



*Sent as an email on August 4, 2020*

Good afternoon MCS families. I hope you and your amazing children are healthy, happy and ready for a return to our program on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

You should have all received my letter dated June 19<sup>th</sup> which is posted on our website under the family resources tab along with the revised Family Handbook. Our school website is a great source of information and updated frequently. I encourage you to visit it on a regular basis at [www.messiahchristianschool.org](http://www.messiahchristianschool.org).

As the K-12 schools in our area announce their plans for the fall, it is important to remember that while we are named Messiah Christian School and operate as a school, we are licensed and regulated by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) as a child care center serving children ages 3 to 6 years old. As such, while many of our current challenges are similar to the surrounding K-12 schools, we are a much smaller community of early learners, teachers and families.

Child care centers have been operational since May 31<sup>st</sup> and last week Governor DeWine announced they could return to pre-pandemic ratio and group size with the strong recommendation that class sizes not exceed the number of children that can safely socially distance in a classroom. He recognized that each setting is different thus allowing for a different number of children to be served. ***Messiah's classroom communities will remain at a ratio and group size of no more than nine (9) children and one (1) teacher*** to promote the health and safety of all those associated with our school. These classroom groups of nine (9) children will not be combined at any time.

Handwashing requirements were outlined in my June 19<sup>th</sup> letter. Additionally, the children will also wash their hands upon arrival in our classrooms each day. There has always been much handwashing at Messiah and this will continue. I encourage modelling effective handwashing in your homes as well.

Temperature checks will be handled as outlined in my June 19<sup>th</sup> letter. Additionally all teachers, staff and students will be screened daily at arrival and throughout our day for Covid-19 symptoms. Any individual with a fever or symptoms will be isolated and or sent home immediately as previously outlined. Confirmed Covid-19 cases will be reported to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and the local health department and their instructions will be strictly followed. *Please stay at home if you, your child or anyone in your family is ill.*

Face coverings will be required for any person over the age of third grade while inside our building. Face coverings must cover both the mouth and nose to maximize effectiveness.

All other items covered in my previous letter will continue to be practiced.

There is an inherent risk in choosing to have your child participate in our program, but please know your child is important to every member of our teaching team, and we are looking forward to helping them learn, explore, grow and experience God's love.

Please feel free to contact me if I may assist you further in any way. Together, we can do great things!

Lisa M. Powers, Director

614-864-3506

[lpowers@messiahchristianschool.org](mailto:lpowers@messiahchristianschool.org)

*Friendly Reminders:*

*Payment options require execution as soon as possible.*

*Outstanding documentation is required as soon as possible.*

*Our extended care program now requires registration and may not be used on a drop-in basis.*

*Open House will take place Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>-appointment times are forthcoming.*

*Kindergarten Screenings will take place September 1<sup>st</sup>—3<sup>rd</sup>; details are forthcoming.*

*First Day of School is September 8<sup>th</sup>.*