

2020-2021 FIRST CRC YOUTH MINISTRY PROCEDURE

In preparations for this 2020-21 Youth Ministry Year, our team will be implementing the below procedures to ensure the safety of our students, families, and leaders.

Self-Screening

Our team is asking every household to develop a common practice of assessing each student for possible symptom every morning before coming to school, church, Youth Group, or any gathering. Please refer to <https://www.cdc.gov/> for a complete list of COVID-19 symptoms.

Illiana High School developed a great rubric for helping deciding when it is appropriate for a student to come to school after COVID exposure or infection. We included it below to refer to in specific situations your family may experience while your student attends any Youth Ministry Gathering.

Two or more symptoms AND a positive COVID test – Return when fever free, symptoms have improved, 10 days have passed since symptoms appeared, and individual has received two negative tests at least 24 hours apart.

Two or more symptoms AND a negative COVID test – Return when fever free for 24 hours without use of medication.

No symptoms AND positive COVID test – Return 10 days have passed since test was administered and are still showing no symptoms.

Two or more symptoms without test – Return when fever free 72 hours without medication, all COVID symptoms are gone, and 10 days have passed since symptoms appeared.

Concerning household members – Household member with a positive COVID test; Student with a household member who has COVID-19 needs to remain home for at least two weeks.

Household member with 2 or more symptoms – Students with a household member who has COVID-19 symptoms or is being tested for COVID-19 will need to remain home for 72 hours.

Youth Group Drop-Off

Before dropping off your student, a leader will meet your student in the church parking lot to take their temperature with a contactless thermometer, ask student to use sanitizer and wear their mask (if indoors) before walking to The Soul Hub. If your student does show a resting temperature over 100 degrees, we will respectfully ask the student to return to their vehicle and return when they are fever free for 24 hours without use of medication.

Sunday Class Drop-Off

Students walking over to The Soul Hub from church will have their temperature checked with a contactless thermometer, asked to use sanitizer and wear their mask (if indoors) before participating in Sunday Class. If your

student does show a resting temperature over 100 degrees, we will respectfully ask the student to return to their parents and return when they are fever free for 24 hours without use of medication.

If in the case that an individual attending Youth Group or any youth related event develops COVID-19, we intend to inform all families when there are known test-positive cases of COVID-19 within our students or leaders. Although, we might not provide the identity of that person, we will contact those who may have been in contact with a COVID-19 positive person.

Creating A Safe Environment At Youth Group, Sunday Classes, & Youth Related Events

We will sanitize all surfaces before and after gatherings. We have hand sanitizer available on all levels of The Soul Hub and will promote using it before, during (if needed), and after Youth Group or any youth related event. Handwashing posters will be posted in bathrooms as a friendly reminder to carry out proper protocol to stay safe.

“A face covering over one’s nose and mouth should be worn by any persons entering an enclosed public space or enclosed place of business, unless such persons have a medical exception indicating that a face covering is ill-advised for health reasons, or the face covering prevents the persons from delivering or receiving goods or services.”
–Lake County Health Department COVID-19 Public Health Order 20-01

Masks are required for all persons 8 years and older while inside buildings. We will require masks to be worn inside The Soul Hub and/or church.

The state allows for those who are eating or drinking to refrain from wearing a mask. This also creates an opportunity for individuals to “take a break” from wearing their mask. If indoors or outdoors, we will practice social distancing while eating or drinking.

“When engaged in outdoor exercise or activities including parties and private gatherings, individuals (other than members of the same household) should maintain a distance of at least six feet from one another at all times and are not required to wear a mask except when in a group of 25 or more.” –Lake County Health Department COVID-19 Public Health Order 20-01

Our Youth Group averages less than 25 individuals at a time. We desire to have Youth Group and other activities outdoors as often as we can, without masks but maintaining proper social distancing. We have outdoor seating and protection from weather if need be.

Within our program, we have generally consistent small groups, staff, volunteers, and students. We will implement programming that refrains from intermixing groups. If intermixing of groups is necessary, we will limit the number of groups that intermix and keep record of those participates that intermix. Our small groups will spread out to their designated locations and maintain that location throughout the course of the Youth Ministry Year.

The above procedures are subject to change as regulations adapt to the current COVID-19 status of the world, state, and community. We will keep families informed as these changes are made.

We are so excited for the Youth Ministry Year to begin! Although it may not look the same as last year, we intend on having a great year and have peace knowing God is in complete control.

To God be the Glory,
The Youth Ministry Team