

# 2021-2022

## COVID-19 PLAN

### (Return to School Guidance)



PreK-12 Recommendations	Low to Moderate Case Numbers (*Less than 10% in Schools)	Substantial Case Numbers (*10% or Greater in Schools)
School Status	In-person learning; regular daily schedule	In-person learning (unless recommendation we move to online or hybrid learning models temporarily)
Health Screening	All staff/students self-screen prior to coming to school	All staff/students self-screen prior to coming to school
Mask Status	Masks optional in all FCSC buildings; masks will be available in school offices	Mask optional in all FCSC buildings unless mandated by the governor or the health department
Physical Distancing	Social distancing encouraged whenever possible	Social distancing encouraged whenever possible
Cafeteria	Lunch in cafeteria with normal spacing in lines and regular seating	Lunch in cafeteria with reduced capacity; tables and physical distancing in lines
Hand Sanitizing/Washing	Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette is encouraged; hand sanitizer available in all buildings	Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette is encouraged; hand sanitizer available in all buildings
Cleaning	Increased cleaning and focus on high-touch surfaces recommended throughout the day	Increased cleaning and focus on high-touch surfaces recommended throughout the day
Contact Tracing	School officials will notify parents of close contact exposure; parents/staff are to contact school office when a known exposure occurs; physical distancing following exposure for 10 days	School officials will notify parents of close contact exposure; parents/staff are to contact school office when a known exposure occurs; physical distancing following exposure for 10 days
Bus	Masks are required per CDC and ISDH requirements; students will be socially distanced as much as possible on school buses	Masks are required per CDC and ISDH requirements; students will be socially distanced as much as possible on school buses
Extra-Curricular Activities	Masks optional	Masks optional unless mandated by the governor or health department

\*Percentages are based on weekly data provided by the Local Health Department and FCSC Health Services

## Exclusion (Isolation and/or Quarantine) from School/Work

Fayette County Schools will not be determining quarantine periods of time, but will notify parents of close contact when in a classroom. Based on guidance from the Fayette County Health Department, students and staff members may be excluded from school/work if they exhibit COVID-19 related symptoms. **Close contacts should self-monitor for symptoms and take extra precautions to socially distance.**

Students and staff members will be excluded from school/work if they test positive for COVID-19. Exclusionary timelines established by the Indiana Department of Health and/or Fayette County Health Department will be followed at all FCSC locations.

## Return to School After Exclusion







Once a student or employee is excluded from the school environment, they may return if they satisfy the recommendations of the Indiana State Department of Health and/or are released by a physician (medical documentation required).

## Self-Screening

Fayette County students, staff members and visitors need to [self-screen](#) before arriving at school/work each day. Students and employees exhibiting COVID-19 related symptoms without being otherwise explained should not attend school until they are released by a


### COVID-19 Screening for Parents


Every morning before you send your child to school please check for signs of illness:

<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	FEVER 100.4* OR CHILLS <small>*or school board policy if threshold is lower</small>		SORE THROAT		COUGH* OR SHORTNESS OF BREATH <small>*especially new onset, uncontrolled cough</small>
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	DIARRHEA, NAUSEA OR VOMITING, ABDOMINAL PAIN		HEADACHE* <small>*particularly new onset of severe headache, especially with fever</small>		NEW LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL

\*May present with more than one symptom. This list does not include all possible symptoms.

- 1 Does your child have any sign of illness above?
- 2 Were you in close contact (within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes over a 24-hour period) with anyone confirmed with COVID-19?
- 3 If the answer is **YES** to any of the questions, **DO NOT** send your student to school. Instead, begin isolation of your child and contact your healthcare provider. Have you been tested for COVID-19? Only a positive test or provider diagnosis can confirm if someone has a current infection.
- 4 Please keep your student home until they meet the criteria.

 If you have trouble breathing, chest pain, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake or bluish lips or face **CALL 911!**

  
Updated: 2/9/21

healthcare provider and/or meet any isolation requirements established by the Indiana State Department of Health (unless they are fully vaccinated).

## **Attendance**

### **Student Attendance**

Fayette County School personnel will request specific symptom information when absences are reported along with COVID-19 diagnoses and/or potential COVID-19 exposure. Information obtained will be shared with our nursing staff.

### **FCSC Staff Attendance**

Employees who experience the onset of any COVID-19 symptoms at work should immediately notify a school health official or school administrator. Since COVID-19 vaccines are readily available, staff absences due to COVID-19 will be addressed through the use of the staff member's accumulated benefit days.

## **Preventative Measures**

### **COVID Monitoring**

If required by local directives, positive cases of COVID-19 will be reported to the Fayette County Health Department for reporting purposes, school closure guidance, and potential contact tracing efforts. FCSC will track attendance trends daily to determine any patterns of absence due to illness throughout the corporation.

In addition, Indiana law requires schools to track and monitor attendance to assist in the determination of a viral outbreak within the Fayette County School Corporation (512 IAC 1-2-2). Schools shall report to the local health department and the IDOE when the percentage of student absences from a school is equal to or greater than the threshold rate of twenty percent (20%) of the enrolled student population.

### **Face Coverings**

The Indiana Department of Health encourages all individuals not vaccinated for Covid-19 to wear face coverings when indoors and/or not socially distanced. For Fayette County Schools, face coverings, while recommended, are optional for all students, staff, and visitors unless required per executive order by our state or federal governments.

**Although families may supply their own face coverings, FCSC will have a limited supply of face coverings for all students and staff members. Cloth face coverings should be laundered at home regularly.**

### **Hand Sanitizer Stations**

Hand Sanitizer Stations will be available in all FCSC school buildings utilizing hand sanitizer approved for use to kill COVID-19.

### **Hygiene**

Hand washing and avoiding touching of the face, eyes, nose, or mouth are important steps a person can take to avoid becoming sick or spreading germs to others. If soap and water are not readily available, students and staff should use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol. Students should be reminded to avoid touching non-essential items and should not pick up items found on the floor.

## **Daily Operations**

### **Visitors**

Based on recommendations from public health officials, Fayette County Schools will only restrict nonessential visitors during a time of substantial spread within the schools or county. We will resume the use of volunteers and other guests in our buildings. Visitors should self-screen before arriving at school and unvaccinated visitors are encouraged to wear masks.

### **Special Education Case Conferences & 504 Committee Meetings**

Case Conference Committee (CCC) meetings and Section 504 meetings are deemed essential and require a parent/guardian to meet with the team on an as-needed basis. While we prefer in-person meetings, parents may request to participate in a CCC meeting or 504 meeting telephonically or via virtual meeting option. The decision to participate via an alternative format rests with the parent/guardian.

### **Field Trips**

Field trips provide memorable and educational experiences for students, and as such, Fayette County Schools will resume these learning opportunities for all FCSC students. Field trips will be postponed or cancelled when Fayette County is experiencing a substantial spread or the field trip location is experiencing a substantial spread. We will consult with our local health department for guidance regarding field trips when substantial spread occurs.

### **Hallways/Passing Periods/Transition Periods**

During substantial spread, visual cues for expected traffic flow may be used by Fayette County Schools. In addition, operational procedures at each school will be analyzed with the intent to reduce student transitions and close interactions during periods of substantial spread (if possible).

### **Safety Drills**

Safety drills are required by Indiana law (IC 20-34-3-20). As a result, the Fayette County School Corporation will continue to prepare and drill for potential emergencies.

### **Student Supplies**

During substantial spread, parents should make every effort to reduce the amount of materials, supplies, and personal belongings going to and from school each day. Staff members should be cognizant of this requirement and limit required school supplies to only essential items. In addition, FCSC staff members should make a concerted effort to reduce student exposure to high-touch, shared resources at school (art supplies, books, electronic devices, etc.). Supplies utilized by students which are owned by FCSC should be cleaned/sanitized on a regular basis.

### **Water Bottle Filling Stations**

Water bottle filling stations will be available in all FCSC schools. Filling stations will be cleaned/sanitized regularly. Water fountains will be reopened, as well, for use. Water fountains will be cleaned/sanitized as "high-touch" areas throughout the day. Individual water bottles are encouraged to be used by all students throughout the school day and required for all students participating in extracurricular activities.

### **Student Nutrition (Breakfast & Lunch)**

Some of the strategies that may be utilized during substantial spread include:

- Grab and go meals – eliminates self-serve food items and utilizes disposable utensils
- Assigned seating
- Visual cues placed throughout the cafeteria to control movement
- Prohibit food sharing
- No outside food deliveries or lunch guests until further notice

### **Transportation**

A Fayette County School Corporation school bus is a student's first contact with the school in the morning and the last point of contact in the afternoon. Fayette County Schools understands the importance of establishing safety protocols regarding student transportation.

### **Masks**

Per the CDC and Indiana State Board of health, masks will be required to be worn on all school buses by students and staff until the mask mandate expires.

### **Social Distancing**

The Transportation Department will attempt to social distance students when possible. (It is important to note that it may be difficult depending on the number of students on a bus.) All students will have assigned seating on the school bus. When possible, students will be seated with family members.

### **Bus Cleaning & Sanitation**

All buses will be cleaned and/or sanitized at the end of every day using an FCSC approved cleaning/sanitizing agent.

### **Athletics**

Fayette County Schools anticipates that all athletic teams will meet on a regularly scheduled basis. Specific guidelines for each activity will be provided under the direction of the Athletic Department and/or Building Administrators. Coaches and sponsors will be responsible for following all safety protocols established.

Athletic programs will follow the same guidelines identified in the FCSC COVID-19 Return to School Plan for 2021-22.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

Fayette County Schools anticipates that all academic teams, clubs, etc. will meet on a regular scheduled basis. Specific guidelines for each activity will be shared by the coach/sponsor following the safety protocols established by the Building Administrators.

Extra-Curricular Activities will follow the same guidelines identified in the FCSC COVID- 19 Return to School plan for 2021-22.

## **Facilities**

### **Cleaning & Sanitation**

All FCSC facilities will be cleaned/sanitized with cleaning supplies approved for use with the COVID-19 virus.

Daily disinfecting of high-touch surfaces in rooms will take place. High-touch areas include:

- Doorknobs
- Playground Equipment
- Restroom Sinks
- Toilets
- Light Switches
- Desks
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Media Centers
- Phones
- Walls
- Locker Rooms
- Water Fountains