# Small School Reopening Guidelines for Veritas Academy June 6, 2020 (rev. July 15, 2020, rev. August 11, 2020, and rev. February 2, 2021 )

#### Mission and Goal

Our mission is to cultivate loving, serving, thinking students. As we are in the winter months, we know that it will continue to be a challenging time due to the public health challenges and economic hardship brought on by the coronavirus. We also know that just as God has walked with us through the trials we have all faced thus far, He will continue to sustain us as we meet new challenges.

We remain committed to maintaining safe learning in our facility as much as possible. We want each student's school day to be as normal-feeling as possible. Our goal throughout this process has been and will be to move through the COVID crisis safely with a commitment to move back toward a completely normal pre-coronavirus environment as soon as we can safely.

### **Important Factors**

Our plan continues to be based on these important advantages:

- Capped classroom sizes
- Flexibility
- Data-driven decisions
- Consistency with our core values
- Collective learning and experiences to date

As a small school with capped classroom sizes, we have some distinct advantages as we move through this process. We are more spaced naturally with fewer students in our classrooms than many schools in the state. We also have the advantage of being able to be more flexible because of our smaller number of students, teachers, and classrooms. We are committed to finding the best processes to keep our students and staff safe and we will rely on the wisdom of our staff, faculty, administration, and community to work together to produce the best outcomes and protect the educational integrity of our school.

We are committed to tracking the best data available and making decisions based on that data. We stay up to date with the CDC guidelines, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education. We believe that we can learn from the recommended practices of these institutions. Although the recommendations of these institutions do not always align, we will continue to stay up to date on their recommendations and seek to implement them in our school in wise and practical ways.

We are committed to standards and procedures that are consistent with our core values—particularly the value of supporting families. We are going to ask our

families to work with us to keep our school safe. If we work together, we can continue to keep school open, move our students forward educationally, and do so in an environment that feels as normal as we can make it. We understand that some parents and families might feel very differently about how their children would participate in class. We will continue to attempt to honor these wishes, helping each family and each student to feel safe and comfortable. Even if we move to a more relaxed phase, we want to work with families that might need more time to feel comfortable or might be reticent because of risk factors for students or family members.

### **Our Team:**

As our school moves through this year, we want to remind you of our Pandemic Response Team in place:

Ty Fischer, Head of School, (Pandemic Coordinator)
Jonathan Daughtrey, Executive Director of Administration (Pandemic Vice-Coordinator)<sup>1</sup>
Hannah Barry, School Nurse
Bruce Etter, Academic Dean
Ginny Miller, Executive Assistant

The Pandemic Response Team meets regularly to review data, receive input from medical authorities, change or alter processes and procedures based on new data, and communicate with the Veritas Community concerning any pandemic-related news or changes in school phases or procedures.

### In Loco Parentis:

One of the important values of our school is summed up in the Latin phrase, *In Loco Parentis* meaning *in the place of the parents*. Our school functions based on that principle. We know that this time has been challenging and has created many fears and concerns. The ultimate authority and decision to send a child to school belongs to the parents. While we are working hard to create an environment that is safe, we also understand that families might have very different standards and concerns. We recognize the primacy of the parents in their decisions concerning their own children and will work to support parents and families as they work through their decision making.

### **Phases**

We already have had some disruptions to our school year, and we anticipate more, especially during these winter months. We are adjusting our phases based on what we have learned thus far. Because of this we are planning for contingencies as there could continue to be interruptions, though as the vaccine makes its way into our community and holiday travel times are behind us, we are hopeful that such interruptions are minimal.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mr. Daughtrey will serve as Pandemic Coordinator in Mr. Fischer's absence.

The Veritas administration may move part of the school to a more relaxed phase while another part of the school remains in a stricter phase. This has been added to allow for data to guide our implementation of the plan recognizing that we could find that the danger and spread of the COVID virus is different for some ages of students than for others. Here is a summary of the phased approach we will continue to be following:

**Phase o Stage A (Shutdown – Online Instruction)** – Occurring if and when Veritas is unable to hold any classes within its facility because of government orders or because of an administrative decision requiring the school to close or move to an online environment temporarily.

Phase o Stage B (In-Person Instruction with Substantial Physical Distancing) – Consisting of in-person instruction occurring in an environment of substantial physical distancing and other measures.<sup>2</sup>

**Phase 1** – Consisting of in-person classes with moderate physical distancing guidelines and other measures.

**Phase 2** – Consisting of in-person instruction with more relaxed physical distancing and more normal school functions.

**Phase 3** – Consisting of continued vigilance concerning student interaction, behavior, and symptoms that might point to COVID.

**Phase 4** (Old Normal) – A return to the old normal with continued consideration given to good health and safety standards.

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Phase o - Stage A (Shutdown - Online Instruction)

What does this look like?	This phase consists of online instruction. The students would be working exclusively from home using online instruction.
Attendance Guidelines	Students are expected to attend all scheduled online classes and learning sessions as determined by applicable teachers and administration.
What causes it/When does it end?	This scenario would be initiated by one of two events. First, the state might mandate the closing of schools in the state or our region. Second, the school's administration might decide to close our school if they believe that is the only way to protect the safety of our community.
	This phase will end whenever the government sanctions are lifted or, if the shutdown was caused by an administrative decision, when the administration believes it to be safe to reenter the facility for in-person instruction.
Pick-up / Drop Practices	N/A
Classroom Practices	Behavioral expectations and general practices will be determined and communicated by teachers and school administration.
Hallway / Bathroom Procedures	N/A
Recess / Lunch	N/A
Large Group Activities	N/A
After School/Extracurricular Activities	All afterschool activities and extra would be closed during this phase unless special permission is given by the school administration.
Cleaning Procedure	N/A
Online Education	All instruction would take place online.
Financial Consideration	If online instruction commences for any reason for more than four cumulative weeks during the course of the school year, a family may apply for a tuition discount if they so choose. The school board will make a decision on whether to reduce that family's tuition based on the specific nature and circumstances of their situation.

Phase o - Stage B (In-Person Instruction with Substantial Physical Distancing)

What does this look like?	Consisting of in-person classes with substantial physical distancing guidelines.
Attendance Guidelines	Students, Teachers, and Staff Members must not attend school if they have the following symptoms:  Fever or chills  Cough  Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing  Fatigue  Muscle or body aches  Headache  New loss of taste or smell  Sore throat  Congestion or runny nose  Nausea or vomiting  Diarrhea <sup>3</sup>
	<ol> <li>Specific Actions:         <ol> <li>Veritas will check students' temperature as they arrive and ask that students be sent home if they have a fever over 100.4.</li> <li>If a student is exhibiting any of the symptoms listed above, teachers will remove the student from class and send him or her to the school office. The student will either be examined there and cleared or sent home.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	Use Common Sense – this is the most important step we can take to protect our school. If your child is sick or has any of these symptoms, keep them home.
What causes it/When does it end?	This would be caused by a state mandate requiring these measures or an administrative decision by the Veritas administration.
Pick-up / Drop Practices	Students being picked up and dropped off at the right side (breezeway) entrance rather than the front door. They will walk through the Veritas Academy halls directly to their locker and then to their classroom (first period class for secondary school).  When needed, we will stagger the end of day times to
	allow students less interaction in the halls.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> These symptoms are based on the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines that can be viewed at: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html</a>

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Classroom Practices	We will limit the interaction between classes/grades and will alter passing times to keep the number of students in the halls to a minimum.
Hallway / Bathroom	<ol> <li>Specific Actions:         <ol> <li>When possible, teachers will limit the number of students touching the same school materials (books, worksheets, etc), that means that optimally only the teacher and the student will touch the same material.</li> <li>This might mean putting students' materials for the next day in accessible place for only that student.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Spacing of desks to allow for physical distancing as possible.</li> <li>Special Teachers (Art, Music, etc.,) will come to the students' classroom in grammar school.</li> <li>Teachers, rather than students, might move from classroom to classroom in secondary school.</li> <li>Normal homeroom devotions will be replaced by grade level devotions during first period classes in secondary school.</li> <li>Teachers or students may be asked to wear masks in non-distanced areas of the school.<sup>4</sup></li> <li>In secondary school, we will plan on having elective classes outside or in zoom classes so that students can remain in their grade classroom.</li> <li>We will not use our lockers. Students should bring all of their materials to their classroom.</li> </ol>
Hallway / Bathroom Procedures	We will minimize student contact in the hallways and make sure that they are effectively washing/sanitizing hands.
	<ol> <li>Student use of the hallways will be limited.</li> <li>When groups of students move through the halls they should be in socially distant lines between classes.</li> </ol>
	3. When practicable, student's bathroom times will be set aside so that classes will use the bathroom, as much as possible, at the same time.
	<ol> <li>Bathroom monitors might be employed to make sure that younger students are washing or sanitizing their hands effectively.</li> </ol>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Note, that students are welcome to wear masks if their family believes it necessary or advisable.

Recess / Lunch	Recess and lunch time will be scheduled by class.
	<ol> <li>Specific Actions:         <ol> <li>Recess times will be staggered to allow students to have recess with only their classmates by grade.</li> <li>Lunch schedules will be staggered so that students will eat only with their classroom in the lunchroom (allowing for physical distancing and increased cleaning time) or they will eat lunch in their classrooms.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Large Group Activities	Limited large group activities involving more than one grade or people other than teachers, staff, and students will be allowed based on state guidelines and administrative discretion. Only online school tours will be allowed during this phase.
After School Activities	All afterschool activities would be limited during this phase but may be permissible based on state guidelines and administrative discretion.
Cleaning Procedure	We will use heightened cleaning procedures during this phase.
Online Education	No regular online instruction would be given at this time. If students or families did not believe it safe for their child to attend, Veritas would provide assignments and some academic support through tutors, assistants, and learning support personnel as practicable. (The classroom teachers would not normally be involved in this support.) It would be like the support that we give for students when they are away traveling. When the student was able to return, the teachers and learning support would work to support the student as he or she got back up to speed.
Financial Consideration	No tuition discount would take place during this phase.

Phase 1 (In Person Instruction with Moderate Physical Distancing)<sup>5</sup>

What does this look	This phase consists of in person instruction with
like?	moderate physical distancing.
Attendance Guidelines	Students, Teachers, and Staff Members must not attend school if they have the following symptoms:  • Fever or chills  • Cough  • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing  • Fatigue  • Muscle or body aches  • Headache  • New loss of taste or smell  • Sore throat  • Congestion or runny nose  • Nausea or vomiting  • Diarrhea <sup>6</sup>
	<ol> <li>Specific Actions:         <ol> <li>Veritas will check students' temperature as they arrive and ask that students be sent home if they have a fever over 100.4.</li> <li>If a student is exhibiting any of the symptoms listed above, teachers will remove the student from class and send him or her to the school office. The student will either be examined there and cleared or sent home.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	Use Common Sense – this is the most important step we can take to protect our school. If your child is sick or has any of these symptoms, keep them home.
What causes it/When does it end?	This would be caused by an administrative decision that slightly less physical distancing was needed to protect the safety of the community.
Pick-up / Drop	They will walk through the Veritas Academy halls
Practices	directly to their locker and then to their classroom (first period class for secondary school).
	When needed, we will stagger the end of day times to allow students less interaction in the halls.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The difference between Phase o.C and Phase 1 is based on the extent to which state requirements are involved in our functioning choices. These two phases are meant to be similar. 
<sup>6</sup> These symptoms are based on the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines that can be viewed

at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html

Classica Dracticas	W/a will limit the interestion between elegans (arades and
Classroom Practices	We will limit the interaction between classes/grades and will alter passing times to keep the number of students in the halls to a minimum.
	Specific Actions:
	Spacing of desks to allow for physical distancing as possible.
	2. Special Teachers will meet with students in their special classrooms, but with heightened cleaning procedures.
	<ol> <li>Students will begin to move from classroom to classroom in secondary school.</li> </ol>
	4. Normal homeroom devotions will be replaced by grade level devotions during first period classes in secondary school.
	<ol> <li>Teachers or students may be asked to wear masks in non-distanced areas of the school.<sup>7</sup></li> </ol>
	6. Secondary elective classes will begin to meet in person, but with physical distance and grade level separation when possible.
	7. We will begin using our lockers.
Hallway / Bathroom	We will minimize student contact in the hallways and
Procedures	make sure that they are effectively washing/sanitizing hands.
	<ol> <li>Student use of the hallways would be more normalized during this phase.</li> </ol>
	2. Student bathroom use will be normalized during this phase.
Recess / Lunch	Recess and lunch time will be more normalized but physical distancing will still be encouraged.
	Specific Actions:
	<ol> <li>Recess times will be normalized but classes might be required to play in particular parts of the</li> </ol>
	property.  2. Lunch will continue to be served in classes.
Large Group Activities	Limited large group activities involving more than one
	grade or people other than teachers, staff, and students
	will be allowed based on state guidelines and
	administrative discretion. Single family school tours will
	be allowed during this phase.

 $^{7}$  Note, that students are welcome to wear masks if their family believes it necessary or advisable.

After School Activities	All afterschool activities would be limited during this phase but may be permissible based on state guidelines and administrative discretion.
Cleaning Procedure	We will use heightened cleaning procedures during this phase.
Online Education	No regular online instruction would be given at this time. If students or families did not believe it safe for their child to attend, It would be like the support that we give for students when they are away traveling. When the student was able to return, the teachers and learning support would work to support the student as he or she got back up to speed. Class recordings will only be made available for students who are quarantined because of COVID exposure or COVID quarantine.
Financial	No tuition discount would take place during this phase.
Consideration	

# Phase 2 (In Person Instruction with More Relaxed Physical Distancing)

What does this look	Consisting of in-person instruction with more relaxed
like?	physical distancing and more normal school functions.
Attendance Guidelines	Students, Teachers, and Staff Members must not attend school if they have the following symptoms:  Fever or chills  Cough  Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing  Fatigue  Muscle or body aches  Headache  New loss of taste or smell  Sore throat  Congestion or runny nose  Nausea or vomiting  Diarrhea <sup>8</sup>
	<ol> <li>Specific Actions:         <ol> <li>Veritas will check students' temperature as they arrive and ask that students be sent home if they have a fever over 100.4.</li> <li>If a student is exhibiting any of the symptoms listed above, teachers will remove the student from class and send him or her to the school office. The student will either be examined there and cleared or sent home.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	Use Common Sense – this is the most important step we can take to protect our school. If your child is sick or has any of these symptoms, keep them home.
What causes it/When does it end?	This would be caused by an administrative decision that less physical distancing was needed to protect the safety of the community.
Pick-up / Drop Practices	They will walk through the Veritas Academy halls directly to their locker and then to their classroom (first period class for secondary school).
Classroom Practices	We will limit the interaction between classes/grades and will alter passing times to keep the number of students in the halls to a minimum.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> These symptoms are based on the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines that can be viewed at: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html</a>

	<ol> <li>Specific Actions:         <ol> <li>Spacing of desks to allow for physical distancing as possible.</li> <li>Special Teachers will meet with students in their special classrooms, but with heightened cleaning procedures.</li> <li>Students will begin to move from classroom to classroom in secondary school, but schedules might be slightly altered or hallway travel patterns required to the density of students in the hallways.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Normal homeroom devotions will resume.</li> <li>Mask use would be allowable for any student based on the concern level of the student or family.</li> </ol>
Hallway / Bathroom	We will normalize student contact in the hallways and
Procedures	encourage that they effectively washing/sanitizing hands.  1. Student use of the hallways would be normalized
	during this phase.
Recess / Lunch	Recess and lunch time will be more normalized but physical distancing will still be encouraged.
	<ol> <li>Specific Actions:         <ol> <li>Recess times will be normalized but classes might be required to play in particular parts of the property.</li> <li>Lunch schedules will be more normalized, but the number of students or grades in the lunchroom might be limited based on numbers. We will eat lunch in the cafeteria rather than in class.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Large Group Activities	Limited large group activities involving more than one grade or people other than teachers, staff, and students will be allowed based on state guidelines and administrative discretion. Multiple family school tours will be allowed during this phase with consideration of physical distancing.
After School Activities	All afterschool activities would be limited during this phase but may be permissible based on state guidelines and administrative discretion.
Cleaning Procedure	We will use heightened cleaning procedures during this

Online Education	No regular online instruction would be given at this time. If students or families did not believe it safe for their child to attend, It would be like the support that we give for students when they are away traveling. When the student was able to return, the teachers and learning support would work to support the student as he or she got back up to speed. Class recordings will only be made available for students who are quarantined because of COVID exposure or COVID quarantine.
Financial Consideration	No tuition discount would take place during this phase.

Phase 3 (In Person Instruction with continued vigilance)

What does this look like?	Consisting of continued vigilance concerning student interaction, behavior, and symptoms that might point to COVID.
Attendance Guidelines	Students, Teachers, and Staff Members must not attend school if they have the following symptoms:  Fever or chills  Cough  Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing  Fatigue  Muscle or body aches  Headache  New loss of taste or smell  Sore throat  Congestion or runny nose  Nausea or vomiting  Diarrhea <sup>9</sup>
	<ol> <li>Specific Actions:         <ol> <li>The school asks parents to be watchful concerning their child's health. If the child is exhibiting any of the symptoms listed above, please keep him or her home</li> <li>If a student is exhibiting any of these symptoms, teachers will remove the student from class and send him or her to the school office. The student will either be examined there and cleared or sent home.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	Use Common Sense – this is the most important step we can take to protect our school. If your child is sick or has any of these symptoms, keep them home.
What causes it/When does it end?	This would be caused by an administrative decision that our community can return to normal functioning but that continued vigilance is still needed.
Pick-up / Drop Practices	Students being picked up and dropped off at the right side (breezeway) entrance rather than the front door. Grammar School students would go to their cafeteria for normal beginning of the day pick-up, memory period, or Assembly; Secondary students would be allowed to start the day in their homerooms as normal.

<sup>9</sup> These symptoms are based on the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines that can be viewed at: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html</a>

	End of the day schedules would be normalized.
Classroom Practices	We would return to normal instruction while continuing
	to be watchful about symptomatic students and
	thoughtful about the wishes of more cautious families.
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	Specific Actions:
	1. Students can share materials as normal.
	2. Desk spacing would be normalized.
	3. Special Teachers will meet with students in their
	special classrooms.
	4. Secondary classes and hallway use would be
	normalized.
	<ol><li>Mask use would be allowable for any student</li></ol>
	based on the concern level of the student or
	family.
Hallway / Bathroom	Bathroom and hallway use will return to normal usage.
Procedures	
	Student use of the hallways will return to normal.
	2. Students need not be socially distant in the
	hallways.
	3. Bathroom use will be normalized.
	4. Students will be encouraged to wash and sanitize
Recess / Lunch	hands consistently.  Recess and lunch time will return to normal.
Recess / Lunch	Recess and tunch time will return to normal.
	Specific Actions:
	1. Recess times and play patterns will return to
	normal times and freedoms.
	2. Lunch schedules will be normalized and physical
	distancing will not be required.
Large Group Activities	Large group activities will return to normal.
After School Activities	All afterschool activities will return to normal patterns.
Cleaning Procedure	We will use heightened cleaning procedures during this
-	phase.
Online Education	No regular online instruction would be given at this time.
	If students or families did not believe it safe for their child
	to attend, Veritas would provide assignments and some
	academic support through tutors, assistants, and learning
	support personnel as practicable. (The classroom
	teachers would not normally be involved in this support.)
	It would be like the support that we give for students
	when they are away traveling. When the student was
	able to return, the teachers and learning support would

	work to support the student as he or she got back up to speed.
Financial	No tuition discount would take place during this phase.
Consideration	

# Phase 4 (In Person Instruction—The Old Normal)

What does this look like?	A return to the old normal with continued consideration given to good health and safety standards.
Attendance Guidelines	As we would normally ask, parents should monitor their child's health and keep him or her home from school if the child is ill.  If COVID is still a threat, Students, Teachers, and Staff Members must not attend school if they have the following symptoms:  • Fever or chills • Cough • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • Fatigue • Muscle or body aches • Headache • New loss of taste or smell • Sore throat • Congestion or runny nose • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea <sup>10</sup> Continue to use Common Sense – this is the most important step we can take to protect our school. If your child is sick or has any of these symptoms, keep him or her home.
All else	Normal school without restrictions.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> These symptoms are based on the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines that can be viewed at: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html</a>

# School Procedures if a COVID Case Occurs at Veritas Academy or in the Veritas Community

### **Definitions:**

- Case at Veritas Academy: This means that a teacher, staff member, or student who is regularly in the Veritas Academy or Veritas Preschool facility has a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- Case in the Veritas Community: This means that a family member (i.e., someone living in the same household as a teacher, staff member, or student of Veritas Academy) has a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- Confirmed case: This means that a person has taken a test approved by the CDC and has been officially diagnosed with COVID-19. (A person with COVID-19 symptoms is not a confirmed case of COVID-19 until he or she has been tested and has tested positive.)

### Procedure for Confirmed COVID Case at Veritas Academy or Preschool:

- 1. If there is a confirmed COVID case at Veritas Academy or Veritas Preschool, the school administration will do one of the following:
  - a. Place the "close contacts" of the confirmed individual on quarantine and allow the rest of that class to remain open.
  - b. Close the classroom in which the confirmed case occurred or 11
  - c. Close the entire grammar OR secondary school, depending on which is impacted
  - d. Close the entire school

A case at the Preschool will not necessarily close the Academy nor a case at the Academy close the Preschool because our facilities are in different places. However, a family that has a confirmed case will be asked to quarantine all family members for 14 days.

- 2. During a closure, the school administration will:
  - a. Make sure that the classroom or facility is cleaned and disinfected according to current CDC guidelines.
  - b. Inform families whose children might have been exposed to a positive case so that they can be watchful concerning symptoms and/or have them tested.
  - c. Ascertain whether and when the school can be safely re-opened or whether a longer shutdown is needed.
  - d. Decide whether a temporary move to online or blended education is warranted for the entire school or for a particular grade.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The closing of one classroom is more likely during phases in which the classrooms are substantially isolated (see Phase 1). The reason for isolating classrooms is to decrease the need to close the entire school if there is a confirmed case. Note, however, that the administration may deem it necessary to close the entire school instead of one classroom if closing the entire school for three days is deemed necessary.

e. A student or teacher who has a confirmed case of COVID-19 should follow the CDC guidelines for self-quarantine and will be allowed to return to school when that return has been approved by a medical professional.<sup>12</sup>

### **Procedure for Confirmed COVID Case in the Veritas Community:**

- 1. If a member of the Veritas Community (someone who lives with a student, teacher, or staff member but is not regularly in the facility) becomes a confirmed case, we would ask that all members of the family in which there is a confirmed case to self-quarantine for 14 days and require that they be allowed to re-enter school only with the approval of a medical professional.
- 2. Veritas Academy will seek to provide support where possible for students who have to self-quarantine because of a case in their immediate family.
- 3. A student or teacher who lives with someone who has a confirmed case of COVID-19 should follow the CDC guidelines for self-quarantine and will be allowed to return to school when their return is permitted according to those guidelines.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>12</sup> 

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html#discontinue-isolation

<sup>13</sup> 

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html#discontinue-isolation

# Online Education Clarification Added August 11, 2020

**Objective:** To distinguish the online education that could result from either an administrative decision that Veritas Academy must move to an offering all classes online from the online support for students who are either unable to attend in person classes or are staying home for a time to be cautious about in person instruction.

## Compelled online instruction:

This occurs whenever the Veritas's administration decides that in person instruction is unsafe or the state authorities mandate that in person instruction is not allowed. Characteristics of compelled online instruction are:

- No in person classes are happening at Veritas Academy or in the grade level of a particular student.<sup>14</sup>
- The school building might be closed.
- The tuition reduction mentioned in Phase o.A is applicable for all students whose grade is in that phase.

## **Online Video Support:**

Veritas will make a video feed of each classroom available to all registered students and parents at our school who are unable to come for in person instruction because of illness, symptoms, etc., or who are staying home for a time because they want to be cautious because they have a health concern or a family member with a health concern. This video support is not created to be an online school, nor do we currently have plans to make this video feed available to anyone but registered families at Veritas Academy. Characteristics of this Video Support are:

- It runs concurrent with the live, in person classes.
- It is video content of the live, in person classes.
- Students using the video support are doing it by their own or their families' choice.
- No tuition discount applies for students choosing to use Veritas's Video Support.
- This will occur during Phases o.C, 1, 2, 3.
- This could be ended if and when all students are in class in person or when the administration deems the support no longer needed.

Veritas means for this video feed to:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> The phrase "in the grade level of a particular student" is used here because of the possibility that different parts of the school could be at different phases based on decisions of the Veritas administration.

- Enable students to view instruction in class.
- Help students keep up more effectively if they are home for any reason.
- Allow for caution if parents are concerned about student or familial health concerns.

### This video feed will not:

- Be of the same content level as in person instruction.
- Might be disrupted temporarily because of in class issues or because of technical problems.
- Capture all that is involved in things like student discussion.
- Will not allow for regular interaction between student's using video support and the in-person teacher. We do not want our teachers to try to do two things at once, so we want them to be focused first on the in-class instruction, which will be viewed by the student using online video support. (We are going to try to make this as excellent as possible and we are thinking of ways that Assistants and even other students can help the students using online video support to interact with the class, but we want to recognize at the outset that it will not be the same interaction level as in-person instruction.)