



WISD Safe Return to School: Parent Information

The conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic are continually evolving, and Wildorado ISD's Safe Return-to-School plans will be constantly evaluated to adapt to the continuing trends of the COVID-19 virus, especially in the areas served by Wildorado ISD.

Please know that Wildorado ISD will follow recommendations for school opening and operation from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as well as state and local health officials. Circumstances related to COVID-19 may change throughout the coming school year, and this document will be updated as conditions change.

Table of Contents

- ❑ Health and Safety Measures
 - ❑ Infection Control Measures
 - ❑ Health Screenings
 - ❑ Campus Operations
 - ❑ Learning Environments
 - ❑ Breakfast/Lunch
 - ❑ Transportation
 - ❑ Isolation Procedures related to COVID-19
 - ❑ Clinic Procedures related to COVID-19
 - ❑ Notification Procedures related to COVID-19
 - ❑ Return to School Criteria
 - ❑ Definition of COVID-19 Symptoms
 - ❑ Definition of "Close Contact"

- ❑ Multi-Stage Approach for Managing COVID-19

- ❑ Instructional Delivery Models
 - ❑ On-Campus Learning
 - ❑ At-Home Learning
 - ❑ Online Learning Management System
 - ❑ Technology

- ❑ Social and Emotional Support Systems

- ❑ Parent Communication



Health and Safety Measures

Infection Control Measures

- Masks will be provided to the staff members who choose to wear a face covering. Face coverings include cloth masks, gaiters, face shields or anything else that provides covering over the nose and mouth.
- Masks will be provided to students who choose to wear a face covering. Face coverings include cloth masks, gaiters, face shields or anything else that provides covering over the nose and mouth.
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet will be practiced whenever possible, including 12 feet between cohort groups where possible (PK-5th).
- Water fountains will be available for filling of water containers only.
- Students and staff are encouraged to provide their own masks/face covering. Masks will be provided as needed to staff and students.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be available in each classroom, entrances, and throughout common spaces
- Staff and students will be expected to wash/sanitize hands frequently throughout the school day
- Students will receive instruction on effective handwashing and covering face when sneezing/coughing
- At minimum, students will use hand sanitizer whenever entering a classroom, before lunch, and after using the restroom

Health Screenings

- Staff will self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day
 - Temperature check performed and symptom questionnaire collected from each staff member daily
- Parents/guardians are expected to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their students to school.
- Teachers will monitor students and refer to the nurse if exhibiting symptoms.
- Visitors required to complete health screening to determine if they have any COVID-19 symptoms or have come into close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 upon entry into the building (*see Visitor section for more information*)

Campus Operations

- Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom, entrances, and common spaces.
- Restrooms and classrooms will be disinfected daily.
- Secondary classrooms surfaces will be disinfected between classes.



Learning Environments

- Desks and tables will be arranged to maximize space between students.
- Staff will eliminate the use of shared supplies where possible.
 - Students will use their own classroom supplies

Breakfast / Lunch

- Cafeteria staff will wear face coverings and glove
- Sanitizing and hand washing practices in all areas of the kitchen and serving area will occur.
- Self-serve counters will be eliminated
- Condiments and pre-wrapped silverware to be included with all meals
- Plexiglass barriers will be used at cashier counters
- Hand sanitizer use will be required immediately prior to lunch number entry.
- All tables will be sanitized between lunches.

Transportation

- Parents will be encouraged to transport their children to school daily as it is the safest means of transportation due to COVID-19.
- Students will be required to wear a mask when boarding the bus prior to a temperature check
- All buses will have hand sanitizer dispensers placed in the stairwells for use when loading/unloading
- All buses will be sanitized after each use

Visitors

- Parents will not be allowed to eat breakfast/lunch at the school until further notice.
- All visitors who enter the building are **suggested** to wear a face covering.
- Campuses will utilize virtual meeting options to limit campus visitors when possible
 - Social distancing is encouraged for all meetings that are not able to be virtual.
- Any visitor who needs to go beyond the front office will be subject to a health screening.
 - Visitors required to complete health screening to determine if they have any COVID-19 symptoms or have come into close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 upon entry into the building.
 - Any visitor who has COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms or have come into close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 must remain off campus until the 14-day incubation period has passed.

Isolation Procedures Related to COVID-19

- Students or staff who test positive for COVID-19 should contact the school and will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days and must meet the [Return to School Criteria](#)
- If a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the school nurse or staff member on duty will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home.



- If a student or staff member is assessed and exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day, the cohort will be located in an alternate area while the room is being disinfected.
- Students or staff who come into close contact (within 6 feet for 15 or more minutes) with a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days and should contact the school for meeting the [Return to School Criteria](#).
- Staff members displaying COVID-19 symptoms will follow district protocols including isolation from students and other staff members until they meet the [Return to School Criteria](#).
- Any student requiring quarantine will transition to Remote Learning for the period of self-isolation.
- District communication will be provided to the staff and students who come in contact with anyone who tests positive for COVID-19.
- *At this time, we have not been provided with specific criteria regarding the number of positive cases that would lead to a classroom or campus closure.*

[Clinic Procedures Related to COVID-19](#)

- Students or staff who present with symptoms will be evaluated and assessed by the school nurse.
- If COVID-19 symptoms are present: staff members will be sent home, and students will be isolated from other students. All Students will be given a mask to wear while waiting for their parents.
- Nurse will notify campus administrators to move the student's class so that the space can be disinfected.
- Students will be escorted to the vehicle upon parent arrival.
- Nurses will provide parents/staff with [Return to School Criteria](#).
- Contact tracing for lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be conducted.

[Notification Procedures Related to COVID-19](#)

- Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, schools must notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate in any on-campus activities. Individuals who are determined to have had close contact with the confirmed case will be individually contacted.
- Contact tracing for lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be conducted to determine who came into close contact with
- Close contact is defined as:
 - being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield); or
 - being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes, while not wearing a mask or face shield



Definition of COVID-19 Symptoms

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, individuals will be asked if they have 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 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea

Definition of “Close Contact”

This document refers to “close contact” with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. Close contact is determined by an appropriate public health agency. For clarity, close contact is defined as:

- a. being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield); or
- b. being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes, while not wearing a mask or face shield; if either occurred at any time in the last 14 days at the same time the infected individual was infectious.
- c. Individuals are presumed infectious at least two days prior to symptom onset or, in the case of asymptomatic individuals who are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, two days prior to the confirming lab test.

Instructional Delivery Models

Providing a high-quality education through two instructional delivery models:

- On-Campus Learning (Traditional Classroom)
- At-Home Learning (Remote Learning)
- Parents will be asked to **commit to one of these two learning environments prior to August 10th**
- For students whose parents choose At-Home Learning, the student will be required to remain in At-Home Learning until the end of the current grading period before changing to On-Campus Learning.
- Changing from On-Campus to At-Home may happen at any time during the grading period, but the student will be required to remain in At-Home Learning until the end of the current grading period before changing back to On-Campus Learning.



On-Campus Learning

- Available for students in PK through Grade 12.
- Attendance incentives (perfect attendance awards, semester exam exemption attendance criteria, etc.) will be discontinued for the current school year.
- Students will attend school on a regular instructional schedule and will engage in face-to face learning on campus all day, every day.
- Coursework and guidelines for grading for On-Campus Learning and At-Home Learning will be the same.
- Implementation of preventive safety measures.
- For On-Campus Learning, grade levels will be provided with health and safety instruction, including the mandated hand-washing training via a link that will be sent to parents and posted on the schools website. In addition, this will also be reviewed upon the students return to school.

At-Home Learning

- Available for students in PK through Grade 12
- Students will remain at home and will engage in learning activities on our Remote Learning Platforms.
- Daily student participation in the learning activities will be required (each day students will have to show “engagement” in order to be marked present in the form of submitting work, interacting with teachers on progress of content or in engagement on our online learning platform).
- Students will have to demonstrate engagement all 5 days each week (via synchronous meetings with the teacher, progress in online activities or submission of work).
- A caregiver will need to be available to support younger students in navigating the daily schedule and providing assistance with the learning as needed.
- Expectations for coursework and grading guidelines for On-Campus Learning and At-Home Learning will be the same.
- Course/content instruction provided by Wildorado ISD teachers
- Instruction in core content and elective areas
 - Some elective courses (or course activities) may only be available in an On-Campus format.
- At-Home Learning Students WILL NOT be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities
- Accommodations and support services provided.
- District will provide student technology devices (iPad).

Online Learning Management System

- WISD will use Texas Home Learning 3.0 and TEKS Resource to create and deliver the at home learning material
- Teachers will provide training to students on how to use these digital tools



- Resources will also be available for parents to learn how to support students in navigating learning through these digital tools
- In the event that students participating in On-Campus Learning are required to quarantine, the education of these students will continue through At-Home Learning for the duration of the quarantine period.
- During periods of school closure, the education of all students will continue through the At-Home Learning model.

Technology

- All grade students will check out a device for the 2020-21 school year to assist with On-Campus and At-Home learning

Social Emotional and Mental Health Support Systems

Addressing the mental health and social-emotional development of all students, staff and community by following best practices in the areas of:

- School-based mental health services
- Behavioral support systems
- Family engagement and support practices
- Staff supports
- Other key systems and supports

Social Emotional Learning

- Social Emotional Learning lessons and activities to support students related to COVID-19 experiences, trauma, and school closure will be developed for all campuses
- Counseling support will be accessible to both In-Person and At-Home learners

Family Support

- Families will be provided information on how to access resources for mental health and wellness

Parent Communication

Providing families with clear and concise communication through the following:

- Email/E-Note Text Messages
- Social Media
- Website



Communication Tools and Channels

- Information about Back to School 2020 will be posted on the Wildorado ISD website. The website will include:
 - Health and safety protocols
 - Information for both On-Campus and At-Home learning
 - Campuses will share campus-specific information with parents via email, E-Notes, newsletters, and other campus communication tools
 - Regular updates will be posted on district and campus website and social media channels
 - At-Home learning support offered to parents through consistent communication
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Circumstances related to COVID-19 may change throughout the coming school year and we will keep all parents informed if conditions change.

Return to School Criteria

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 below) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:

- In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:
 - at least three days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
 - the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
 - at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- 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 same three-step set of criteria listed above.
- If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above stay at home period, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis or (b) receive two separate confirmations at least 24 hours apart that they are free of COVID via acute infection tests at an approved COVID-19 testing location found at <https://tdem.texas.gov/covid>