

## **Guidelines & COVID-19 Protocols**

### **for Quest Kids & Amplify Youth Ministry**

In general, while Governor Jay Inslee and Washington State King County have chosen to remove most COVID-19 restrictions for social gatherings and places of worship, Quest Church will continue to practice caution with our COVID-19 protocols. In consideration of our entire community, especially the most vulnerable among us, we will continue to proceed with caution in our protocols.

The health and safety of students and families is important to us. We are monitoring the COVID-19 Delta variant and if transmission rates increase significantly in our community and region, we will be prepared to respond and adjust in accordance with public health recommendations and best practices.

Below are our current protocols and practices:

**Vaccinations:** At this time, all volunteers (including youth) who work in children and youth ministry are required to be vaccinated. We have intentionally coordinated our reopening in conjunction with the availability of vaccines to kids 5-17.

**Response to COVID-19 Cases:** If there is a positive COVID-19 case in a classroom or group/gathering, all families with students who attended the same classroom/group will be notified. Quest Staff will identify and inform all individuals that came into close contact with the diagnosed person and provide next steps.

**Masks:** Masks are required for all students, staff, visitors, and volunteers. Children under the age of four are not required to wear a mask, though it is encouraged as much as possible.

**Air Quality:** We will maintain air quality by managing air circulation and using high-performance air filters. MERV8 filters have been installed in building HVAC systems and are being supplemented, as necessary, with free-standing HEPA filters in classrooms and other spaces.

**Cleaning:** Classrooms and common spaces will be cleaned and disinfected before church on Sunday and after services.

**Physical Distancing:** Following state Department of Public Health guidelines, students will distance three feet, or to the extent possible and reasonable, in classrooms and will maximize distance between students to the extent possible and reasonable in common spaces. Classroom tables and activities areas will be spaced out and a limited number of toys and activities will be provided that are able to be cleaned after each use. The maximum number of students in each classroom has been reduced to accommodate physical distancing.

**Hand Washing:** Regular hand washing is important to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Hand sanitizer will be made available when handwashing is not possible. We ask that all volunteers and students wash their hands before entering classroom spaces at the start of service. There are no sinks in children's classrooms, therefore sanitizer will be used in classrooms.

**Food in classrooms:** At this time we will not be serving snacks to students 5th grade and below. We encourage parents to feed your child before service, and when you pick up your child we will provide some optional individually packaged snacks to take for the ride home. Youth Ministry gatherings and events will offer meals and snacks. During eating times we will encourage handwashing, provide physically distanced seating options, and will only take masks down only for eating.

*By participating in children and youth ministry at Quest you agree to follow the guidelines established by the church to protect attendees and staff, and you voluntarily assume the risk that you and/or your family may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 either at the church or in any church-related activities. You agree to assume all the risks of attendance and participation for you and your family, and you waive any liability against the church and any other parties.*