

Calvary Academy Preparedness Plan

Calvary Academy will not hesitate to take whatever action is necessary to protect the health and safety of our students and staff. We receive directives and/or guidance from the state Department of Education, county and state health officials and the Centers for Disease Control, and we utilize that guidance to make decisions based on **what is best for OUR own community**.

As we monitor the prevalence and impact of the [COVID-19 virus](#), Calvary is committed to providing updates to our families in regards to our COVID-19 response plans and decisions. Believing rumors or information presented on social media can heighten anxiety and create confusion. We will keep you informed.

COVID-19 Action Plan

- **What if We Need to Close our School?**

On March 5, 2020, the NJ Department of Education advised all districts that IF we are required by the Department of Health to close schools due to a health concern related to COVID-19, we would be permitted to utilize home instruction to satisfy our instructional requirements.

We are in the process of creating home instruction contingency plans for assignments and instruction. For upper school students, this could include OneNote and online instruction, emails, FACTS Family Portal, and other sources. For elementary, this could include FACTS Family Portal, emails, Sways, and other sources. Please be sure you can access the Family Portal and emails. This means that IF state health officials direct us to close, we would NOT be required to make up those days in the calendar.

How Will a Decision to Close Schools be Made?

The decision to close a school is made in consultation with local health officials. If such an action becomes necessary, we would notify our parents the same way we do if we have a “snow day,” i.e. phone call, email, text and website posting.

What About Large Community Events, Sporting Events and Field Trips?

At this time, we do not see the need to alter our plans for upcoming large community gatherings, including auditorium events, sporting events and field trips.

It is incredibly important for us all to follow [proper health and safety protocols](#) during these large gatherings.

The governor declared a State of Emergency on March 9, 2020. What does this mean for our schools?

This declaration does NOT impact how we operate our school and it is NOT a directive to close schools. The declaration of a "State of Emergency" allows state agencies and departments to utilize state resources to assist affected communities.

In [Gov. Murphy's State of Emergency video](#) on Twitter, he explains that for the vast majority of New Jerseyans "...this declaration will have no immediate impact on daily life. New Jerseyans can still move around freely in the state and go to work and school in accordance with employer and school district guidance."

For more information, see Gov. Murphy's [State of Emergency video](#). Or visit the [Governor's State of Emergency notification](#).

Staying Healthy

- **As a Parent, What Should I be Doing?**
 - If necessary, plan for child care arrangements if a school closure is deemed necessary.

Please review with your child the importance of hand washing and preventative health measures, namely the advice below.

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or into your sleeve, not your hands;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth;
- Wash hands often with soap and warm water - for at least 20 seconds - especially before eating or after going to the bathroom, blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing;
- Keep your children home when they are sick. Children should not return to school unless they have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours;
- Avoid people who are sick;
- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces and objects.

What is our school doing to prevent exposure to our students and staff?

Calvary is committed to daily cleaning and sanitizing at our school, including disinfecting all door knobs, desks, bathroom fixtures, and other frequently touched/shared items. We are also:

- Making sure we have tissues and hand sanitizers available to all students and staff;
- Directing students to wash and/or sanitize their hands before going to lunch and after blowing their nose or using a tissue;

- Performing daily inspections of student bathrooms to ensure there is adequate soap and paper towels available;
- Monitoring student and staff illnesses to ensure only healthy people are coming to school.

COVID-19 Resources

- [COVID-19 Resources and Information from the NJ Department of Health](#)

NJDOH Resources for the General Public

COVID-19 Resources and Information from the CDC

| Symptoms | Coronavirus Symptoms range from mild to severe | Cold Gradual onset of symptoms | Flu Abrupt onset of symptoms |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|  Fever | Common | Rare | Common |
|  Fatigue | Sometimes | Sometimes | Common |
|  Cough | Common* (usually dry) | Mild | Common* (usually dry) |
|  Sneezing | No | Common | No |
|  Aches and pains | Sometimes | Common | Common |
|  Runny or stuffy nose | Rare | Common | Sometimes |
|  Sore throat | Sometimes | Common | Sometimes |
|  Diarrhea | Rare | No | Sometimes for children |
|  Headaches | Sometimes | Rare | Common |
|  Shortness of breath | Sometimes | No | No |

Sources: World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention