



County of San Diego Elementary School Waiver

Application for a Waiver to Re-open In-Person Instruction for TK-6 Elementary Education.

Please submit one application for each local educational agency or equivalent. If applying on behalf of a school district, please submit one application for the elementary schools in the district that are seeking to reopen for in-person instruction. If applying for an independent, private, faith-based, or charter school, please submit an application for each school.

If all documentation is not included application can not be processed.

Once the waiver is approved, your information will be posted on the County of San Diego website, <http://Coronavirus-sd.com/K12Schools>

School Name

Christ Lutheran School

District name

Private School

Contact Name

Xavria Schwarz

Contact Email

xschwarz@lutherschool.org

Address

7921 La Mesa Blvd

City

La Mesa

Zip Code

91942

Type

Private School

Grades to be Reopened

1

2

3
4
5
6
K

Number of Students in Reopening Grades

172

Number of Staff at Reopening Sites

20

Proposed Reopening Date

09/02/20

Labor Organization

Christ Lutheran School does not have a labor organization. Christ Lutheran School's staff was consulted with throughout the re-opening planning process and when the decision was made to apply for this waiver. Staff were represented at the think tank meeting (June 30, 2020) as initial plans were discussed and the teaching staff has met virtually or in social distanced meetings (July 6, 27, and August 10, 2020). Written communication was also shared July 2, 7, 23, 31, and August 3, 2020). It is the collective opinion and desire of our teachers and staff that offering in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible is important to support health and welfare of our enrolled, elementary school students. A letter from a staff representative has been submitted as a supplemental document.

Parent Organization

The parent organization Christ Lutheran School consulted with regards to reopening plans and this waiver process was our school counsel as well as a variety of parents with children enrolled in multiple grades. The entire parent body was also consulted via emails and a survey with regards to our reopening plans. The reopening "think tank" met June 30, 2020. The reopening plans were shared July 9, 2020. Follow up communication was sent to parents on July 13, 17, 23, 29, and August 7 and 11, 2020. Christ Lutheran School's parent organization is strongly in favor of our school pursuing every, possible avenue to offer in-person instruction and believe the re-opening plan provides the format to do it safely. A letter from a parent representative and the parent survey results have been submitted as supplemental documents.

Community Organization

Christ Lutheran Church Ministries is the community organization consulted. Christ Lutheran School and Christ Lutheran Church Ministries share a campus and Christ Lutheran Church Ministries supports the school financially and spiritually. Christ Lutheran Church Ministries supports and is in favor of Christ Lutheran School

pursuing the opportunity to provide in-person instruction and believes the re-opening plan provides the safety measures necessary. Christ Lutheran School met and consulted with Christ Lutheran Church Ministries leadership on June 30, July 7 and 28, August 4 and 11, 2020). Christ Lutheran School has also sent regular updates via electronic communication (July 9 and 29, August 8 and 11). A letter from Christ Lutheran Church Ministries' senior pastor has been submitted as a supplemental document.

1. Published on Webpage

www.lutheranschool.org

1.A) Webpage Section/Page

Page 3, paragraph 2

1.B) Webpage Language

Christ Lutheran School has posted this re-opening plan on the school's website: www.lutheranschool.org. A link to the plan can be found on our website's home page. The plan will also be digitally shared with currently enrolled families.

2. Distance Learning

YES

2.A) Distance Learning Section/Page

Page 9, Section 13, and attached as supplemental document

2.B) Distance Learning Language

Christ Lutheran School will offer a remote learning option for all CLS families who do not feel comfortable returning for in-person instruction throughout the 2020-2021 school year regardless of a student's health condition.

When schools were forced to shut down in March 2020, Christ Lutheran School pivoted quickly and provided daily instruction, robust academic content, relevant assignments and assessment, and students were given feedback, including grades and report cards.

Christ Lutheran School will continue to offer remote instruction for families not ready or able to return to the physical classroom and if the school were to need to physically close due to COVID infection. Christ Lutheran School's remote learning plans vary depending on the enrolled grade level of each student based on age appropriate instructional strategies. Remote instruction plans will include: the use of Google Classroom as the platform to communicate and post all remote learning activities, Live and/or recorded classroom sessions (whole group and small group instruction) using Zoom, the use of a variety of online competency based learning programs, safe and healthy packet pick-up/assignment return, and timely and relevant teacher communication and feedback. Each classroom teacher will communicate remote learning plans, schedules, tools,

and strategies with enrolled families (Christ Lutheran School's remote instruction plan submitted as supplemental evidence).

3. Physical Distancing

YES

3. A) Physical Distance Section/Page

Pages 7, Section 8

3. B) Physical Distancing Language

The objective of physical distancing is to reduce the likelihood of contact that may lead to transmission and has been a widely used strategy during the pandemic. Physical distancing, as feasible, will be practiced.

Christ Lutheran School's staff will practice social distancing by conducting all meetings and professional training either with physical distancing measures in place or virtually. Lunch and break schedules have been staggered to minimize congregating of adults in the lounge/ eating area.

Christ Lutheran School classrooms are 775 square feet. All students have an individual workstation (desk/chair – no shared tables or benches). When students are in the classroom, Christ Lutheran School will arrange the classroom furniture to leave as much space as possible between students with marks on the floor to help keep desks in their designated spots. Non-essential classroom furniture has been removed. All individual, student desks will face in a single direction and be placed as far apart as possible. The teacher's desk and instructional space will be a minimum of 6-feet from students. Large gatherings/assemblies will not take place for the immediate future. Lunch breaks and times will be staggered and take place outdoors. Hand hygiene will be performed prior to and after lunch breaks.

During outdoor activities, such as recess, physical distancing will be encouraged. Students will be required to perform hand hygiene prior to outdoor play/playground use and at the conclusion of recess.

Physical education classes will take place as part of the staggered recess schedule with no use of locker rooms. Sports equipment will be assigned to each cohort group and will be cleaned at the conclusion of the day.

Non-essential visitors, volunteers, and guests will not be permitted on campus. This includes drop-off and pick-up of students to and from school. All drop-off and pick-up will take place in the designated carlines and parents are required to stay in their vehicles. We will avoid the use of shared items to the maximum extent possible. Students' belongings will be individually labeled and stored. If sharing cannot be avoided, items will be disinfected between use. Christ Lutheran School is suspending the use of commonly touched areas, such as drinking fountains. Students will be required to bring their own reusable water bottles.

4. Stable Cohorts

YES

4. A) Stable Section/Page

Page 4, Section 2, and pages 13-15 with schedules and plans

4. B) Stable Cohorts Language

The purpose of cohorting (contained classroom) is to limit the mixing of students and staff so that if a child or employee develops infection, the number of exposures would be reduced. Students and teachers will stay with the same class cohort/group. Christ Lutheran School has only one classroom and teacher per grade level and has always operated contained classrooms.

Christ Lutheran School classrooms have always had a limit of 26 students per room with an average class size of 22 students. The school will offer remote instruction in addition to in-person instruction (when we're able to do so) so we anticipate actual, in-person attendance will be between 18 – 22 students, taking into consideration the families that will choose the remote learning option.

All instruction will take place in a single classroom (1st grade in the 1st grade classroom). Recess and lunch schedules will be staggered so that classrooms of students will remain consistent throughout the day and will not share space (schedules included at the end of this document pages 13-15). Christ Lutheran School will have a staggered drop-off and pick-up schedule with multiple entry and exit points (schedule included at the end of this document) to avoid cross cohort gatherings.

5. Face Coverings

YES

5.A)Face Covering Section/Page

Pages 5, Section 4, and pages 16-18 with education materials

5.B) Face Covering Language

Christ Lutheran School will comply with civil authority regarding the use of face coverings for children and adults. As of July 17, 2020, the state of California mandates masks for all school children in third grade and older. Face coverings are strongly recommended, but not required, for students in grades K-2. All school personnel will wear masks, except for while eating during scheduled meal periods. All staff and students (to include K – 2nd graders) will wear face coverings during transitional times (enter/exit school, to and from recess, using restroom, etc.) when social distancing may not be as feasible.

Students will be exempt from wearing a face covering if they fall within the CDPH guidelines for individual exemptions. Individuals who refuse to wear a face covering but who are not exempt will not be permitted to remain on campus and will be given the option of distance learning.

The following procedures will be implemented to support students and staff in adhering to this policy:

Children will be trained in the appropriate use of face coverings.

Face coverings must cover the nose and mouth.

Children will be taught to avoid touching of the face and eyes.

Children will have breaks from wearing masks throughout the school day. Masks are not required for outdoor play and while eating (which will also take place outdoors). During these times, students will store their masks in a clean paper bag with their name.

Families will provide clean reusable masks for their children. The school will provide disposable masks if a student's mask becomes lost or soiled during the school day.

Information will be provided to all staff and families on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings (included as supplemental evidence).

6. Cleaning and Disinfection

YES

6. A) Cleaning and Disinfecting Section/Page

Pages 3-4, Section 1, and pages 9-11 with schedules, and supplemental document

6. B) Cleaning and Disinfecting Language

It is possible that infection can be transmitted by touching contaminated surfaces and then touching mucous membranes (i.e. mouth, nose, eyes). As a matter of utmost importance, Christ Lutheran School is committed to the regular use of high quality cleaning and sanitizing agents (approved for use against COVID-19 on the Environmental Protection Agency "List N:") to provide deep, thorough, comprehensive cleaning of the school in order to mitigate the possibility of transmission infection on school surfaces.

Maximum efforts will be made to reduce the need to touch objects/doors (no-touch waste containers, prop doors open, assigned person to open doors and turn on/off lights, etc.). The use of drinking fountains will be suspended. Students will be required to bring individual water bottles.

Christ Lutheran School bathrooms are already equipped with no-touch flushing toilets and sinks. High-touch surfaces in bathrooms will be cleaned mid-day and the bathroom will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of the day. Christ Lutheran School employs a professional custodial company (cleaning protocols and check lists included in supplemental evidence).

Classroom sinks, student desks/tables/chairs, door handles, and light switches will be cleaned mid-day and all classrooms thoroughly cleaned at the end of the day (check lists included at the end of this document).

To the greatest extent possible, classroom materials and equipment will have limited sharing (students are required to provide their own supplies) and/or shared objects will be disinfected between use.

Christ Lutheran School has invested in an upgraded UV air filtration system that will be installed the week of August 17, 2020. This UV air filtration system kills virus and bacteria. Intake vents are located at the entrance to classrooms.

7. Entrance, Egress and Movement

YES

7. A) Entrance/Movement Section/Page

Page 4, section 3, and page 14 with schedules

7. B)Entrance/Movement Language

Christ Lutheran School will have a staggered drop-off and pick-up schedule with multiple entry and exit points (schedule included at the end of this document) to limit and manage student movement and hallway capacity. Parents will stay in their vehicles during drop-off and pick-up.

Hallways are 7.25 feet wide and will include signage to help direct students.

Lunch, recess, arrival, and departure schedules will be staggered to manage movement and number of students (schedules included at the end of this document).

All students will be required to wear masks during transitional movement (to and from school, using the restroom, to and from recess and lunch) when social distancing may not be as feasible. Exterior doors will be propped open during student arrival and departure for no touch entry. Classroom doors will be propped open for no touch entrance and exit.

Parent and volunteer school entrance will be limited to the front doors/ first level entry where there are no classrooms. When parents are on campus and outside their vehicle, they will be required to wear a mask. Parent and volunteer school access will be extremely limited to protect classroom cohorts.

Christ Lutheran School does not operate buses or a transportation system.

8. Health Screenings

YES

8. A)Health Screening Section/Page

Page 5-6, section 5, and page 14, 17, and 18 with guidelines

8. B) Health Screening Language

Christ Lutheran School staff will be asked to screen themselves at home for COVID-19 symptoms, confirm they are without symptoms and submit to a temperature screening with a no-touch thermometer upon arrival to school to confirm their temperature is below 100.

Christ Lutheran School will screen all students in the car drop-off line or upon arrival at the beginning of the school day. Parents and caregivers are also responsible for the screening of their children, daily, at home. Prior to entering campus, parents will be asked to confirm that the child is without any symptoms, as annotated on the checklist (included at the end of this document), nor been in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case.

Student temperatures will be checked using a no-touch thermometer. Students with a temperature of 100°F or higher, who answer yes to any of the screening questions, or with visible symptoms of illness will not be admitted to school (return to campus guidelines included at the end of this document and included as supplemental evidence).

Remote learning will be implemented for children who are required

to stay home because they are sick or in isolation due to SARS-CoV-2 infection or exposure.

8. C) Language for Symptomatic Students or Staff

Christ Lutheran School hereby states and implements a strict exclusion policy for symptomatic students and employees. Teachers and administrators will be provided with information on signs and symptoms of COVID-19 in children so that appropriate action can be taken if children develop symptoms during the day (included as supplemental evidence).

Christ Lutheran School has a ventilated health room (18 feet by 10 feet) with a connected restroom located near the administrative offices where students who start showing symptoms during the day can be isolated until they are able to be transported home. Students waiting to be transported home will be required to wear a mask.

9. Healthy Hygiene Practices

YES

9. A) Healthy Hygiene Section/Page

Pages 6, Section 6

9. B) Healthy Hygiene Language

Frequent and proper hand hygiene (soap and water or hand sanitizer) is critical to limit transmission. Proper hand hygiene is one of the most effective strategies to prevent the spread of most respiratory viruses including SARS-CoV-2.

Students will be taught how to clean their hands properly (with age appropriate material) and to avoid touching their face, eyes, nose and mouth as much as possible.

Students who have symptoms of a respiratory tract infection must stay home and students will be reminded to sneeze or cough into their elbow/sleeve.

Age-appropriate signage will be placed around Christ Lutheran School to remind and instruct students to perform hand hygiene. A regular schedule for routine hand hygiene, above and beyond what is usually recommended (upon arrival to school, before and after recess, before and after eating food, after using the restroom, and when exiting the school) will be adopted. For practical reasons and to avoid excess traffic and congestion on campus, the preferred strategy for these required extra hand hygiene occurrences will be hand sanitizer and classroom sinks (located in every classroom). Hand sanitizer (60-90% USP grade alcohol, not technical grade alcohol) will be available at all school entry/exit points and in all classrooms. Adequate resources and a replenishment process will be implemented to ensure supplies are available to perform hand hygiene frequently. Liquid soap and hand sanitizer will be replenished and tissues available for drying. No-touch waste receptacles will be available for disposal of materials. CDC-approved disinfectant and clean towels and paper towels will be readily available so that commonly used surfaces can be wiped down by frequently.

Christ Lutheran School will partner with parents to provide adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including disinfectant, clean towels, paper towels, soap, tissues, no-touch trash cans, and hand sanitizer.

10. Identification and Tracing of Contacts

YES

10. A) Identification and Tracing Section/Page

Page 6, Section 7

10. B) Identification and Tracing Language

Due to the fact our school community is so small and serves several families with multiple siblings in attendance, the entire school would quarantine and pivot to remote only instruction for 14-days or per the guidelines at the time, in the event a student or staff member has a confirmed case of COVID-19. Close contacts will be identified and communicated with, as necessary. The school principal and secretary will be the staff people responsible for creation and submission of lists of exposed students and staff to the local health department and notifying exposed persons. The principal will also be the designated person for the local health department to contact regarding COVID-19.

11. Staff Training and Family Education

YES

11. A) Staff Training and Family Edu. Section/Page

Page 7, Section 9, and pages 15- 17 with education materials

11. B) Staff Training and Family Edu. Language

Staff will be trained in the following areas: enhanced sanitation practices, physical distancing guidelines, proper use, removal, and washing of face coverings, screening practices, how COVID is spread and signs and symptoms of COVID-19, the importance of staying home when sick and not coming to work if they live with someone who has COVID, and what the procedures are for staff and students that may become ill during the day. This training will take place during physically distanced or remote staff meetings prior to the start of in-person instruction and throughout the school year as a reminder. Educational materials and tools will be provided to implement protocols in their classrooms.

Christ Lutheran School will provide a digital copy of this plan and digital educational resources regarding COVID-19 to families (included at the end of this document) regarding physical distancing, enhanced sanitation practices, proper use, removal, and cleaning of face coverings, how COVID is spread, screening practices and home screening checklist, and identifying signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

12. Testing of Students and Staff

YES

12. A) Testing Section/Page

Page 8, Section 10, page 18 and supplemental documentation

12. B) Testing Language

A staff or student who has symptoms of COVID-19 or has been in close contact (less than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will contact their primary care physician and follow the recommendations of their health care provider with regards to testing and treatment or participate in a community testing site. The staff or student will follow Christ Lutheran School's return to school guidelines (provided at the end of this document and included as supplemental evidence).

If a student shows signs of COVID-19 and was in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case, testing will be recommended and return to school guidelines (included at the end of this document and submitted as supplemental evidence) will be followed.

An enrolled student or staff member who lives with a person that tests positive for COVID-19 or was in close contact (less than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with a person who tests positive for COVID-19 would be required to quarantine and participate in distance learning for 14-days.

12. C) Staff Tested Periodically Language

Staff will get periodic COVID-19 testing as testing capacity permits and as practicable. As recommended by the CDPH, 50% of the staff will be tested every month to rotate the testing of all staff over time. Christ Lutheran School staff will be directed to contact their primary care provider or community testing site for testing.

13. Triggers for Switching to Distance Learning

YES

13. A) Triggers to Dist. Learning Section/Page

Pages 8, Section 11

13.B) Triggers to Dist. Learning Language

A remote, distance learning option will be provided throughout the 2020-2021 school year. All students/families will switch to the distance learning option if a Christ Lutheran School staff or student were to test positive for COVID-19.

An enrolled student or staff member who lives with a person that tests positive for COVID-19 or was in close contact (less than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with a person who tests positive for COVID-19 would be required to quarantine and participate in distance learning for 14-days.

Christ Lutheran School will cooperate and consult with San Diego Public Health and comply with civil authority.

14. Communication Plans

YES

14. A) Communication Plans Section/Page

Page 8, Section 12

14. B) Communication Plans Language

Christ Lutheran School is very devoted to clear, timely, and transparent communication with school families while guarding the privacy of enrolled students and families as required by law and related to privacy of education records. If there is a confirmed case or a known exposure to COVID-19 on campus, a school community notification will be sent out.

Christ Lutheran School administration will continue to evaluate procedures and address concerns throughout the school year and we will continue to communicate with families via email, school website, surveys, and other media.

Christ Lutheran School will cooperate and consult with San Diego Public Health and comply with civil authority.

Superintendent Name

Xavria Schwarz

Job Title

Principal

Phone

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E-mail

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Attachments

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12 Attachments

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