



CONCORD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

COVID-19 Safe Learning Plan



TABLE OF CONTENTS



Letter to our Families	3
In-person Learning	4
Cleaning and Mitigation Strategies	5
Instruction and Learning	6
Frequently Asked Questions	7
Additional Resources	8

LETTER TO OUR FAMILIES



Dear Concord Families,

The Concord Community Schools COVID-19 Safe Learning Plan was created in July 2020 to serve as a framework for providing the maximum amount of in-person instruction, while continuing to follow public health agency requirements to ensure the safety of students and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. The wellbeing of students and staff has been, and will continue to be, our top priority.

All aspects of this plan were developed using the Indiana Department of Education's COVID-19 Re-entry Guidance. The IDOE recommends our planning considerations include the following two key points: 1) Our district's ability to keep our students and staff safe. 2) The amount of spread in our local community.

This plan was updated in July 2021 to reflect updated policies and procedures that will carry through to the 2021-2022 school year. More details about the optional wearing of masks, guidance for close contacts, and ongoing mitigation practices can be found within this updated plan.

We are committed to continue to work with local and state health officials, as well as neighboring school districts, to evaluate the conditions in Elkhart County and will make adjustments to the plan as needed. These plans are subject to change.

Thank you for your support!

Dan Funston
Superintendent, Concord Community Schools



The Concord Community Schools COVID-19 Safe Learning Plan was approved by the Concord School Board on June 7, 2021.

Note: In order to keep this plan timely and responsive to changes as they occur, the Board of School Trustees allows the administration to amend this plan as needed to comply with local and state health guidelines with the board potentially ratifying action after the fact.



IN-PERSON LEARNING



On August 11, 2021, Concord Community Schools will reopen for the 2021-2022 school year. We anticipate a normal school year, but will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

- ✓ All students will attend school in-person 5 days per week.
- ✓ Masks will be optional, except when an individual is determined to be a school-based close contact or when riding the school bus.
- ✓ Students who test positive for COVID-19 will isolate for 10 days. Staff will also be required to isolate for 10 days.
- ✓ Students or staff who are determined to be close contacts of someone who tested positive for COVID-19 will follow the procedures outlined on page 6 of this document.
- ✓ Social distancing will be encouraged, but not required as we return to full capacity classrooms, lunchrooms, and buses. Students and school staff will continue to respect each other's personal space.
- ✓ Cleaning and mitigation strategies will remain in place as we work together to ensure the wellbeing of students and staff.
- ✓ We will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 in our community and will put mitigation practices in place as needed. Monitoring and mitigation will be based on local data, in consultation with local health officials.

CLEANING AND MITIGATION STRATEGIES



SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Social distancing will be encouraged, but not required, as we return to full capacity classrooms, lunchrooms, and buses. All students and staff will continue to respect each other's personal space.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Hand sanitizer will be available in high-traffic locations such as cafeterias, restrooms, and gymnasiums.
- Students may bring their own PPE, including face masks and sanitizer.
- Staff will teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as techniques for proper handwashing and covering coughs.
- Nurses, custodians, and bus drivers will have specialized PPE equipment to use as needed. This equipment will include: face shields (in addition to a face mask), rubber gloves, gowns, footies and any other per CDC recommendations.
- Face masks will be required for unvaccinated students or staff who are determined to be a school-based close contact to someone who tested positive for COVID-19. Unvaccinated students or staff who are determined to be close contacts from a non-school-based source will be required to quarantine for 14 days. Vaccinated individuals will be required to wear a mask if they are a close contact to a non-school-based source.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS

- Classrooms and frequent contact areas will be cleaned and disinfected daily.
- High traffic areas such as restrooms and health stations will be cleaned and disinfected throughout the day.

TRANSPORTATION

- Transportation staff will receive training on safety protocols, including COVID-19 mitigation strategies.
- Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned with approved cleaning supplies.
- Students will be assigned seating to assist with contact tracing. Students may be assigned to seating arrangements with family members.
- Safe and proper use of open windows and hatches along with fans will be encouraged when reasonable to allow for increased ventilation.

FOOD SERVICE

- Surfaces will be wiped and disinfected frequently. Surfaces will be cleaned between each lunch period.
- Tables will be cleaned prior to food being served.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided in cafeterias.

HEALTH SERVICES

- Students who test positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 10 days and complete school work at home. Staff will also be required to isolate for 10 days.
- A separate health station will be established in each building for students known to be ill to mitigate cross contamination.
- Children who present COVID-19 symptoms while at school will be cared for by nursing staff and separated from the general student body.
- Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately to pick up their child. The child needs to be picked up as soon as possible.
- Additional mitigation strategies may include closing a classroom, a school wing, or a school building.

INSTRUCTION AND LEARNING



IN-PERSON LEARNING

Concord Community Schools will resume in a traditional format, with students attending classes in person, five days per week. If a student tests positive for COVID-19, arrangements will be made for students to complete work from home.

POSITIVE TEST RESULTS

Students who test positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 10 days and complete school work from home. Staff will also be required to isolate for 10 days. The Elkhart County Health Department (ECHD) will be notified of any student with a positive COVID-19 test. Students who are required to isolate due to a positive COVID-19 test will participate in virtual learning throughout their absence.

CLOSE CONTACTS

A close contact is defined as someone who has been within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period of an individual who tests positive for COVID-19. Vaccinated individuals determined to be school-based close contacts may remain at school and will not be required to wear a mask or follow enhanced precautions listed below. Unvaccinated school-based and vaccinated non-school-based close contacts will be required to wear a mask and may remain in school if they meet the following conditions:

- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth at all times when around others, including recess.
- Close contact must provide their own transportation.
- Immediately isolate if symptoms develop.
- Practice good hand hygiene by washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Eat meals in an isolated location.
- Maintain six feet of physical distance and remain masked at all times during extra-curricular activities.

Unvaccinated students or staff who are determined to be close contacts from a non-school-based source will be required to quarantine for 14 days.

HEALTH SERVICES

A separate health station will be established in each building for students known to be ill to mitigate cross contamination. Children who present COVID-19 symptoms while at school will be cared for by nursing staff and separated from the general student body. Parents/guardians will be contacted immediately to pick up their child.

ADDITIONAL MITIGATION

Additional mitigation strategies may include closing a classroom, a school wing, or a school building.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Q. Will my child be required to wear a mask?

A. Effective June 1, 2021, the wearing of masks will be optional in Concord Community Schools in all settings except for when an individual is determined to be a school-based close contact or when riding the school bus. Per CDC order, individuals are required to wear masks on public transportation, including school buses, even if fully vaccinated. Masks may be worn at any time and we support the right of anyone who chooses to wear a mask.

Q. Will my child be required to be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus?

A. Concord Community Schools will not require students to be vaccinated, but will comply with state requirements. Students and staff who are fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination will not be required to wear a mask if they are determined to be a school-based close contact, as long as they remain asymptomatic.

Q. What happens if my child tests positive for COVID-19?

A. Students who test positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 10 days and complete school work from home.

Q. What happens if my child is determined to be a close contact?

A. Staff and students who are determined to be school-based close contacts will either follow the procedures outlined on Page 6 of this document, or quarantine at home for 14 days. Alternatively, staff or students who have been vaccinated may choose to provide proof of vaccination. Unvaccinated students or staff who are determined to be close contacts from a non-school-based source will be required to quarantine for 14 days.

Q. Can I enroll my student in virtual learning?

A. All students will resume in-person classes. Specific virtual courses will continue to be offered through Concord High School and the Concord MOVE UP Academy.

Q. What protocols are in place for responding to COVID-19 cases in schools?

A. Concord Community Schools will continue to review local and state health official guidance and monitor data related to the spread of the COVID-19 virus. More details can be found on page 5 of this plan. If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the individual will be required to stay home in accordance with state health department guidelines and Concord Community Schools will consult with the Elkhart County Health Department regarding the need for potential targeted school closure(s), as well as to assist with contact tracing as directed by ECHD.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Indiana State Department of Health

- [Isolation Guidelines for Families](#)
- [Quarantine Guidelines for Families](#)
- [COVID-19 Screening for Parents](#)
 - [COVID-19 Testing Information](#)
- [Stop the Spread of Germs](#)
- [Indiana COVID-19 Data Report](#)
 - [School Recommendations Based on Level of Community Spread](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Information](#)
 - [Vaccine Fact Sheet for ages 12-15](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Guidance for Schools and Child Care Programs](#)
- [COVID-19 Self-Checker](#)
- [Symptoms of COVID-19](#)

Supporting Your Child

- [Helping Children Cope with the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)