



Although many school district's focus this year is to provide in-person instruction, this is our second year of prioritizing in-person instruction. At CCS, we recognized right away in the Fall of 2020 that students needed to be physically present in school for many reasons. Among these reasons are:

- Better focus and engagement
- Social and emotional health and literacy
- Consistent rhythms, routines, and habits
- Improved retention and critical thinking
- Spiritual development through group sharing, prayer, and meditating on God's Word
- Physical activity & having fun!

We learned a lot through the process of navigating the pandemic with our community. We recognized that at Capital Christian School we had several distinct advantages:

Campus Size - Our 63+ acres campus provides a LOT of space. Spatial distancing provided opportunities to have our students in class more than 6 ft. apart or in cohorts.

Capital Cares – Relationships helped our students process the harsh realities of a pandemic through the love, truth, faith, and confidence of God's love and His promises. We prayed together and grieved together at times. Yet we rejoiced, gave thanks, and celebrated at every opportunity.

Capital Family – You are never alone. We are family. Time together is the currency of love - it reminds us that we build each other up on a consistent basis.

Technology is a Powerful Tool – We were able to quickly pivot to remote learning whenever we needed to thanks to a robust IT department. We continue to make improvements to system and equipment to take learning to the next level. (More to come)

Activities are Memorable Moments – Despite the pandemic, CCS continued to provide as many "memorable moments" for our students as feasibly possible safely and responsibly.

Our approach was not to implement a "one-size fits all" approach.

For 2021-22, several things have changed the landscape of our journey together.

1. Variants are surfacing
2. Vaccination is available to some age groups
3. Open events and gatherings outside of school contrast the restrictions last year

These changes are significant. Yet, for many, our expectations are that this academic year should be with less restrictions due to those who are vaccinated. These expectations are reflected in our survey from August 5, 2021 where only 21% of parents surveyed felt it was important or very important to wear masks at all times and 65% believed it was unimportant or no issue at all to wear a mask indoors.

On August 17, 2021, Sacramento County Public Health released a new [Decision Forest](#) for K-12 that outlined the steps to address positive Covid infections and quarantining procedures. The Decision Forest is an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID while schools attempt to provide in-person instruction. As a result of this Decision Forest, CCS continues to emphasize the following:

The BEST strategy to have students remain in school for in-person instruction is to be vaccinated, wearing face coverings while indoors, and to be socially distanced (6 ft. or more for less than 15 minutes). Extra levels of protection are achieved by cohorting while executing all the previous protocols to reduce transmission (handwashing, ventilation, cleaning, disinfecting, etc.).

As a result, all K-12 students and all staff are to wear face coverings indoors when social distance of 6ft or more cannot be maintained. Face coverings are not required for outdoor activities, but are strongly encouraged. As per [CDPH Guidance on Face Coverings](#), "persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask" as well as "persons who are hearing impaired" are exempt from mask requirements. Please provide verification from a medical professional or complete a form provided by your campus administrator.

“Rules without relationship leads to rebellion” – author and speaker Josh McDowell

This is true as a parent. It is also true as a servant-leader. There seems to be a strong correlation between those who do not trust leadership and those who “push back” when rules are given. At CCS, our intention is to build as many bridges as possible between our communities. Yes, bring out the “unity” from “community.” Although CCS is not perfect, we try to live out our values every day.

1. Consider others more than yourself (Philippians 2:3-5)
2. Honor those in authority and in government (Romans 13; 1 Peter 2:13-17)
3. Parents are the primary educators (Deuteronomy 6:7-9)
4. Scripture is God-inspired and authoritative (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

As part of the CCS Family, please make it a priority to protect those who are immunocompromised in your family.

We will make every effort to continue to have in-person for K-12 instruction. Should it be necessary for a student to quarantine, we will not be able to provide remote learning. We will make every effort to help keep students current with assignments and materials. Yet, no matter how hard we try, it will not replace being in-person. This is why it is so important for our students to seriously consider and apply the BEST strategy to remain in school for in-person instruction: vaccination (if age appropriate), face-coverings, and distance.

Please take time to know and understand the K-12 [Decision Forest](#).

If a significant amount of students are forced to quarantine, CCS will consider remote learning for the sake of consistency and of safety for students.

We are exploring the option of Covid Testing on campus for some teachers and to help students return to class sooner if they are exposed to COVID and are not vaccinated.

CCS On-Campus Protocol for K-12

To ensure the safety of our students and staff, Capital Christian School will follow the following protocols for 2021-22 school year:

- At this time, masks are required indoors at all times
- Masks are not required outdoors.
- California Department of Education no longer requires spatial distancing. However, we encourage students to maintain 6ft. or more distance indoors whenever possible.
- Covid-19 requirements for sports are still to be determined by California Interscholastic Federation (CIF).
- Vaccinations are not required but are strongly encouraged.

Resources:

- California Department of Public Health (CDPH): [COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2021-22 School Year](#)
- CDPH [COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People](#)
- Sac County Public Health [What Families Need to Know about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- Sac County Public Health [Decision Forest](#)

