



Good Afternoon Falcon Families,

July 28, 2020

I pray that you and your families are staying healthy and enjoying the last few weeks of summer break. Please know that you are loved and prayed for often!

As we work through the final logistics of preparation for the first day of school, we wanted to update you on the details of our reopening plan. You may find the full details in the enclosed documents.

We are still planning to open United Faith for in-person learning on schedule on August 17, 2020. This will be modified for group size, social distancing, handwashing etiquette, and cohort grouping to mitigate risk.

We will not have in-person Orientation on August 14, 2020, however, due to the inability to safely manage group size and social distancing. Instead we will provide an alternative form of Orientation. Details on this will be coming out in the next week.

Throughout our work formulating our reopening plans, the health and safety of our students, staff and visitors on our campus has been our priority. We formed a UFCA Reopening Advisory Group of parents and community members who are in strategic positions in Healthcare, Public Health, Emergency Management, Law Enforcement, Education and Law. This group has worked throughout the summer to help us define what our plan should look like given the current state of our community, if it improves, and if it should worsen.

In order to reopen campus safely, UFCA continues to review the most recent scientific data, recommendations and guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics, Centers for Disease Control, NC Department of Health and Human Services and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Department of Public Health to name a few.

Our reopening plan will remain flexible in the sense that as conditions change, we will adapt our plan to fit the current conditions within our community. We already have made slight changes to the broad guidelines that were previously shared with you as new data has come out this week on transmission and safety protocols.

There are several points that are clear throughout all of this:

1. Our goal is to mitigate and reduce risk to an acceptable level – we will never be able to remove all risk from school life.
2. While we do have community spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, it is currently at a moderate level.
3. As previously communicated, we will have the opportunity for remote instruction available for students who have medical concerns (for themselves or within their households) or who have had an exposure or potential exposure and may not be able to be physically present in the classroom or who may be uncomfortable with being in an on-campus school setting at this time.
4. When policies in the UFCA Reopening Plan differ from policies in the Parent-Student Handbook, the UFCA Reopening Plan policies will take precedence.
5. These documents will exist as appendices to the Parent-Student Handbook and will be covered under the Parent-Student Handbook Agreement Form.

To aid in understanding our plan, UFCA has developed color-coded levels of operation for the 2020-2021 school year. The levels of operation will be adjusted as the need arises based on guidance and recommendations from regulating authorities.

Alert Level	Community Spread of COVID-19	Operation Standards
None	None; Vaccine and/or Therapeutics Available	Normal Operations (follow Handbook guidelines)
Green	None to Mild Spread; No Vaccine or Therapeutics	Modified Operations (follow Green Alert Level guidelines)
Yellow	Mild to Moderate Spread; No Vaccine or Therapeutics	Restricted Operations (follow Yellow Alert Level guidelines)
Red	Significant or Rapidly Increasing Spread; No Vaccine or Therapeutics	Remote Operations (Only) (follow Red Alert Level guidelines)

UFCA will begin the 2020-2021 school year under the **YELLOW** Alert Level of Operations. You may review the specific details of the Green and Yellow Alert Level Operational Guidelines in the enclosed attachments.

The broad plan under the current conditions includes:

- Following the current face covering, social distancing and group size restrictions to be in alignment with the state of North Carolina requirements for non-public education.
 - Parents will provide face masks or face shields for their children to bring to school each day.
 - These may be:
 - Cloth face coverings – at least 2 layers thick and preferably a tightly woven cotton or similar
 - Surgical masks
 - N95 or better masks
 - Face shields
 - Staff, Upper School students (6th-12th), and Grades 4-5 students will be required to wear face coverings.
 - Preschool and Kindergarten-Grade 3 students will be strongly encouraged to wear masks (no masks for Preschool K2 students).
- All classes will be socially distanced as much as possible.
- Hand Hygiene will be stressed throughout the day for all Staff and Students, with frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer.
 - Hand sanitizer automated dispensers will be in each room.
- Students will be maintained within limited cohorts throughout the day:
 - Preschool and Lower School
 - Students will stay together and in their rooms for most activities.
 - Classes will be encouraged to meet in outdoor spaces as frequently as possible.
 - Specials will primarily be in the students' primary classroom with the exception of PE and Music, which will be outside, or in the Gym or Sanctuary, respectively. This allows students to be socially distanced in a much larger room, allowing the virus to dissipate.
 - Recess will continue to be outside as much as possible.
 - Students will be required to use their own supplies and equipment without sharing.
 - Chapel and Assemblies will be held outside or in the Sanctuary, Gym or Classroom (virtually) in alignment with the North Carolina state guidelines at the time.

- Upper School
 - Students will stay together and have limited room changes during the day.
 - Classes will be encouraged to meet in outdoor spaces as often as possible.
 - Room change and locker time will be staggered by grade.
 - Students will travel to electives.
 - Students will be required to use their own supplies without sharing.
 - Chapel and Assemblies will be held outside or in the Sanctuary, Gym or Classroom (virtually) in alignment with NC state guidelines at the time.
- Daily use of a smartphone-based wellness app to answer pre-screening questions set by the CDC to confirm the safety of Students and Staff coming to school each day.
 - The app is both HIPAA and FERPA compliance for security and privacy of data.
 - The app must be completed prior to arrival at school each morning.
 - If a family has an objection to the use of a smartphone based app, they may use paper forms to answer the pre-screening questions and present that upon arrival to school. Please contact the Head of School to utilize this option
- Morning temperature verification upon arrival in Carline or Before School Care.
 - An elevated temperature above 100°F at the time will require the student to return home.
- Lunch
 - Lower School and Preschool
 - Students will preorder a hot lunch or bring their own lunch from home.
 - Lunches will be delivered to the classroom.
 - Upper School
 - Students will order a hot lunch or bring their own lunch from home.
 - Hot Lunches will be picked up in the cafeteria by class.
 - Use of the Cafeteria will be dependent on appropriate group size and social distancing guidelines in alignment with the state of North Carolina requirements at the time.
- Water fountains will be turned off to avoid cross contamination between students.
 - Students will be allowed to refill water bottles at sinks but are encouraged to bring enough water from home each day.
- Facility Cleaning and Sanitization will be in alignment with the state of North Carolina requirements.
 - Cleaning and Sanitization of all high-touch surfaces, including bathroom touchpoints, doors and railings will occur multiple times per day, as they had prior to school closure.
 - Classroom surfaces will be cleaned daily for Lower School classes or prior to class changes in Upper School.
- Remote learning will be available for those who have medical concerns, who have had an exposure or potential exposure and may not be able to be physically present in the classroom, and for those who have medical or safety concerns with attending school in person at this time.
 - Families who choose remote learning for medical reasons or safety concerns will be asked to commit to being on remote learning for one Academic Quarter at a time.
 - Students who are ill or out of school for an exposure will only be permitted to utilize remote learning while they are excused from the Classroom.
- **Lower School parents may purchase a 3-sided desktop sneeze guard for their student in addition to the use of a face covering (not in place of one)**, providing it meets the following criteria:
 - Fits on the student's desk.
 - Is completely clear, other than a frame or hinges.
 - Is freestanding.
- Sneeze Guards are not recommended for Upper School students due to mobility issues, but are not prohibited.
- Desk Dimensions
 - Lower School desk: 23-7/8" wide X 18" deep
 - Upper School desk: 26' wide X 19" deep
- Sneeze Guard Resources:
 - <https://www.professionalplastics.com/Plexiglass-School-Desktop-Sneezeguard-Shields>
 - https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B088NF869R?pf_rd_r=FPPCG283YP1SEK7Z915P&pf_rd_p=edaba0ee-c2fe-4124-9f5d-b31d6b1bfbee
 - Multiple other sources on Amazon and other sites

- If you are able to make a donation to assist another family in purchasing a sneeze guard for their student, please reach out to the Head of School.
- Donations of Sanitation Supplies
 - As you may know, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes are difficult to acquire in large quantities during this time and, while we have a good supply for now, we would appreciate any donations that can be made to bolster our supply for the year amid unforeseen potential shortages.
 - We ask that parents each provide any of the following, if possible:
 - 2+ large bottles of hand sanitizer (60%-70% ethyl alcohol (ethanol); 16oz. or larger)
 - Please note: Hand sanitizer containing methanol or having more than 70% ethanol is hazardous.
 - 2+ large disinfecting wipes containers (Lysol or Clorox, only)
 - 2+ large spray bottles of Lysol disinfectant spray (other brands haven't proven to be effective against the SARS-CoV-2 virus).

Please complete and return the enclosed waiver and instructional program selection form to indicate if you wish in-person or remote instruction for your student(s). This form is due no later than August 10, 2020.

Ongoing Activities

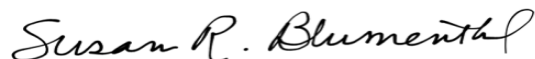
- The Main Office continues to be open Tuesday-Thursday from 8:30am-3:00pm through the end of July. As of August 3, 2020, the Main Office will be open 5 days per week from 8:30am-3:00pm.
- The Campus (outside of the Main Office) remains closed to all other persons including families and visitors until the beginning of school.
 - Once school begins, Visitors will be limited to essential Visitors only.
- UFCA Athletics began on-campus training and practices on July 27, 2020, in alignment with NC State and NCISAA guidelines. All fall student-athletes should have received information on this. If you have questions, please reach out to our Athletic Director.

Please reach out to me directly if you have any questions or concerns after reading the attached Operational Guidelines.

I pray that each of you has remained healthy and has taken this opportunity to deepen your relationship with Jesus and expand your personal ministry of reconciliation. We know that He has already determined victory for those who belong to Him, so we need not fear circumstances!

Please continue to join with me in prayer for a rapid resolution to this pandemic!

Blessings,



Susan R. Blumenthal, PhD, Head of School

"All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." 2 Corinthians 5:18