

Mitigation Strategies – 2022-2023
(As of: June, 2022)

In the past, Hilltop created a comprehensive Safety Plan that addressed many changes in our “regular” programming. We’ve seen that some of these measures can be reduced or even removed which means Hilltop has been able to change some of the procedures from last year. I am going to list some of the main points below, but please note that this is our plan as of June 1, 2022. As we all observed last year, many of our plans changed throughout the year. I cannot guarantee that these procedures will remain in place as listed throughout the year, or even that they will be in place to start the year. We will constantly be monitoring the guidelines given to us by the CDC, PA Dept. of Education, PA Dept. of Health, and Hershey Free Church leadership. This means the procedures listed below may change several times throughout the year with or without notice.

- Masks are optional for both adults and children.
- COVID-19 vaccinations are encouraged for all eligible participants, but no proof will be required. Immunization records for children are required by August 31, 2022.
- We encourage you to take temperature checks at home. If your child, or someone in your family, has a temperature of 100.4 or higher, you are to stay home.
 - If your child has a temperature of 100.4 or higher, they will need to stay home until they are fever free for 48 hours.
- School/classroom closure due to positive results and/or close contact will be handled on a case-by-case basis using guidance from the agencies listed above.
- Cleaning/Sanitizing/Disinfecting - Hilltop will continue its rigorous cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch surfaces and toys/supplies in the classrooms. Tabletops will be sanitized before and after snack.
- Volunteers/Visitors will now be allowed in classrooms again, with the understanding that all volunteers and visitors need to have the three background clearances on file with Hilltop BEFORE being allowed to be in the classroom. Again, if you are sick, please stay home and do not visit the classrooms.
- Large Group Gatherings/Special Days will be offered again. Classes will be able to gather all together for special days (i.e., the Hershey Fire Department visit).
- Handwashing/hand sanitizer will be encouraged at all times throughout the day, but especially when hands are dirty, after toileting, before and after snack, and after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - Hilltop will teach and reinforce proper ways to cover coughs and sneezes.