfection Unit](#)

[Global Plasma Solutions Air Ionization Unit](#)