

Zion Lutheran School

2020-21 Covid Guidelines and Precautions

Zion is committed to the safety and well-being of our students. In order to ensure the safest possible environment for teachers, staff, and students, Zion will be using the following procedures. These are based on State and Local Health Department Guidance along with Illinois State Board of Education Guidelines.

MASKS

- Masks are required to be worn by students, teachers, and parents/adults at all times when in the building with the following exceptions:
 - Teachers may switch to clear Face Shields when required for instruction (example: Phonics lessons)
 - Students will not need to wear masks for recess, lunch, or during nap time.

MORNING/AFTERNOON EXTENDED CARE

- Parents may drop off and pick up children in the morning or afternoon by ringing the buzzer at the Main Entrance. Parents are required to wear a face mask when in the building.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

- Children and Parents will have their temperature checked when they enter the building for Drop Off.
- **Beginning the Second Week of School, August 24, no parents/guardians will be permitted to walk their children to their classrooms.**
- Full Day Pre-K classes will proceed to their rooms through the gym and past the Office.
- For Pick up: Students will be lined up (distanced) in the K/1 Hallway and the gym/kitchen hallway. Your child will be brought to you at the door.
- Families Dropping Off and Picking Up are asked to **maintain physical distancing outside the School Door.**

OFFICE VISITS

- Parents needing to visit the Office for any reason are asked to proceed to the Main Entrance and buzz for entry. A Mask is required while in the building.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- Physical Distancing will be practiced as much as feasible in each classroom.
- Children will be spaced out appropriately for lunch and nap time in the gym.
- Children will be in two groups at recess: one group on the play equipment and the other in the open grass area. Groups will switch on a regular basis.

ILLNESS AND REPORTING

- Children who show signs of illness will be evaluated and sent to the Office. Parents will be called to bring the child home.
- Families will be notified when any child is diagnosed with Covid, Flu, Strep, etc...
- Zion works with the McHenry County Health Department to report illnesses and follows all guidelines for notifying, sanitizing, and closing if necessary. Please NOTE: The occurrence of a serious illness may not necessitate an immediate closing of the school.
- Any child who is sent home or absent due to fever, vomiting, diarrhea, **MUST BE SYMPTOM FREE FOR 24 Hours. This will mean one additional day of absence for children who are sent home. Students returning before 24 hours have passed will not be allowed in school.**
- Please **DO NOT send your child to school with a fever having been reduced by medicine.**

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Due to the current restrictions that require groups to be no more than 50 people, the following activities on the School Calendar have been cancelled or are pending more information. Activities and Events will be evaluated on an ongoing basis according to whatever current guidelines are in effect. Make sure to check your child's folder and the weekly School Email for the latest updates to our calendar.

- Back To School Night, Thursday, August 13 – **ADJUSTED AS BELOW**
 - 5:00 PM – Kindergarten and Pre-K (Ms. Donna)
 - 6:00 PM – First Grade, Preschool (Ms. Liz), and Pre-K (Ms. Susan)
 - *Pre-K Class assignments will be sent to families before August 13.*
- Back To School Picnic, Thursday, August 20 – **CANCELLED**
- Royal Oak Farm Field Trip - **PENDING**
- Singing in Church and Ice Cream Social, Sunday, September 27 – **CANCELLED**

ADDITIONAL CLEANING AND SANITIZING

- In addition to regular cleaning and sanitizing by our custodian, classrooms will be sanitized at the end of each day.
- Lunch tables and nap mats will be sanitized after each use.
- Classrooms used for Morning and Afternoon Extended Care will be sanitized after use.
- Restrooms will be sanitized on a daily basis.