



## Return-to-School Plan and Details

Dear HCS Parents and Community,

We hope that you and your families have been enjoying the summer break. We know many of you desire to know about plans for your children for the upcoming school year. Our leadership team has been working hard to develop our return-to-school plan; a plan that will always place the health and safety of your children at the forefront, every day.

Stated briefly: our plan is to provide a full-time return to in-person schooling, with safety measures in place, on September 7. Of course, we will need to remain flexible and ready to adapt if conditions or government regulations change. For the present, however, we are excited to be able to welcome our students back to in-person schooling. The remainder of this update provides further details about our plan.

### Guiding Principles

We have adopted the following guidelines for our planning:

- Provide quality Christ Centered education
- Put safety of students and staff first, including following regulations and guidance of the Ontario government and Public Health officers.
- Provide highly interpersonal education that addresses the needs of each student as whole persons, to the best of our ability.
- We will be collaborative, creative, and innovative in developing solutions to meet the needs of our students. (E.g. staff working in teams, project based learning, outdoor ed, etc.)
- We will be “economical” in the broadest sense. i.e. we will do our utmost to work within our staff capability and our financial/material resources to meet the learning needs of our students.

### Plan Outline

*At Home and at School:*

Students, staff, parents and guests will all be asked to complete the Ontario Ministry of Health daily self-screen before boarding the bus or entering school and are asked to stay at home if feeling ill. Students who begin to feel ill at school will be asked to head home and recover from there.

Hand washing and sanitizing will be taught and practised as it is essential in maintaining the health and safety of our school community. Sharing of classroom materials is permitted.

Wearing face masks is another critical element to the health and safety of our school community and a very visible way that we can care for each other during this COVID-19 pandemic. Students (Gr.1-8) and staff will be wearing face masks all day while in the school building and using school transportation. Masks do not need to be worn outside, while eating, or while doing vigorous activity in PE class. Masks

**Phone:** 519.482.7851

**Email:** [office@huronchristianschool.ca](mailto:office@huronchristianschool.ca)

87 Percival Street, P.O. Box 658, Clinton, ON N0M 1L0

[www.huronchristianschool.ca](http://www.huronchristianschool.ca)



for students can be non-medical or cloth. Mask exemptions are permitted upon discussion with the principal and with a doctor's note.

Physical distancing is another essential component of reducing the spread of COVID-19. Students, staff and visitors will continue to be asked to physically distance themselves, both inside and outside. Two meters is the recommended distance.

Students will still be organized into cohorts, but with a focus on grade cohorts to aid in contact tracing. Students will be organized by grade groups or cohorts as much as possible inside the school and on buses, but will not be required to maintain grade cohorts outside, as in the previous school year.

Band class is permitted.

Assemblies that allow for physical distancing are permitted.

Extra-curricular and after school programs are permitted.

*On the Bus:*

- We will offer our regular bussing services, with safety precautions in place as much as possible:
- Loading and unloading of buses at school to be supervised by staff to ensure distancing of cohorts.
- Students in Grades 1-8 must wear a mask on the bus. For students in JK-SK masks are optional.
- Students will be assigned seats with siblings, or will be assigned to their own seat if they have no siblings on the bus. If there are not enough seats, students will be placed with members of their classroom cohort to minimize the number of contacts.
- Bus drivers will be provided with a check-list and with equipment to do a disinfecting wipe down of their bus at the end of every ride.

We pray, and trust, that these measures will allow us to return to regular schooling safely for the benefit of our students and their families. Please be assured that we will be carefully following government and Public Health office guidance throughout the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, and will be ready to adapt quickly as needed.

In Christ Alone,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Huizenga'.

Michael Huizenga