



A S H L A N D C I T Y S C H O O L S
School Restart Protocol

8/7/2020-Last updated 9/24/20

Students	Staff	Parents/Caregivers/Visitors	Operations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Distancing "Evidence suggests that spacing as close as 3 feet may approach the benefits of 6' space, particularly if students are wearing face coverings and are asymptomatic."¹-this will allow classroom space to be maximized while still keeping students safe • COVID Illness: Quarantining for 10 days only applies to a medically documented positive case of COVID-19. If a student has recently had close contact with a person that has COVID-19 symptoms or has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the student should stay home. In these situations, you should seek medical advice from your primary healthcare provider or the the health department. The CDC defines" exposure" as close contact with an individual (less than 6 feet) for more than 15 minutes.² • Other Illnesses: Students who are ill or showing symptoms of any illness should stay home. The student can return to school if they are without fever for 72 hours without the use of medication, or symptoms of the illness have subsided, or they have been cleared by a physician. • Any student with a temperature at or exceeding 100° Fahrenheit should stay home. • Students will wear a face covering inside school facilities, in accordance with current mandates-not excluding local control. Face coverings can be removed during physical activity (PE/recess) and while eating or drinking. Students will wear face coverings while on the bus. Students should wear masks at the bus stop unless they can maintain social distance. • Students that miss school due to illness will not face any penalties if work is made up in person or remotely. • Student athletes will have their health and wellness monitored daily before practice or events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will have their temperature taken every day before entering school facilities. • Staff members will wear a face covering inside school facilities and while on school transportation, in accordance with current mandates-not excluding local control. • COVID Illness: Quarantining for 10 days only applies to a medically documented positive case of COVID-19. • Other Illnesses: Staff who are ill or showing symptoms of any illness should stay home. Staff can return to school if they are without fever for 72 hours without the use of medication and symptoms have shown improvement, or they have been cleared by a physician. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/caregivers should monitor the health and wellness of their child each morning before sending their student to school. Please do everything in your power to communicate with your child's school if he/she will be absent due to illness. • If a student has recently had close contact with a person that has COVID-19 symptoms or has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the student should stay home. In these situations, you should seek medical advice from your primary healthcare provider or the the health department. The CDC defines" exposure" as close contact with an individual (less than 6 feet) for more than 15 minutes.² • Please encourage proper hand hygiene at home before departure for school, at school, and when the child returns home from school. • Please make sure to update your student's emergency medical record information for the school he/she attends. This includes any changes in medical history, contact information with up-to-date phone numbers, or a change in residence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashland City Schools will work closely with University Hospitals and the ACHD to follow the suggested guidelines provided by national experts. The ACHD will provide guidance when there is a positive case of COVID-19 that may impact the students or staff at ACS. • All ACS facilities will be on a concise cleaning and disinfecting schedule. Cleaning & disinfecting will take place throughout the student day and most importantly at the end of the day when staff and students have left the facilities. This includes fogging of large areas using hypochlorous acid (which has been approved by the EPA), the frequent disinfecting of touch points and bathrooms. • All entrances will be equipped with thermometers for temperature readings and each building will have a designated isolation area. • All entrances, common areas, and classrooms will be equipped with hand sanitizer and food safe sanitizer. • Playground equipment and athletic apparatus will be cleaned/disinfected daily.

"The American Academy of Pediatrics advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school."¹

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>¹

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>²

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel mandates set forth by the Ohio Governor could pertain to students and the required quarantine could need to take place if travel is necessary to designated hotspots. Students enrolling from out of state or out of the country must quarantine for at least 14 days after contacting the district for enrollment. Students will be encouraged to socially distance when possible; barriers have been setup in some buildings to allow for this. ¹ The classroom setup will aid in social distancing in all facilities. Larger spaces in the buildings will be used to spread students out throughout the day. Buildings are equipped with water bottle filling stations. Students are strongly encouraged to bring a personal reusable water bottle (ie: Hydro flask or other similar water bottle) rather than a bottle of water. Single use bottles (Dasani, Aquafina, etc.) will not be permitted for use in the water bottle filling station. Each school will have a designated isolation area for any person that exhibits symptoms of illness. Parents will be contacted immediately to inform them of the situation with their child. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID Contact: If a staff member has recently had close contact with a person that has COVID-19 symptoms, the staff member should contact their building administrator. If the staff member exhibits symptoms, they should seek medical advice from their primary healthcare provider or the health department. Staff coming in close contact with a positive case of COVID-19 will be handled in a collaborative manner with the ACHD and the Ashland City Schools. Contact tracing will be shared in a legal and confidential manner by the ACHD. Exposure does not mean that school will need to be shutdown or whole classes will have to quarantine. Staff members are considered essential workers, so if a staff member is not exhibiting symptoms they will be expected to be at work and wearing an N95 face covering. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide at least one or more face coverings for your child. Students will wear a face covering inside school facilities and while on school transportation, in accordance with current mandates-not excluding local control. Provide your child with a personal water bottle for use at school. We strongly recommend a water bottle with a large screw-off top to avoid the risk of contamination when refilling. Buildings are equipped with water bottle filling stations. There will be strict limitations enforced for non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external or outside organizations throughout our facilities. Especially with individuals that are not from the local geographic area. When authorization has been arranged, individuals may come to the vestibule to pick up their student. In certain situations, school personnel will escort students to a pickup location if necessary. Appointments with administration or school personnel for meetings are highly encouraged, including the use of virtual meetings when applicable. In the event your child becomes ill at school, parents/caregivers will be contacted to pick up the sick child. Your cooperation & availability are essential should your child become ill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District technology will be cleaned and disinfected daily. Transitions during the day will be staggered and monitored closely by staff to maintain social distance when possible. Signage will be posted throughout school buildings to remind students of the need for social distancing. Recess, PE, Music, and Art along with other specials, encores, or electives will occur with modifications allowing for social distancing when possible. There will be no sharing of supplies and the frequency and duration of these classes may vary during the school day. Contact tracing of close contact will be shared in a legal and confidential manner by the ACHD. Exposure does not mean that school will need to be shutdown or whole classes will have to quarantine. <p>Transportation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally, two students will be assigned per seat. However, there may need to be a third student to the seat when the ride time is 15 minutes or less. Students & staff will wear face coverings while on the bus. Daily disinfecting protocol will be used for each school transportation vehicle. Students will use hand sanitizer when boarding a school transportation vehicle. <p>Full Transportation Protocol can be found at www.ashlandcityschools.org/district/transportation</p>

*During this unprecedented pandemic, information and answers contained in this document may not be applicable or true in the future, based on actions by the legislature, Governor or the Ohio Department of Education.