

# COLBERT COUNTY SCHOOLS

## REOPENING PLAN SUMMER/FALL 2021

As we return to the classroom this fall, Colbert County Schools will continue to implement practical health and wellness procedures in coordination with the State Department of Education and the Department of Public Health. This is a modified school operation plan for summer 2021 and the opening of the 2021-2022 school year based on guidance from appropriate agencies.

This plan details the modifications to the health protocols implemented during the 2020-2021 school year. This plan IS NOT intended to be comprehensive of all the precautions that Colbert County Schools will continue to implement moving forward.

As we continue to learn more about COVID-19, we acknowledge the seemingly ever-changing aspect of guidance we receive from state and federal health officials. Hence, this plan is subject to change without notice, but as always, student safety and wellbeing are of utmost importance as we also work to provide a high-quality educational experience.

We will continue to monitor the community spread of COVID-19 and alert you to any changes impacting school operations and the opening of school in August. In accordance with ALSDE guidelines, this plan will be updated at 6 month intervals beginning July 2021 and/or as additional guidance is issued from local, state, and federal officials.

### LEARNING PLATFORMS

Pre-K & Kindergarten will only be offered as traditional, in-person learning. All other students in grades 1-12 will return to in-person learning, unless valid medical documentation is provided. The only valid medical documentation includes:

- Valid medical excuse from STUDENT's medical doctor (MD or DO).
- Nurse Practitioner excuses are NOT ACCEPTABLE for virtual student eligibility.

As mandated by the Alabama law, a virtual option for students enrolled in grades 9-12 is available through [Colbert County Schools' Capstone Virtual Academy](#).

### HEALTH PROTOCOLS

**Home Screening** - Parents should continue to screen children at home for signs or symptoms of COVID and/or any other illness.

**Temperature Checks** - Students with a temperature of 100.4 shall remain at home and will not be permitted to return to school until the student has been fever-free for **24 hours**.

**Symptoms-** Anyone exhibiting potential [COVID symptoms](#) should immediately notify the lead school nurse, especially any individual that experiences new loss of taste or smell. These individuals should isolate immediately and contact the lead school nurse.

**Face Coverings (Masks)** - According to the current [Public Health Order from the office of the Governor](#), masks are recommended but not required. Masks are particularly recommended for those who have not received the COVID-19 vaccine.

**Social Distancing** - When possible, the ideal distance to prevent/slow the spread of viruses is 6 feet. There is evidence to suggest that, in the absence of a 6-foot space barrier, distances as little as 3 feet provide a level of protection, particularly for children.

**Quarantine** - Periods of quarantine will continue in the cases of known exposures to COVID based on current guidance issued by CDC and ADPH.

**Personal Hygiene** - Proper hand hygiene is required for all students and will be encouraged by staff. Proper methods of hand hygiene include washing hands using traditional sinks with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer containing 70% ethyl alcohol.

**Water Fountains** - Staff and students are encouraged to bring their own water. Water bottle filling stations, where available, will be open. It is recommended that parents provide each child their own personal water bottle. Whenever possible, water bottles should be filled daily from home and maintained on the child's proximity during the school day. There will be no sharing of water bottles.

## VACCINATION

In accordance with CDC guidance, those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 can (unless otherwise restricted) resume activities that they did prior to the pandemic, resume activities without wearing a mask or staying 6 feet apart, and do not need to isolate if they are around someone who has COVID-19 as long as they remain asymptomatic. In general, people are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after their second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or two weeks after the single dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

- [Alabama Department of Public Health Information on the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [CDC Guidance- Information on the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [CDC Guidance-Getting Your Vaccine](#)
- [CDC Guidance-Find A Vaccine](#)
- [CDC Guidance-After You Are Vaccinated](#)

## **TRAVEL**

Colbert County Schools will follow [CDC Guidance on International Travel](#) for all students and staff. It is important to note that CDC does not recommend international travel until individuals are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

## **ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES**

Each school will determine and communicate arrival and dismissal procedures.

## **SCHEDULING**

Each school will determine and communicate scheduling plans.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance due to COVID-19 will be addressed in PowerSchool using the state-mandated attendance codes. Faculty and staff will be trained on the proper use of these codes.

## **SPECIAL POPULATIONS**

There will be a systematic review of all current student plans (e.g., Individual Healthcare Plans, Individualized Education Plans, or 504 Plans) for accommodating students with special needs, and their plans will be updated as needed. Gifted Services and Related Services will be delivered in person unless otherwise noted in the current student's plan.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Normal operations will resume.

## **ASSEMBLIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

Normal operations will resume.

## **LIBRARY**

Normal operations will resume.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Normal operations will resume.

## **STATE-MANDATED ASSESSMENTS**

Students will participate in all State-mandated assessments on-campus as required by Alabama state law.

## **EXAMS**

Students in grades 7-12 will participate in course-specific Midterms and Final Exams per Board policy.

## **VISITORS ON CAMPUS**

Normal operations will resume.

## **BUS TRANSPORTATION**

Normal operations will resume with daily cleaning protocols.

## **MEAL SERVICE**

Normal operations will resume.

## **CLEANING PROTOCOLS**

Normal operations will resume.

## **LOCKERS**

Normal operations will resume.

## **HEALTH RESOURCES & LINKS**

- [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\) Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Alabama Department of Public Health](#)
- [American Academy of Pediatrics](#)