

Health and Safety Protocols

We want to **Open and Stay Open** and we can do this by working together. At NorthCreek Academy, our staff and students' well-being is important to us. With that in mind, we ask for parents' active support in adhering to the following updated policies to help us provide for the health and safety of our school community. Due to ever-changing health guidelines, we will continue to keep you updated as we get closer to opening campus. **Additional protocols and policies are forthcoming.**

We are monitoring the criterion for a safer return to campus which is contingent upon the following:

- Contra Costa County having been removed from the State's watch list for 14 consecutive days, and/or
- Contra Costa County having granted NCA a waiver, allowing elementary students to return to campus.
- Our own confidence that required safety policies and protocols are in place, and staffing needs are sufficiently addressed.

The following is an overview of our health and safety plans. Parents can access this and future communication on our school information management system, FACTS ([Link to FACTS](#)).

Daily Parent/Student Checklist

We have developed a **Daily Parent/Student Checklist** which will help families prepare for on campus learning each day. Some of the features of the checklist will be:

- Daily Health Screening – we are securing an app that will help simplify this process
- List of needed supplies – face coverings, water, books, etc.
- Handwashing and safety protocols

Safer at 6' – Physical Distancing

We have developed a plan that expects students and staff to maintain physical distancing, when feasible. Classroom furniture layouts are being redesigned to accomplish this, as well as our plans for recess, PE, lunch, carline, and even family care.

Face Coverings

Our school community staff, students, and their families need to have face coverings while on campus. We will continue to monitor the requirements (local-campus conditions/county/state) and be judicious about times when removed.

Hand Hygiene Protocol

We have developed a protocol for students to routinely clean hands at staggered times throughout the day: before eating, after PE, recess, etc. We are investing in handwashing stations and non-fragrant hand sanitizer will be available at various locations across the campus and in all classrooms.

Cleaning

We have developed a plan of increased, intentional campus cleaning. Trained staff will be ensuring that our campus is safer for staff and students. Classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected regularly. High touch areas will receive attention throughout the day and as needed. We have invested in an electrostatic backpack sprayer to effectively and efficiently disinfect each classroom and bathroom with an EPA/CDC approved product. cleaning/disinfecting products.

Cohorting

Our program is designed to de-densify our classrooms with **smaller groups of students**. These cohorts will remain consistent throughout the day and have limited mixing with other groups.

Carline and Campus Access

Students will enter and exit the campus through carline, our established morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up procedure.

The CDC recommends that we limit nonessential visitors and activities on campus. We are implementing the **Academy Information Center located in the Courtyard** which will be a place for parents and visitors to access campus during school hours without entering buildings. We ask that parents support us by limiting unnecessary access to campus.

Parent Volunteers

NorthCreek is known for its dedicated parent volunteers. We value YOU, our Treasured Partners! We plan to offer off-campus volunteer opportunities. For the health of all, campus access and on-campus volunteer opportunities will be extremely limited.

School Supplies

Students will be asked to provide and use only their own school supplies. Protocols are being established for cleaning shared classroom items.

Student Snacks and Lunch

Students will eat snack and lunch in their classroom in cohorts. Proper hand hygiene protocol will be in place. Children are asked to eat only what is provided by their parents. We ask that parents send easy-opening containers the child can handle alone. Hot lunch will be available and will be delivered directly to classrooms. Emergency lunches for a fee will still be available but will be prepackaged.

Special Days and Celebrations

Food being sent to campus for special days or celebrations (birthday, etc.) must be commercially prepared and in individually sealed packages.