



# SKDS Safe Return to School 2021-2022



Based on the belief that in-person learning is the optimal environment for student academic success and social-emotional growth, our plan focuses on the safe return of all students to in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year. With COVID-19 still present in our communities, the measures outlined below continue some of the impactful mitigation measures put into place last year, while also allowing for a significant return to “normal”. This plan was created in response to our data and experiences during the 2020-2021 school year, as well as continued observation, tracking and analysis of the most current local data regarding COVID-19. Please be advised that the school may change any of the following protocols in response to the presence of COVID-positive cases within our building.

**Face masks** are required in all indoor environments, including bus transportation (per Federal mandate). The TSA is the governing agency for the requirement of public transportation wearing face masks.

## **Distancing**

Classrooms and learning spaces will function as normal, but considerations for distancing of up to three feet will be made where practical. SKDS will provide spacing to the greatest extent possible without affecting students' learning.

## **Visitors**

All visitors must wear a mask while inside the school building. We do not require masks to be worn outside.

## **Handwashing & Hygiene**

Students and staff will be encouraged and expected to engage in frequent hand washing and other preventative hygiene practices to support wellness. Last year, our students learned to be more intentional about washing their hands. We believe clean hands contributed to a lower rate of common illnesses.

## **Classrooms & Instruction**

All classroom settings will be allowed to engage in traditional activities including partner/group work, laboratories, playing of musical instruments, field trips, etc. A full-time virtual option will not be provided. For any student who is absent due to quarantine for a prolonged period of time, accommodations will be provided.

**Sanitizing of frequently touched surfaces** will continue to be done on a regular basis. One of the benefits of implementing mitigation measures this past year was the significant decrease in other illnesses such as the flu and colds. Enhanced disinfection protocols and frequency will continue.

## **Quarantine of Close Contacts**

If vaccinated, the individual does not have to quarantine. However, they must wear masks indoors and should receive a COVID test 3-5 days after the close contact and adhere to test results.

If unvaccinated, contacts must follow quarantine parameters established by DC Public Health.

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## Vaccinations

While we do not require COVID vaccinations, please be advised that close contact with a COVID-positive individual will necessitate an inquiry about vaccination status.

Vaccinated individuals do not need to be quarantined.

## Individuals with Symptoms

Students and staff should stay home if they have a fever (of 100.4) or two or more COVID symptoms. They must be fever free and/or have no more than one symptom for 48 hours before returning to school. COVID Testing is also recommended for unvaccinated individuals.

## Guidelines for Keeping Sick Children Home

**Please help us keep our doors open and uninterrupted in-person learning occurring.**

- Keep your child home if he or she is not feeling well.
- Please do not send your child back to school unless his or her symptoms have improved or are gone.
- Do not send your child to school if they have (this may not be an exhaustive list):
  - New Cough
  - Shortness of Breath
  - Loss of taste and/or smell
  - Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
  - Chills
  - Congestion or runny nose not attributed to allergies
  - Body or muscle aches
  - Sore throat
  - Fatigue
  - Vomiting
  - Diarrhea
  - Headache
  - Undiagnosed rash

**If your child is experiencing the above symptoms during school hours, you will be contacted to pick up your child. If necessary, the listed emergency contact person will be contacted.**

