

2021-2022 Special Health & Safety Plan

Classroom & Facilities	- All classrooms will be equipped with hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray, wipes, and paper towels.
	- Common areas including the multipurpose hall/cafeteria space will be cleaned and sanitized by YCS staff throughout the day.
	- Classroom doors and windows will be kept open as much as possible to allow ventilation and airflow. Air conditioners will still be used when necessary, even with increased ventilation measures in place.
	- Hand sanitizer is placed at entrances and inside each classroom. Use is encouraged as necessary.
	- To the best of our ability, students will be asked to only touch or handle their own learning materials within reason.
	- Elementary aged students may not touch or use another student's cubby, backpack, or any other items without first disinfecting the item.
	- Lower/Upper Elementary students are required to wear masks during indoor instructional time, but will be instructed to remove masks on days when heat becomes a health risk, for example before recess or physical education classes.
	- For preschool students, masks are required for the time being.
	- All staff will be required to wear a mask at all times and teaching staff will be encouraged to wear a disposable mask.
Health Screening Process	- Parents and employees should complete a waiver at the beginning of the school year with required signatures releasing YCS/YUC of any liability with regards to Covid-19.
	- Parents are asked to complete the Health Observation Record (provided by YCS) each morning and are not to come to YCS if they or their child is presenting with Covid-19 symptoms: https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus#tab=tab 3. Symptoms include: extreme fatigue, headache, cough, shortness of breath, abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting, etc.
	- If a student or family member has been exposed to Covid-19 and is awaiting a PCR test result, the student should stay home until the results are released.

	- If a family member has tested positive for Covid-19, please notify the school as there are protocols that must be followed by the school in reporting to the Japanese health authorities.
	- It is recommended that any person who has traveled out of Japan, follow Japanese regulations for self-quarantine upon return.
	- If a parent has traveled outside of Japan on business, please let the YCS office know. Depending on the circumstances, students may not be required to quarantine.
	- Any child/staff member that exhibits a fever of 37.5C+ will be held in the isolated sick room and parents will be notified to pick up their child/staff member to be transported home. Employees will be directed to leave campus immediately.
	- If a student/staff presents any possible Covid-19 symptoms while at school, the nurse will complete the assessment and notify parents/staff to be sent home.
	- In order for a student/staff who tested positive for Covid-19 to return to school they must follow the Japanese governmental protocol before returning to school.
	- Absences due to health restrictions will not be counted as school day absences. For elementary students, class work should be completed if a student is out for an extended period. Classroom teacher's will advise parents/students.
Guests & Visitors	- All guests and visitors will be required to wear a mask, have their temperature taken, and wash/sanitize their hands upon arrival.
	- We ask that, within reason, one parent pick up students at this time.
Instructional Toggling	Closure:
	- If a case of Covid-19 appears on the campus we will close for 2-5 days for thorough cleaning (see Health Screening for positive test protocol).
	- If a positive Covid-19 case is detected at YCS, we will follow all recommendations from the Yokohama Health Department.
	- Protocols and practices to ensure a high level of engagement in learning will be in place to support home-based learning for any school closures
Personal Items	- No personal items may be shared (e.g. water bottles, etc.).
	- Learning materials may be shared only once disinfected (e.g.

stationary items, textbooks, etc.).

- Preschool/Lower Elementary classes will be provided with supplies intended for personal use that will be disinfected by staff each day.
- All personal items should be clearly labeled with the students name (e.g. water bottles, notebooks, backpacks).

Physical Distancing & Minimizing Exposure

Drop-off/Dismissal:

- Only YCS/YUC employees, parents/guardians, and students are allowed on campus.
- Student drop-off begins at 8:25am; Preschool drop-off from 8:25am-9:00am.
- Parents will be asked to drop-off from the door and not come inside the school building to assist their child. If a parent is unwell, particularly with a fever, please refrain from drop-off duties until feeling better.
- First year Seeds students may have their parents accompany them through the first week of attendance as per the Student/Parent Handbook.
- Students will report directly to the classroom.
- Face masks are required for all students for any indoor activities, but may be removed on hot days when mask wearing may be dangerous for outdoor activities and physical education classes.

Classroom:

- Upon entering school students will sanitize their hands.
- Students will be instructed not to share items with their classmates. Preschool students will be provided with individual supplies to use throughout the year that will be kept at school and cleaned by teachers.
- Recess schedules will be modified to only allow one class at a time on the playground.
- Preschool and Elementary lunch times will be staggered for increased social distancing purposes.

PE & Recess:

- Contact sports will not be practiced during Physical Education classes or recess times.
- Recreational and sports equipment will be regularly cleaned and sanitized.

Facilities:

- Reminders will be displayed throughout the school (classrooms, hallways, bathrooms, offices) for students and staff:
 - Stay 2m apart when possible
 - Proper and frequent hand washing
 - How to stop the spread of germs
- Fire drills and earthquake drills will be modified to maintain proper physical distancing to the greatest extent possible.
- Worship services will continue to be held with physical distancing in place.

Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to Coronavirus/Covid-19

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO). **COVID-19** is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, the Japanese and Yokohama government agencies released a large number of guidelines including: increased hand washing, physical distancing, and wearing masks as ways to keep people safe.

Yokohama Christian School ("YCS") has put in place added safety measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and keep the YCS community safe. However, YCS **cannot guarantee** that you or your child(ren) will not become infected with COVID-19.

YCS staff and teachers ask each parent to read over the Health & Safety Guidelines carefully before signing the following agreement.

 (detach below the line)	

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and understand the added safety measures that YCS is putting into affect for the 2021-2022 school year. Despite added measures to keep students, families and YCS staff and teachers safe, I assume the risk that my child(ren) or I may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by attending YCS.

I voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to my child(ren) or myself in conjunction with a COVID-19 infection. On my behalf, and on behalf of my child(ren), I will not sue, and hereby release, discharge, and hold harmless YCS, its employees, agents, and representatives, of and from any claims, liabilities, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating thereto. I understand and agree that this release includes any claims based on the actions or omissions of YCS, its employees, agents, and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in any YCS activities.

Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date	
Print Name of Parent/Guardian		