

We want to provide you with an update on COVID-19 guidance for Zion Lutheran Christian School. Oregon Department of Education released revised COVID-19 guidance that will take effect March 12, 2022. **In alignment with guidance from OHA and ODE, beginning on March 12, Zion Lutheran Christian will no longer require masks to be worn in buildings.** Individuals may choose to continue to wear a mask. We are supportive of individual choice when it comes to masking. **Masks will still be required through March 11, 2022**

Moving Forward

We recognize this is a sudden change in how our school has been operating, and this change will be met with differing responses. These past two years have been full of emotions as we have all been affected by this pandemic differently. Zion will continue to support the needs of our families, students, and staff during this transition. Our priority remains ensuring the health, safety, and wellbeing of our students and staff. Throughout this time, we have been blessed to partner with our families to educational excellence in a Christ-centered family. We hold onto the words from Deuteronomy 31:8: “The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

Updated Zion COVID-19 Guidance - Effective March 12, 2022

Mask Use

Indoor universal masking will no longer be required in buildings. Students and staff are encouraged to wear masks based on their individual risk assessment. Zion is supportive of individual choice when it comes to masking. Masks will still be required through March 11th.

Physical Distancing

Teachers will continue to encourage physical distancing as much as possible to reduce close contact with individuals who are positive for COVID-19. This means:

- 3 feet between students
- 6 feet between students and adults

Daily Symptom Screening: Please stay home when feeling sick

Zion will require students and staff members to stay home if they are experiencing primary COVID symptoms.

- Cough
- A temperature of 100.4 F or higher
- Chills
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- A new loss of taste or smell

If a student has non-primary symptoms that persist for more than one day, families should consider evaluation by a healthcare provider. Non-primary COVID-19 symptoms include:

- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Nasal congestion or runny nose

- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Isolation and Quarantine

- If a student has tested positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, they cannot attend school or school activities for at least 5 days.
- Individuals who had close contact with someone who has COVID-19 will NOT be required to quarantine regardless of vaccination status or masking.
- Families will be notified of a positive COVID-19 individual in their classroom/building.

Students who are positive for COVID-19 may return after 5 full days if they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, and other symptoms have improved.

Testing

- Zion will continue to offer testing on-campus for students who exhibit symptoms during the school day.
- Students who have been exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual will also be offered to take a test at school.

Cleaning and Disinfection

- Custodial staff will continue to clean restrooms and surfaces daily.
- Health and Safety stations with cleaning supplies will remain throughout the buildings.

Ventilation-To maintain ventilation in our buildings, we will continue to:

- Introduce fresh outside air
- Move air from indoors to outdoors
- Clean the air that is recirculated indoors with effective filtration methods

Handwashing-Zion will continue to

- Prioritize handwashing after students or staff use the restroom.
- Prioritize handwashing before and after eating.
- Prioritize handwashing after sneezing and coughing.