



Planning for a Safe Return to School



The Laurens County School District's plan for the 2021-2022 school year is designed with the health and safety of students as its highest priority and will be sufficiently flexible to adapt if the current available information or if the local transmission rate of COVID-19 should change. All students are expected to return to face-to-face instruction. These protocols and practices will protect the safety of our students, staff, and visitors while also protecting students' access to a high-quality education.

District leadership considered the guidance of the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE), Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Georgia High School Association, Governor Kemp's executive orders, South Central Health District, and our local board of education.

Please note this plan will be revised as needed.

COVID Protocols

Wearing a mask at school is highly encouraged, but not required. However, masks are required on school buses. Laurens County Schools will continue to implement the aggressive cleaning protocols put in place during the 2020-2021 school year:

- All classrooms and utilized areas are disinfected daily.

- All Buses are disinfected daily.

- Frequently touched surfaces, such as doorknobs are cleaned multiple times throughout the day.

- Classrooms will continue to be provided necessary cleaning and sanitizing supplies.

- Additional sanitizer will continue to be provided in the classrooms and throughout the school.

Additional teaching and reinforcing good hygiene will continue.

For the safety of all students and staff, schools will continue to limit the number of visitors entering the building.

Guests are encouraged to visit the schools when they are invited, as in the case of a special event or celebration.

Limited movement and distancing of 3 feet among students where possible will occur.

Students will bring individual water bottle since water fountains are now water bottle refilling stations.

Outside food deliveries are still discontinued.

Students will have assigned seats on bus that will allow for families to sit together.

Parents are encouraged to attend Open House August 5th and 6th to meet the teacher and get familiar with the student's classroom before school begins. To help mitigate the potential for any spreading of COVID-19, parents may walk their child into the lobby the first 2 days of school only. Beginning the 3rd day of school, parents will not be allowed to walk students into the building.

Contact Tracing/Quarantine

Laurens County Schools will continue to monitor COVID-19 cases in our schools and community, and will adjust this protocol as needed.

A positive COVID19 test result from a student or staff member will result in the person being sent home and isolated for 10 days.

The school will contact EXPOSED students' parents within a few hours of being notified of a positive case. Students will be isolated at school until parent pick up. The student will be quarantined for 10 days. The quarantined student may be tested on day 5 of quarantine or beyond. If the test is NEGATIVE and the student has no symptoms, the student may return on day 8. It is recommended that symptomatic children get tested and advised by a physician or public health official before returning to school.

*EXPOSED is defined as being within 3 feet for 15 cumulative minutes or longer within 48 hours. The *within 3 feet* definition excludes students who were within 3 feet of an infected student IF BOTH the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore masks the entire time.



*Information for parents and students for the
upcoming 2020-2021 school year.*