

Health, Wellness, and Attendance Guidance for 2021-2022

Resourced from the Harris County Health Services,
and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

This guidance document is provided based on the public health situation as we understand it today. Changes to the pandemic situation may necessitate changes to this guidance. This guidance addresses on-campus instruction, administrative activities by teachers, staff, or students that occur on campus, and any activities in which teachers, staff, or students engage.

The prevention and mitigation practices outlined in this document are designed to significantly reduce the likelihood that a coronavirus outbreak will occur on campus. Consistently implementing recommendations to the extent feasible is the best way to reduce the potential negative impact of infection on students' educational experiences. Additionally, we will stringently apply these practices to adults on campus, even when it might not be feasible to do so for students, to more fully protect adult teachers and staff who are generally at greater risk from COVID-19 than students. There may be situations that necessitate temporary school closure due to positive COVID-19 cases in the school. We are prepared for this in the event that it occurs, while actively working to prevent it through prevention and mitigation practices.

MASKS are required for ALL students, ages 2 ½ years through grade twelve.

PREVENT

Required Practices to prevent the virus from entering the school.

1. Teachers and staff must self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day. Symptoms are listed on page 4. The self-screening includes teachers and staff taking their own temperature. Teachers and staff must report to the head of school if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms or are test-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below. Additionally, they must report to the head of school if they have had close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined on page 4, and, if so, must remain off campus until the 10-day incubation period has passed.
2. Parents must not send a child to school if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or is test-confirmed with COVID-19 until the below conditions for re-entry are met. Parents must not send a child to school if their child has had close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed with COVID-19 until the 10-day incubation period has passed. If necessary, we may screen students for COVID-19 as well, by taking their temperature in the car line upon arrival. The health screening questions may also be asked of a student's parent if that parent is dropping off or picking up their child from the school.
3. Visitors and volunteers are not allowed on campus.
4. Health Survey for reference or when needed: see page 5.

MITIGATE

Health and Hygiene practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19 inside the school.

MASKS: REQUIRED for ALL students ages 2 ½ years through grade twelve.

For the purposes of this document, masks include non-medical and medical grade disposable face masks and cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth). Face shields are allowed and are not substitutes for masks.

It may be impractical for students to wear masks while participating in some activities. We may, for example, allow students who are actively exercising to remove masks, as long as they maintain at least six feet of distance from other students, teachers, and staff who are not wearing masks. However, we will require students, teachers, and staff to wear masks as they arrange themselves in positions that will not allow them to maintain safe distancing.

Student-Teacher Groupings

Students will be organized in cohorts; that is, same students and same teachers in the group every day. In classroom spaces, we will arrange students a minimum of three feet apart. Where feasible, we will require students to practice physical distancing.

Use of Non-Classroom Spaces

When feasible and appropriate, play time and physical education classes will be held outside in cohort groupings, rather than inside, except in the case of rain.

Handwashing and Disinfection

We will have hand sanitizer at each entrance. We will provide hand sanitizer and/or hand washing stations with soap and water in every classroom.

Students, teachers, and staff, will be encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently. Students will engage in supervised handwashing for at least 20 seconds at least two times each day, and will be required to wash hands after using the restroom and before and after eating.

Students, teachers, and staff, will be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and if not available, covered in their elbows. Used tissues will be thrown in the trash, hands will be washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or hand sanitizer will be used.

There will be additional cleaning, of surfaces that are touched in common throughout the day. This includes objects such as door handles, light switches, common tables/desks, and other high touch surfaces. The CDC has provided guidance on cleaning community buildings to prevent COVID-19 spread.

Disinfection products will be stored safely, including storage where students cannot access them, and ensuring that harmful cleaning products are not used near students.

On the first day a student attends school on campus, we will provide instruction to students on appropriate hygiene practices and other mitigation practices adopted in the school.

Wherever possible, doors and windows will be opened to increase air flow into the classrooms.

RESPOND

Practices to respond to a test-confirmed case in the school.

COVID-19 Symptoms

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, we will consider the following question: Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 99.0 degrees F
- Cough, congestion, runny nose
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea, nausea or vomiting
- Loss of taste or smell

To Determine Exposure - Consider Level of Close Contact

The definition of close contact continues to evolve with our understanding of COVID-19, and individual scenarios should be determined by an appropriate public health agency. In general, close contact is defined as:

- a. being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on; shared eating or drinking utensils; had direct physical contact with the person, e.g. hugged or kissed them, etc.)
- b. being within 6 feet for a largely uninterrupted or sustained extended contact period throughout the course of a day totaling approximately 15 minutes. In addition, factors like case and contact masking (i.e., both the infectious individual and the potential close contact have been consistently and properly masked), ventilation, and case symptomology may affect this determination.

Either (a) or (b) defines close contact if it occurred during the **infectious period** of the case, **defined as two days prior to symptom onset to 10 days after symptom onset.**

In the case of **asymptomatic individuals who are test-confirmed with COVID-19**, the **infectious period** is defined as **two days prior to the confirming lab test and continuing for 10 days following the confirming lab test.**

Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus

Students who report feeling feverish will be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19

We will immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian.

We will clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as is feasible.

We will close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the test-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 7 days have already passed since that person was on campus.

Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, we will notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students if a test confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate in that class.

If an individual who has been in school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school will notify the local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Quarantine: Individuals Confirmed or Suspected with COVID-19

Any individuals who **themselves** either: (a) are **lab-confirmed** to have COVID-19; or (b) **experience** the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed above) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school screens the individual to determine if the conditions for campus re-entry listed below have been met:

In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all four of the following criteria are met:

- i. at least one day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
 - ii. at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared,
 - iii. the individual is symptom free of cough, shortness of breath, etc.
 - iv. a PCR test that is negative for active COVID-19 virus.
- In the case of an individual that is asymptomatic but has received a positive COVID-19 test result, use quarantine as above.
 - In the case of an individual who **has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19**, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the criteria listed above.

**COVID-19
HEALTH SURVEY**

Individuals with COVID-19 signs and symptoms will be excluded from attending.

NAME _____

What is your current temperature? _____

Have you had known contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19?

- YES
 NO

Do you have any of the following signs and/or symptoms? Please check all that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> fever | <input type="checkbox"/> vomiting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cough, congestion, runny nose | <input type="checkbox"/> abdominal symptoms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shortness of breath or difficulty breathing | <input type="checkbox"/> diarrhea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> chest tightness or pain | <input type="checkbox"/> new skin conditions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wheezing | <input type="checkbox"/> new loss of taste or smell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> chills | <input type="checkbox"/> fatigue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> repeated shaking with chills | <input type="checkbox"/> headache |
| <input type="checkbox"/> muscle pain | <input type="checkbox"/> neck pain |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sore throat | <input type="checkbox"/> none of the above |

Any other additional signs and/or symptoms? _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____