

FALL 2020



Reconnect.
Reopen.
Stay Safe.

Adaptive Curriculum Classrooms Reopening Plan

As we plan for our return to school, the safety of our students, staff and families is certainly a priority. We have had the opportunity to hear from educators, community leaders, medical professionals, and families while we prepare to safely educate our students. We are so thankful for the guidance we have received. We have developed a plan, prepared our staff and readied our building.

The plan starts at home

We want to make sure that the people at school are safe and healthy before they arrive at school. For anyone planning to attend school – staff or students – please consider the following guidelines.

Please stay home if:

- you are not feeling well, or others at your home are not well
- you have a temp 100.4 F or greater
- you have signs of COVID-19. This includes any **two** of: fever, chills, body aches, headache, sore throat, change in smell or taste, OR any **one** of: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing.
- Complete the Symptom Screening Checklist (StrongSchoolsNC: Public Health Toolkit)

Students riding the bus

The bus driver/monitor will take each students' temperature before they enter the bus. Students with a fever (a temperature of 100.4 F or greater) will not be allowed to ride the bus or attend school. Please remember a student must be fever free for 24 hours before they return to school.

Students will enter a clean bus and be seated and safely distanced from other students.

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Buses will arrive to school at staggered times to avoid too many students entering at one time.

- ✓ Buses will only transport students from one school at a time.
- ✓ Bus personnel wear appropriate PPE. Driver will wear a mask. The bus assistant will wear a mask, shield and gloves. The bus assistant will take the temperature of each student before they enter the bus. A temperature log will be kept on each bus.
- ✓ Although not required, students are encouraged to wear a mask on the bus, as per CDC guidelines.
- ✓ Students will be seated safely distanced from one another, with no more than one student per seat.
- ✓ Students will be seated starting from the back, in order to avoid contact with one another.
- ✓ Seats, child restraint systems, and railings will be wiped down and disinfected after dropping of students at each school.

Arriving at School

Everyone – staff, students, families, visitors -- entering our school will have their temperature taken. An adult with a fever (a temperature of 100.3 F or greater) will not be allowed to enter the school, and a student with a fever will be isolated in the nurse's office until a parent is able to pick up their child.

All adults entering the building must wear a mask, along with any student that is safely able to do so.

Students arriving by bus will be assisted by school staff to class. Staff will thoroughly wash their hands before and after walking a student to class.

Doors will be propped open at arrival time. This will help with air circulation and limit the need to touch the doors.

Staff will greet car riders at the front door and assist the students to class.

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Bus riders

- ✓ Buses will unload one student at a time, unloading from the front seats first.
- ✓ Temperatures will be taken by the school staff. A log will be kept.
- ✓ Staff will wear appropriate PPE (masks, shields). Staff will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer after escorting each student to class.
- ✓ Staff will escort students to class.
- ✓ Maintain social distancing for students and staff during arrival, as much as possible.

Car riders

- ✓ Students will be greeted outside by school staff and escorted by school staff to class. Parents are encouraged to remain with their car.
- ✓ Temperatures will be taken by the school staff. A log will be kept.
- ✓ Staff will wear appropriate PPE (masks, shields). Staff will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer after escorting each student to class.
- ✓ Staff will escort students to class.
- ✓ Maintain social distancing for students and staff during arrival, as much as possible

Staff precautions

All staff members must wear a mask. We hope to provide each staff member with a clear mask so that the students can see the teacher's face, and aid with communication. In addition, staff will also wear a face shield, because most of our students will be unable to wear a mask.

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Staff will take adequate steps to keep the students in the classroom safely distanced from one another in order to limit contact between students. We understand that inadvertent contact may occur, and staff will assist students with handwashing as needed.

Our staff and students will have some physical contact. We will limit it as much as possible, but personal care, communication, and the needs of our students make it impossible to avoid. Staff understands the need for repeated handwashing, while working with students. All of us will need to wash our hands before we touch our face. The face shield will act as a good reminder.

Staff who work in multiple schools or classrooms, will need to thoroughly wash their hands prior to entry to a new classroom, much like is done in a pediatrician's office.

Staff who work in very close proximity to a student, such as a therapist physically supporting a student, may consider wearing a gown, or scrub jacket that can be changed after working with the student.

Staff who eat lunch together, should remain safely distanced, and eat outside, weather permitting. Typically, young children are not good spreaders of COVID-19, staff are much more likely to catch it from other adults.

Medical professionals recommend that staff change their clothes before returning home and interacting with others. Their clothes should be washed each night if possible.

Classroom procedures

We would like to keep students safely distanced in classrooms, while limiting movement in the building. We understand there will be times a student needs to leave the classroom (to go to the office, go to the nurse, or may just need some time away from the classroom) and we will develop a schedule to address those needs.

Whole school assemblies and other events will be postponed or presented with a safer alternative.

Staff assist students with personal care needs several times a day. Staff will wear PPE (mask, face shield, gloves, and a gown if needed) when doing so. Thorough handwashing is required each time.

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During instructional time, students will be safely distanced. We will avoid having the need for students to share objects as much as possible. Cleaning items in between sharing, if we must. It is possible that inadvertent sharing may occur, the staff will then assist students in washing their hands.

Staff will continue to use our typical classroom routines -- whether instruction is in person or remote.

Staff, with the help of our custodians will make sure each classroom has been cleaned and disinfected at the end of each day.

Arrival to class

- ✓ Students will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer after entering the classroom.
- ✓ Staff will assist students with personal care.
- ✓ Changing tables and toilets will need to be wiped and disinfected after each use.
- ✓ While helping with personal care, staff will wear appropriate PPE to include face covering, shield, gloves, and gowns as needed.

Group Instruction

- ✓ Students will be safely distanced from one another.
- ✓ Staff will wear appropriate PPE (face coverings and shields).
- ✓ Each student will have their own instructional materials. Students will not share materials.
- ✓ Staff will clean and sanitize materials as needed after each lesson.

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- ✓ Staff may consider using plexiglass shields as needed.

Individual Instruction

- ✓ Staff will wear appropriate PPE (masks and shields).
- ✓ Each student will have their own instructional materials. Students will not share materials.
- ✓ Staff will clean and sanitize materials as needed after each lesson.
- ✓ Staff may consider using plexiglass shields as needed.

Playground/Outside time

- ✓ Schools will determine a schedule that allows only one class at a time outside on the playground.
- ✓ Staff will wear appropriate PPE (masks).
- ✓ Swings and surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected between students.

Transitions

- ✓ Signage is in the hallways/stairwells to direct movement.
- ✓ Students and staff will remain safely distanced (as appropriate).
- ✓ Limit the number of classes in the hallway.

Therapists/Specialists

Many of our students receive therapies. We will do our best to push services into the classroom whenever possible. At times, services must be one-to-one. This occurs often with physical therapy. If possible, one-to one therapy may be offered outside when practical. It is recommended that staff wear gowns along with other PPE while providing these services.

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Students receiving remote instruction, may schedule appoints to receive in person physical therapy.

All school-age students receive art, music, media and PE. These services will also be pushed into the classroom, either in person or virtually. PE, when appropriate may go outside. Cleaning time will be built in between classes. Sharing of objects will be avoided. Proper cleaning and disinfecting will be done between classes.

- ✓ Staff will wear appropriate PPE (masks and shields).
- ✓ Each student will have their own instructional materials. Students will not share materials.
- ✓ Staff will clean and sanitize materials as needed after each lesson.
- ✓ Staff may consider using plexiglass shields as needed.
- ✓ If working with more than one student at a time, students must be safely distanced.
- ✓ Shared assistive technology or devices (i.e. switches, tablets, walkers, gait trainers) must be cleaned and disinfected between each use.

Meals

All meals will be eaten in the classroom. The cafeteria staff will prepare the meals and carts will be used to deliver them to each classroom. There will be no sharing of meals. Eating utensils will be cleaned and sanitized each day.

- ✓ Cafeteria will deliver meals to each classroom at mealtime.
- ✓ Students will be safely distanced from one another, feeding students in shifts. A staff member can assist only one student at a time. Staff will wash their hands before and after helping each child. Eating outside is an option.
- ✓ Staff assisting will wear appropriate PPE including masks, shields and gloves. Gowns can be worn as needed.

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- ✓ Staff will follow normal procedures for tube feeding with the addition of PPE.
- ✓ Staff will not eat at the same time as the students. Their attention must be on the students' needs.

Dismissal/End of day

Students will be dismissed one classroom/bus at a time, in order to avoid congested hallways. This will slow down the process but keep our students and staff safe. Car riders will be picked up at the main entrance. Staff will escort students to meet their ride.

Doors will be propped open again to help with air flow and limit the need to touch the doors.

After students have been safely dismissed, staff will return to their classrooms to help wipe down and disinfect their classroom.

Again, medical professionals recommend that staff change their clothes before returning home and interacting with others. Clothes should be washed each night.

Bus Riders

- ✓ Staff will wear appropriate PPE (masks and shields)
- ✓ Staff will escort students to class.
- ✓ Staff will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer after escorting each student to the bus.
- ✓ Maintain social distancing for students and staff during dismissal, as much as possible

Car riders

- ✓ Parents will be greeted outside by school staff and asked to remain with their car.
- ✓ Staff will escort students from class to their cars.

- ✓ Staff will wear appropriate PPE (masks, shields). Staff will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer after escorting each student.

Other needs

Medical/Behavior needs

Student with a fever will be placed in an isolation room with adult supervision until a parent is able to pick up their child.

- ✓ Staff will wear all PPE – masks, shields, gown, gloves.

School nurse will ensure delivery of medications to classrooms for students who take medication during the school day. Appropriate school personnel will administer medications.

- ✓ Staff will wear all PPE – masks, shields, gloves.

Medical procedures and concerns

Many of our students have unique medical needs. Staff assists with trach care, catherization, respiratory concerns, seizures, diabetic care and other needs. Whenever possible, staff will try to assist the student in the nurse's office. There are times when this is not possible, and precautions will need to be taken in the classroom.

- ✓ It is recommended that inhalers are the first choice in dealing with respiratory concerns.
- ✓ For students who use or need nebulizers, school nurse will administer in an area with good ventilation, isolated from others with full PPE – masks, shields, gloves and gowns.
- ✓ For trach care, the nurse assigned to the student will wear appropriate PPE – masks, shield, gloves and gowns. During the procedures, the student will be safely distanced from others.
- ✓ For catherization, staff will wear appropriate PPE – gloves, shields, masks and gown.

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Stat Calls/Emergency Medical Concerns

In order to assist a student in need, there are times when the other students in the classroom will be required to move to another area. The students will be moved to another empty, cleaned room.

- ✓ When the stat is called, stat team will report to the classroom with appropriate medical equipment.
- ✓ Staff will wear appropriate PPE – masks, shields, gloves and gowns as needed.

Behavior concerns

Staff is well trained in dealing with behavior concerns. PPE may be difficult to wear during these times. The staff will need to follow typical procedures as defined by behavior plan or non-violent crisis intervention trainings. Staff will wash hands after incident. Staff will change clothes after the situation has been de-escalated.

- ✓ Staff will have an extra set of clothes at school.

Materials needed

- ✓ **PPE:** gowns, shields, masks, clear masks, gloves, thermometers, hand sanitizer, plexiglass for therapists
- ✓ **Other supplies:** batteries, laminating film, Purell wipes, cleaning solutions, Velcro, tubs for task boxes, funds for multiple sets of manipulatives per student,

Our time away from school and one another, has taken a toll on many of us. Please know we are committed to keeping a safe, inviting, and nurturing environment for our students and families. We appreciate the support of our community. We welcome your thoughts and concerns. While we cannot completely eliminate the risk the coronavirus presents, we certainly hope to mitigate it. As a staff we promise to be nimble, flexible and willing to switch gears if needed to make this a safe and productive school year.