

Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to Coronavirus/COVID-19

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. Like other viruses, COVID-19 is contagious. Although new information emerges practically daily, it is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state, and local governments along with federal and state health agencies have recommended social distancing, the wearing of masks, and have, in many locations, recommended that groups of people do not congregate.

We at Heritage Christian Academy (“the School”) take the responsibility of safeguarding your children's safety very seriously. We are continually monitoring this evolving situation using guidance from the following sources as well as coronavirus-related health articles that are now emerging.

- Panhandle Health Department
- Idaho’s Official Government Site regarding COVID-19
- Center for Disease Control
- World Health Organization
- Association of Classical and Christian Schools

We intentionally take every precaution daily, even before this situation arose, to minimize the risk to our students, staff, and community-at-large of ANY illness. We, throughout the day as needed, along with our cleaning company, after the school day, disinfect all common surfaces. These include, but are not limited to, desks and tabletops, light switches, door handles, computer keyboards and mice, faucets, mini-split thermostats, chairs, toilet handles and grab bars, water fountains, the computer-cart handle, and the refrigerator, range, and microwave handles. Additionally, computers are assigned to one student only, our building has a whole-building air exchanger that is on 24/7, and our mini-split heating/AC units contain ultraviolet lights that are designed to kill mold, bacteria, and viruses.

Students have been educated on and are frequently reminded about the importance of proper hand-washing techniques and keeping their hands away from their face specifically their eyes, noses, and mouths. They have also been shown how and are reminded to properly cover their noses and mouths upon coughing and/or sneezing. Facial tissues are provided throughout the building as well for easy access.

Our health protocols are firmly in place, and no one with a fever (100 degrees or above) is allowed to be at school until that person is fever-free for a full 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. This includes all staff members and volunteers. We ask that parents and guardians continue to:

- keep ill students home, **especially** if they have a cough or fever,
- utilize proper hygiene and hand-washing techniques,
- be vigilant regarding all things related to COVID-19, and
- immediately notify the Director if exposure to or symptoms of the virus become known.

Despite all these precautions, procedures, and protocols, the School cannot guarantee that you or your child(ren) will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, attending the School or using its facilities could increase your risk and your child(ren)'s risk of contracting COVID-19.

Should someone exhibit signs of illness, that person shall immediately be moved away from others, and a parent will be notified for pick-up. If a staff member becomes ill, they will be asked to leave the building. If it is determined the ill person has developed the coronavirus, the building will be temporarily closed on a case-by-case basis in order for deep cleaning to occur and time for the building filters and UV lights to do their work. Classwork for these days will be provided if it is feasible to do so.

We do not see remote learning as a viable, long-term alternative to daily classroom instruction and interactions that can occur in our small, family-like setting. Humans are social creatures and derive strength and stability from one another. For this reason and the fact it's logistically impossible to fully achieve in our environment, we will not be requiring social distancing. We will remind children to be aware and considerate of others as we face these challenges together. We also do not intend to require the wearing of masks. We all need to be able to hear and understand each other, but even more importantly, God has clearly designed our bodies to work a certain way without impediments. If, due to circumstances beyond our control, laws are passed or health directives or regulations are issued that require school closure, temporary or otherwise, we will address it accordingly. We continue to explore options for short-term closures that may involve paper packets, online learning, or a hybrid.

By signing this agreement, you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that your child(ren) and you may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by attending the School and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. You understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 at the School may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of

yourself and others, including, but not limited to, School employees, volunteers, and program participants and their families.

You voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to your child(ren) or yourself (including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that you or your child(ren) may experience or incur in connection with your child(ren)'s attendance at the School or use of School facilities ("Claims").

On my behalf, and on behalf of my children, I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless the School, its employees, agents, and representatives, of and from the Claims, including all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating thereto. I understand and agree that this release includes any Claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of the School, its employees, agents, and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in any School program or other program held at the School.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____
Date

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

Parent/Guardian Signature _____
Date

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

Name(s) of Student(s) Attending Heritage Christian Academy