

## **Long Beach Christian Fellowship Re-Gathering in the Building Plan for June 2021**

Long Beach Christian Fellowship remains committed to providing a safe and loving children's ministry that exceeds state standards for re-opening, while supporting our children's holistic health. We believe in creating an environment that cares for and nurtures each child's mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being, as well as protecting their physical health and safety.

COVID-19 has disrupted how children live, learn, and play, however through the past year, we have also seen their resiliency, ability to adapt, creatively problem-solve, and their capacity for joy, even in the midst of challenges and upheaval. In many ways, our children have been our teachers, showing us grace as we navigate the foreign territory of online school and generosity as we learned from trial and error what has worked and what has not.

We are continuously monitoring community developments and following the most recent updates for CDC guidelines. All regular policies and procedures for children's ministry remain in effect except where the new policies outlined below differ from established policies, in which case, the newest guidelines will be followed until restrictions are lifted.

### **Capacity**

Families are required to pre-register children for children's ministry so that proper staff, space and individual materials can be prepared in advance. Parents will sign up their children as a part of their own registration for Sunday in-person worship for a particular week.

Beginning June 13th, we will be offering 3 indoor classroom areas:

- ❖ A toddler room~capacity limited to 4 children
- ❖ A preschool/lower elementary room (ages 4 years old-1st grade)~capacity limited to 12 children
- ❖ An upper elementary classroom (2nd grade-5th grade)~capacity limited to 10 children

For all three classrooms to open and welcome children, we will need a minimum of 7 volunteers each week. If you are interested in serving in the classroom or greeting families as they sign in, please contact Mary Dorsett.

## **Health Screening for COVID-19 Illness or Exposure**

Apart from the registration process, check-in procedures will include a temperature check and a visual check of the child for signs of illness which could include:

- ❖ flushed cheeks
- ❖ rapid breathing or difficulty breathing
- ❖ fatigue
- ❖ extreme (or out-of-character) fussiness
- ❖ a verbal check with the parent or caregiver that the child is not experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 or has a known exposure to COVID since completing the online questionnaire.

Anyone who has a fever or any of the following signs of COVID-19 will not be admitted into the church courtyard but invited to worship from home until cleared:

- ❖ Has a fever of 99.9° or higher
- ❖ Displays symptoms of COVID-19
- ❖ Loss of taste or smell
- ❖ Has been exposed to someone with known COVID-19
- ❖ Is suspected of having COVID-19
- ❖ Has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and not yet cleared to discontinue isolation
- ❖ If a member of the household or pod is suspected of having COVID-19

There can be an overlap between COVID-19 symptoms and other common illnesses or noncommunicable seasonal allergies. When deciding if your child should attend an in-person event consider: Would you want someone with your child's symptoms visiting your home? If not, please keep your child at home and join us virtually until symptoms have cleared.

## **Preventative Measures**

LBCF is committed to providing families with a clean, safe, and nurturing environment. While this has always been an LBCF 'best practice' we will continue regular protocols of cleaning and disinfecting surface areas after use while adding additional, weekly deep cleaning of items used during the gathering.

- ❖ Volunteers and staff are required to wear a mask at all times during the gathering and maintain physical distancing whenever possible.
- ❖ Volunteers should wash their hands thoroughly with soap and warm water before entering the children's hallway.
- ❖ Hand sanitizer will be available at the check-in station and in classroom areas.
- ❖ Items provided each week will be for individual use and will be sanitized after each gathering.
- ❖ Children are asked not to bring personal items from home.
- ❖ No snacks will be available during the gathering and eating will not be permitted in the classroom areas.
- ❖ Family Worship on 4th Sundays will resume June 27th.

### **Hoots and Wise Kids Guidelines**

In addition to our standard protocol procedures, the following measures are being implemented to follow and/or exceed CDC guidelines for reopening:

- ❖ Volunteers and children (aged 4 and up) are required to wear masks throughout the gathering.
- ❖ Items will be prepared in advance for individual use and will be disinfected after gatherings.
- ❖ Social distancing will be encouraged and enforced with spacing circles.
- ❖ To limit time spent in the restroom, trips will no longer be in groups with a teacher. Please take your child prior to dropping them off in the classroom area. This has the added benefit of having each child enter the classroom area with freshly washed hands. If a child needs to use the facilities during the gathering, a teacher will text the parent to accompany their child to the bathroom and return them after. If you feel your child is comfortable and able to use the restroom unaccompanied, you may sign a release stating they can walk to the bathroom and return without supervision.
- ❖ Classrooms will have hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, tissues and touch free trash cans readily available.
- ❖ If a child comes down with symptoms or complains of feeling unwell during the gathering, a volunteer will accompany the child away from the classroom area and text the parent immediately.
- ❖ Although volunteers will be encouraged to maintain social distance whenever possible, interacting with children often includes proximity, bending down to eye level and offering a soothing touch if the child is upset. Waivers will be signed

acknowledging that social distancing between volunteer and child will not always be possible or in the best interest of the child.

- ❖ Hoots and Wise Kids will gather in their designated classrooms, however teachers may continue to lead games or activities outdoors for the summer months.
- ❖ To limit congregating in the hallway, children (ages 4-5th grade) will walk together at the end of the service to the foyer area and parents will pick up their children as they exit the main doors of the sanctuary

### **Toddler Room Re-opening Guidelines**

The Toddler Room will re-open with the following new measures in place:

- ❖ To encourage social distancing and support volunteers in maintaining a clean and safe classroom environment, the toddler room will open with limited capacity (4 children to a 2 volunteer ratio).
- ❖ Volunteers and children will be required to wash hands before entering the children's hallway.
- ❖ Frequent handwashing or hand sanitizing.
- ❖ Per CDC guidelines, children under two should not wear masks or any other protective facial shields.
- ❖ All volunteers will be required to wear masks at all times.
- ❖ Clean aprons will be provided for each volunteer to wear during the gathering. If a child coughs, sneezes or if your clothing could have any contact with body fluids, additional aprons will be available.
- ❖ Items that are not easily cleaned or sanitized will be removed from the classroom.
- ❖ No snacks will be available during the gathering and eating will not be permitted in the classroom areas.
- ❖ Children will be picked up by parents at the classroom door.

### **Infants Re-Opening Considerations**

For the time being, LBCF is not offering infant child care. There will be limited space within the building (nursery and parent lounge) for parents with infants and young toddlers to gather, if desired. Pre-registration will be required for utilizing the indoor infant/toddler space. Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes will be available and rooms will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after each gathering by a professional cleaning crew.

As community cases continue to go down and there are sufficient volunteers, the Nursery room will open for childcare with the following changes and additions to standard nursery protocols:

- ❖ Frequent handwashing or hand sanitizing.
- ❖ Per CDC guidelines, children under two should not wear masks or any other protective facial shields.
- ❖ To start, classrooms will open at a limited capacity (three infants to two volunteer ratio) to help encourage social distancing and support volunteers in maintaining a clean and safe environment.
- ❖ Volunteers will be required to wear masks at all times.
- ❖ Clean aprons will be provided for each volunteer to wear during the gathering. If a child coughs, sneezes or if your clothing could have any contact with body fluids, additional aprons will be available.
- ❖ Items that are not easily cleaned or sanitized will be removed from the classroom.
- ❖ Until further notice, snacks will not be offered and food will not be allowed within the classroom areas with exception to bottle and breastfeeding.

**Thank you for your flexibility and adaptability as we work to make our  
Children's Ministry programs as safe as possible.**