

Family-School Agreement for In-Person Programming During COVID-19

Parents and/or Guardians,

The decision to reopen our schools with limited in-person programming beginning Term 3 (February 1) and continuing through the end of SY20-21 is guided with safety and equitable access top of mind.

It is our goal to allow more students, especially those with needs that are best served in person, to return to school buildings and receive the critical supports that prepare them for lifelong success. Every school will offer a range of in-person learning options and services for students. This includes In-Person Learning (IPL) Classrooms with teachers, CARE Classrooms or tutoring services with staff facilitators, self-contained classrooms for special education students, and Student Support Centers (SSC).

In welcoming our staff and students back into our school buildings, it remains our priority to:

- Provide a safe and supportive learning space for our youngest learners — where we see more challenges with virtual learning.
- Offer in-person instruction for students with known opportunity gaps to mitigate learning loss.
- Maximize learning time and maintain the integrity of the instructional program for all students — whether at school or home.

This document contains important information about the commitments we need from you to be able to return to our buildings safely as a result of the COVID-19 public health crisis. Please read this carefully before signing and let your school know if you have any questions.



**DC PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITMENTS**

- Limit the size of groups
- Require safe routines
- Maintain clean facilities
- Reduce class transitions
- Reorganize classroom spaces
- Adjust arrival and dismissal procedures
- Screen and report symptoms
- Adjust meal routines
- Train staff
- Provide virtual learning

DCPS' Responsibility to Minimize Exposure to COVID-19

1. Limit the size of groups. In-person learning in general education settings will be limited to small group cohorts and follow DC Health guidelines. There will be no more than 12 people assigned to a room, since a 13th person can float as needed. Students in self-contained programming will be part of smaller cohorts.

2. Require students and staff to practice safe routines. Anyone who comes to school in-person will be provided with a supply of disposable face masks, including smaller masks for our youngest students, and other personal protective equipment (PPE).

3. Maintain clean and safe facilities. Enhanced cleaning practices will be a part of our school routines. Frequently touched surfaces (e.g., sink handles, door handles) will be cleaned and disinfected daily and a deep cleaning will happen weekly.

4. Reduce class transitions and time in hallways. Students will be scheduled with a small group of peers that will stay in their classroom and educators will come to them.

5. Reorganize classroom spaces. Desks will be spaced at least 6 feet apart, and students will be facing the front of the classroom. Communal spaces will have occupancy caps and staggered usage. Signage and floor markers will be displayed to promote social distancing.

6. Adjust arrival and dismissal procedures. Our schools will have new procedures that incorporate social distancing, include health screenings, and provide hand sanitizer and masks for students. Family members will be able to help their students check in at their school entry point, but they will not be permitted to enter the building. Visitor access will be significantly limited.

7. Screen for illness and report symptoms. Staff and students will be required to participate in a daily health screening. If a student or staff member develops any COVID-19 symptoms while at school, there will be a designated physical location and a process in place that allows the individual to isolate until it is safe to go home and seek medical care. DC Health reporting protocols will be initiated.

8. Adjust meal and snack routines. Each student's small group will eat meals together. Meal distribution procedures will prioritize safety and hygiene through individualized "grab and go" meals and the use of hand sanitizer and/or hand washing before and after meals.

9. Train staff. Staff are receiving training on our new safety protocols, contact tracing, maximizing learning opportunities, maintaining safety, and ways to support adults and students with trauma.

10. Provide virtual learning opportunities. We will offer an all-virtual instructional option for families who prefer the learning at home model.

My Responsibility to Minimize Exposure to COVID-19

By agreeing to having your student participate in in-person programming at school, you agree to take certain precautions which will help keep everyone (your student, other students, and DCPS teachers and staff) safe. DCPS will support all students and families with all health and safety protocols, including clear guidance and reminders; however, repeated lack of adherence to these protocols may result in your child needing to return to virtual learning.

Initial each to indicate that you understand and agree to these actions:

- I will only send my child to school if they are symptom-free. *Symptoms can include cough, fever, headache, new loss of taste or smell, repeated shaking with chills, sore throat, shortness of breath, and muscle pain.* ____
- I will abide by the guidance in the [Ask, Ask, Look protocol](#) which includes determining if my child has any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 to the best of my ability or has been in close contact with anyone who has COVID-19 each day. I will bring or have my child bring a screening tracker with my signature confirming these steps have been followed each day. ____
- I understand if I want my child to receive a COVID-19 test, I will need to review, sign, and submit to the registrar a COVID-19 consent form. ____
- I will ensure my child has received the appropriate immunizations for enrollment, will provide record of such prior to returning to school, and understand that without this they will not be admitted. ____
- I agree to have my child's temperature taken each day before entering the building by a health professional on site. If temperature is elevated (100.5 or more) or if other symptoms are observed by the health professional at any time during the school day, I will be expected to take my student home, make a doctor's appointment and not return until symptoms are clear. ____
- I will reinforce with my child the importance of their adherence to the social distancing precautions and other safety precautions while participating in the CARE classroom. ____
- I will say goodbye to my child at their school's designated drop off location and will not enter the building each day to minimize the number of individuals other students and staff are exposed to. ____
- My child will wash their hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when they enter the building. ____
- I understand [my child must wear a mask at all times](#) except when eating or drinking, and teachers and staff will do the same. ____
- If a resident of my home tests positive for COVID-19, I will immediately let the school know, keep my child home for the quarantine timing as determined by DCPS and DC Health, and will not return to in-person learning until a doctor has advised. ____
- If my child travels to a high-risk state, I will disclose this to my child's principal and follow the city's guidance to limit daily activities upon return (visit coronavirus.dc.gov/phasetwo). ____

By signing, I agree to the above statements and will make every effort to ensure my child abides by them each day.

Parent Name Printed

Parent Name Signature

Student Name and School
(one per student even if at the same school)