

2022-2023

COVID-19 PLAN

Updated 8/15/22

(Return to School Guidance)



PreK-12 Recommendations	FCSC will return to in person learning for the 2022-2023 school year. If FCSC experiences a high number of positive cases in the district. FCSC will follow the FCSC COVID -19 Guidance Matrix dated 8/31/21. Matrix can be found on FCSC Webpage
School Status	In-person learning; regular daily schedule following FCSC COVID-19 Guidance Matrix dated 8/31/21. Matrix can be found on FCSC webpage
Health Screening	All staff/students/visitors self-screen prior to coming to school
Mask Status	Mask are optional unless mandated by the State of Indiana and/or the Board of School Trustees
Physical Distancing	Social distancing implemented as much as possible when there is an increase in positive cases.
Cafeteria	Regular lunch procedures in cafeteria; Social distancing implemented as much as possible when there is an increase in positive cases.
Hand Sanitizing/Washing	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 in all buildings and departments
Contact Tracing/Quarantine	IDOH does NOT recommend quarantine or contact tracing due to an exposure in K-12 settings. Therefore, we will NOT be contact tracing in the classroom, bus, or at extra-curricular activities at this time. See Exclusion from School/Work on page 2 if you have been exposed outside of the school setting
Bus	Masks are optional unless mandated by the State of Indiana and/or the Board of School Trustees.
Extra-Curricular Activities	FCSC will follow the mandates of the Governor's office and Indiana State Department of Health when there is an increase in positive cases.

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

IDOH does NOT recommend quarantine or contact tracing due to an exposure in K-12 settings. Therefore, we will NOT be contact tracing in the classroom, bus, or extra-curricular activities at this time. **Close contacts should self-monitor for symptoms and take extra precautions to socially distance.**

If a student and staff member tests positive for COVID, they must isolate out of school for 5 days from the start of symptoms (first day is zero). If no symptoms, then they must isolate 5 days from the positive test result. Symptoms must be improving and must be fever free for at least 24 hours before returning.


If a student or staff member is exposed outside of school it is recommended that they wear a mask x10 days and test on day 5, while monitoring for symptoms.

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

General Wellness Daily Screening for Parents


Please check for signs of illness every morning before you send your child to school:

☐


FEVER 100.4° OR CHILLS *or school board policy if threshold is lower

☐


COUGH* OR SHORTNESS OF BREATH *especially new onset, uncontrolled cough

☐

DIARRHEA, NAUSEA OR VOMITING, ABDOMINAL PAIN

☐

HEADACHE* *particularly new onset of severe headache, especially with fever

☐

NEW OR UNUSUAL:
- EXTREME FATIGUE
- MUSCLE/BODY ACHES
- SORE THROAT

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

☐ Does your child have any sign of illness above?
You are encouraged to use this screening tool for all communicable illnesses.
If yes, consider their history. For example, does the child have a chronic health condition (allergies, asthma) that can mimic a viral illness? When in doubt, keep your student home until symptoms improve.

☐ Was your child in close contact (within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes over a 24-hour period) with anyone confirmed with COVID-19?

- If you check any of these boxes, **DO NOT** send your student to school. Instead, consider COVID-19 testing and isolate them until their test result is received.
- Please keep your student home until they meet the criteria to return to school.
 - If positive for COVID-19, isolate for at least 5 days and mask when around others
 - If negative, remain at home until 24 hours fever free and symptoms improving

Updated: 8/3/22

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

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

Masks are optional unless mandated by the State of Indiana and/or the Board of School Trustees.

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

Fayette County Schools will return to their normal visitor policies unless mandated by the State of Indiana and/or the Board of School Trustees during a time of substantial positive cases.

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 continue 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 not be utilized during times of substantial spread, 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

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.

Bus Cleaning & Sanitation

All buses will be cleaned and/or sanitized each day using an FCSC approved cleaning and/or 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 2022-2023 and follow any other state requirements as mandated by the state of Indiana or IHSA.

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 2022-2023 and any other state requirements as mandated by the state of Indiana or the Indiana Department of Education.

Facilities

Cleaning & Sanitation

All FCSC facilities will be cleaned/sanitized with cleaning supplies with the capability to kill COVID-19.

Daily disinfecting of high-touch surfaces in rooms will take place.