

# BRIERCREST INSTITUTIONAL COVID-19 RE-OPEN PLAN

## *Fall 2021*

Briercrest College is moving forward with face-to-face instruction and taking precautions to prevent the unnecessary spread of the Covid-19 virus and its variants. This plan anticipates that the college will open September 1, 2021, with reduced class sizes and reaffirm our community's commitment towards personal hygiene and respect for others. Briercrest will continue to monitor the evolving best practices and remain highly adaptive as the pandemic continues in the province. This plan and its assumptions are informed by recent findings and trends published by the CDC and WHO. Consultations will be made with Saskatchewan Health Association (SHA) to modify our plans should changes occur in the science or regional pandemic conditions.

To reduce interprovincial exposure, Briercrest Seminary will continue with remote, online education until January 2022.

Briercrest Christian Academy (BCA) will operate, mostly by the dictates of Prairie South School Division (PSSD), though some overlapping areas will fall under the Briercrest Plan (i.e. Food Services or dormitory life).

## **START UP DETAILS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021**

This plan will address precautions to minimize the chance for a significant outbreak that disrupts our mission.

### **General Procedures – Students, Staff, and Faculty Habits**

Briercrest will reaffirm our community commitment to healthy practices and respect for others.

- Washing hands frequently with soap and water. Scrub for 20 seconds.
  - o If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is approved by Health Canada, see <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/hand-sanitizer.html>
  - o Avoid touching face, mouth, nose, and eyes.
- Cough/sneeze into the bend of your elbow and then wash your hands with soap and water.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be maintained at entrances and key locations.

Updates on Masks, Vaccinations and Health Checks:

- Vaccinations will not be required to attend Briercrest.
- Masks will not be required but are recommended indoors. It is recommended that students continue to carry a mask with them should such circumstances arise that would require them to wear one.
- Students are to daily self-monitor their health and report any respiratory illness (cough, sneezing, shortness of breath, etc.) to Student Development and self-isolate until cleared to enter public activities or classes. (\*Daily online health checks are no longer required.)

## COVID-19 Testing

All Briercrest staff, faculty, and college students (including those who are vaccinated) will be required to take a COVID-19 test upon returning to campus. The SHA will set up a testing clinic on campus in the Den Café on September 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-3:00pm. Test results only need to be reported to the Human Resources department if an individual tests positive for infection.

Quarantine space will be maintained in the Lewis Apartment dormitory with health care personnel available for consultation.

## Social Distancing

While not mandated, our community will be directed to reasonably respect the comfort zone of others and not presume encroachment on others' personal space or enter private rooms without permission.

## Classroom Spacing and Room Capacities

In the Administration Building, classrooms will be set up at 75% occupancy to provide more than normal spacing and maintain better ventilation and air volume in rooms.

## Cleaning and Disinfecting

All classrooms and desks will be thoroughly cleaned once per day, with disinfection of table and desktops. Students will be reminded to bring sanitation wipes for their own comfort if they feel further precautions are needed. High traffic areas will be regularly disinfected. Note: The CDC acknowledges that the risk of transmission through surface contact is very low.

## Visitors to Campus

Most door accesses to the main building will be locked. Entrances and Exits will be carefully controlled with hand sanitizer stations at each.

Campus visitors/guests are required to fill out a COVID-19 Self-Declaration Form at the Main Reception Desk for facility access and temperature checks prior to entering campus buildings.

If anyone is symptomatic, they will be directed to go home and call 8-1-1.

Visitors who display symptoms of COVID-19 or refuse to comply will be denied access.

Broader information will be made available related to Athletics, Worship, Performing Arts, Dormitories, and Food Services prior to school beginning.

## When to Seek Emergency Medical Attention

Look for emergency warning signs\* for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds, depending on skin tone

*\*This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.*

Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who has or may have COVID-19.

## DEPARTMENT-SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

### Performing and Worship Arts

The Performing and Worship Arts Department will adhere to what is required by the Saskatchewan Healthy Authority, as well as to Briercrest's Return to Campus Plan. Ensembles will be held in room 154 and will function at 75% capacity to provide adequate spacing. Performances will reconvene with 75% audience capacity. Private lessons will continue with two meters of social distancing for strings, piano and harp and 3 meters of social distancing for voice, winds, and brass. If distancing cannot be acquired in an assigned studio, a larger space will be provided. Dancers and instructors should maintain two meters of separation from each other whenever possible. Practice rooms will be assigned at the beginning of the semester. Regular sanitation will occur between sessions.