BPS CDC Guideline Safety Plan: Safe Return To School

Return to the Traditional Learning Model for the 2021-2022 School Year Traditional Model Learning Plan

Safe Return To School for the '21-22 School Year

Introduction

Browning Public Schools will be returning to a traditional learning model for the 2021-2022 school year. The traditional learning model requires all students and staff to attend school on campus and in person. This learning model will continue to include contagious disease prevention protocols. Each BPS school campus has developed a site specific plan that aligns and compliments the overall BPS Reopening Plan. It is the goal of Browning Public Schools and our Board of Trustees to provide a high-quality education to our students in the safest possible learning environment.

COVID 19 Prevention and Management Plan

The Browning Public Schools have contained specific mitigation strategies that align and complement the overall district pandemic plan. This Covid-19 plan integrated with the Center of Disease Control (CDC) recommendations.



BPS ALL DISTRICT COVID Procedures:

1st Quarter of the 2021-2022 school year Covid plan:

- 1. All school buildings will be open
- 2. All students and staff will be on campus and in person for school following the traditional learning model
- 3. All people in the buildings will wear masks at all times when more than one person is in the room or office
- 4. Social-distancing will be at 3 ft and all PPE supports will be provided so that all people in the building can effectively sanitize and protect themselves
- 5. The CDC 6 Key Mitigation Strategies for COVID-19 Transmission will be implemented in each building:
 - a. Covid-19 Vaccine
 - b. Consistent and correct use of masks ALL STAFF & STUDENTS WILL WEAR MASKS
 - c. Social distancing to the largest extent possible
 - d. Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
 - e. Cleaning and disinfection
 - f. Contact tracing in collaboration with local health department
- 6. Employees will be required to use sick or personal/annual leave if instructed by a local Health Agency to either quarantine or isolate. To be clear, there is no longer "Covid Leave or remote work assignments". We strongly recommend that staff wear masks whenever around the public or traveling.
- 7. If you do not have leave available please contact John Salois the HR Director to discuss options:

a. Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

parent:

- b. Appropriate Sick Leave Bank if eligible
- c. Approved Leave without Pay-with medical documentation
- If you've had close contact with someone who has Covid-19 you should get tested 3-5 days after your exposure, even if you don't have symptoms. You should isolate yourself for 10 days if your test results are positive.
- 9. If you are fully vaccinated and symptom free, you do not need to quarantine, However, it is recommended that you receive a COVID-19 test 3-5 days after exposure.

Browning Public Schools Covid-19 School Symptom Screening Flow Chart

Student with Symptoms of Illness Students present themselves with an illness, ie,. coughing, sneezing, runny nose... Interviewing the student or Isolate the student in the Covid-1. How long has the 19 room he/she been sick? (Typically, S/S of Covid-19 show around day Call Covid-19 Committee to If yes to 4 or 5, so if the student is sick for notify of the incident question 2 a week then I would recommend testing.) Call School Nurses for Rapid test 2. Has he/she been around anyone that has **Numbers are listed below** tested positive for covid-19 in the past 14 days? 3. Does the students Step 1: Isolate the individual in a covid-19 room have a history of allergies (If the induvial is a student call the parents) Step 2: Call Covid-19 Committee to notify of the incident Corrina Guardipee-Hall ext:4208; Cell (406) 845-2063 Matthew Johnson ext:4573; Cell (406) 450-6184 Cinnamon Crawford ext:4355; Cell (406) 845-3765 Step 3 Call School Nurses for Rapid test Kim DesRosier ext: 4805; 4610, 4866; (406) 450-5043 Charlene Harrison-White Quills ext: 4910; (406) 450-4823 Myranda Sinclair ext: 4840; (406) 450-0050 Step 4: Call George Hall for cleaning (406) 470-0402 Step 5: Recommend the individual to get the state Covid-19 test at the Blackfeet Tribal Public Health Center for confirmation & Indian Health Service Blackfeet Tribal Public Health Center Indian Health Service Address: 308 1st SW 760 Blackwesel RD.

Browning, MT 59417

Phone Number (406) 338-6191

Phone Number: (406) 338-4624

DNS FOR SCHOOL OPENINGS:

question 2 ______ce Learning Model (Scenario 1 plan)- ALL students and staff are ______OFF campus, working remotely



If no to

Blended Learning Model (Scenario 2 plan)- ALL staff are on campus while students work remotely for 3 days and on campus, in person for 2 days

Stay home until symptoms have improved or typically 24 hours without fever. phal Learning Model (Scenario 3 plan)- ALL students and staff are npus, guided by CDC guidelines and recommendations. Il begin the 2021-2022 school year in a traditional learning model ng our Scenario 3 plan (CDC)

J. Depending upon the number of active cases on the Blackfeet Reservation, BPS will transition from one scenario plan to the other based upon the final decision of the BPS Board of Trustees. This transition can be from any of the possible scenarios to another and then back at a moment's notice.

- 6. ALL BPS school buildings will have their scenario plans fully implemented and ready to be enacted if, or when, a final decision is made to adjust to the learning model that is the safest at that time for our students and staff
- 7. ALL students are expected to attend school on campus and in person. If a student and family make the request to work remotely, *it will be a 504 request* and the student must meet the following criteria before a final decision is made by the building principal. If a student meets the following criteria and is approved by the building principal the student will become a full time remote student and will also begin to follow the remote student attendance plan:
 - Documented medical condition that prevents in person attendance, and/or;
 - b. Documented medical condition of the caregiver of the student that prevents in person attendance, and;
 - c. No previous history of of chronic attendance truancy, and;
 - d. Proven ability to attend class remotely online with the help of tutoring if needed, and;
 - e. Proven ability of the family to provide the necessary wifi or internet connection for the student on a consistent basis, and;

- f. Agreement of the family to meet on a bi-weekly basis with the teacher(s) to discuss progress and weekly with the counselor to discuss support needs; meeting can be email, phone call, virtual or in person
- g. Abide by the COVID Attendance Addendum to monitor attendance

8. ALL staff are expected to work on campus and in person. There are currently no MOU/MOA's in place with the certified or classified union that provide a remote working environment for staff nor Covid leave.

9. ALL teachers will create remote student learning lessons and/or units that are available to be assigned to the students if, or when, the decision is made to make a transition from traditional learning to either blended or distance learning. These lessons/units will also be used for students who are ISS or OSS, going to be excused absent for 2 or more days, or if a student is approved to work remotely. These lessons/units can be created and developed along with their Sub Folders that are required.

10. ALL students will be assigned an iPad that is capable of being sent home with the student(s) when a decision is made to transition from the Scenario 3 plan to the Scenario 1 or Scenario 2 plan.

2021-2022 COVID Attendance Addendum:

BPS will begin the 21-22 school year following the BPS Attendance policy for student attendance. The students must be in attendance on campus and in person to be considered present for school. All supporting systems within the attendance policy will be used and all outside agencies will be notified of this decision and expectation. However, if a decision is made to transition from Scenario 3 plan to the Scenario 2 or Scenario 1 plan, or if a student is approved for full time remote learning, then students will follow the BPS COVID Attendance Addendum:

Browning Public Schools Policy # 3010 (Addendum Pre K-12)Covid – 19 Attendance Plan for Remote Learning

Regular attendance in school promotes student success and positively influences academic achievement. Parents and guardians provide the necessary support for student commitment to attend school regularly and therefore will be informed of each absence. Regular attendance and completing course objectives are requirements for receiving credit in any class.

(Reopening of Browning Public Schools for the 2021/22 school year) Scenario 1, 2, & 3: Remote Learning

All BPS students including parents/guardians must comply with the following Remote Learning expectations in order to be considered in school and completing course objectives

- <u>Online Attendance Addendum</u>–Student attendance in online courses is defined as *Connection* with the school/teacher/counselor via phone, email, logging in, or home visit and/or *Engagement* in the course as described in the individual course syllabus.
- BPS will provide every student with an electronic device (iPad) and provide every student, parent/guardian with an orientation on how to properly use the device.
- BPS will provide an orientation to every student, parent/guardian on how to properly navigate and participate in the online learning platform for their student (Seesaw, Google Classroom, etc.). Also, each family/student will be supported on a case by case basis by the counselor and teacher(s). (Blackfeet Ordinance 121)
- BPS will provide family and community awareness through the district web page, BPS Facebook page, Glacier Reporter, Thunder Radio, BPS Newsletters, email, robocalls and telephone calls on a weekly, and as needed, basis regarding any and all changes or transitions in the District Learning Model plans. Individual school campuses will also be sending out communications regarding the Building Level Learning plans for each grade level and provide updates on a weekly basis and as needed.

Browning Public Schools Log in Requirements:

• Each online student will be required to log in to a learning device (iPad, Laptop,etc.,) and/or online learning platform (Seesaw, Google Classroom, etc.) daily to track their attendance, except in the case of illness or an emergency.

Reporting student absences:

• In the event that a student does not log into the BPS learning device (iPad, Laptop,etc.,) and/or the online learning platform we ask that the parent/guardian call and leave a message providing the reason for the absence (the non log in) via the school voicemail, email, or the school attendance message system by 3:00 pm in order for an absence to be "excused". Please note that an email only to the classroom teacher will still require communication with the school's attendance office. The attendance voicemail and email accepts messages 24 hours a day. Parents/Guardians are welcome to call late in the evening or very early in the morning.

Ten Day Absence Rule:

• All Browning Public School campuses are responsible for contacting Blackfeet Family Court when a child misses more than ten (10) consecutive days of school during a semester. Students will also be dropped from Browning Public Schools after 10 consecutive absences.

Disciplinary Action for Failure to Connect or Non log in/connect for daily attendance.

All attempted contacts will use the Infinite Campus contact log and all attempted contacts will be documented in the Infinite Campus Contact Sheet Summary.

- <u>I. Absence 3 days</u> Teacher will contact parent/guardian by phone or email informing the parent/guardian the importance of logging in daily (engagement). Teacher will inform the parent/guardian of the need to log in and engage on a daily basis.
- II. Absence 5 days Counselors will contact parent/guardian by phone, email, or physically going to residence and placing a phone in a baggy and have the parent/guardian call and give a reason why the student is not logging in daily. Counselor will inform parent/guardian of potential referral to Truancy Court for noncompliance/failure to log in daily.
- <u>III. Absence 7 days</u>- Building Administrator will take over contacting parent/guardian using the same communication methods as described above. Truant Officers will also deliver a warning letter to parent/guardian for non-compliance/failure to log in daily. (i.e. With the assistance of Blackfeet Housing Security, BLES Cops, C.P.S. & Manpower Program. (etc.,).
- Parent/Guardian and student will also be required to sign and comply with an attendance contract once the student misses more than 7 days.
- IV. Absence 10 days Building Administrator, in conjunction with the Attendance Officer, will write a formal letter to parent/guardian informing that a petition will be filed to Blackfeet Tribal Family Court for Truancy Neglect. Support may be provided to the Building Administration if needed by District Administration at this level.
- Parent/Guardian and student will be required to sign and comply with an Attendance Re-Entry Contract upon re-entry back into school.
- If there is No Connection for 30 or more days a 30 Day Missing Child Report will be filed.

All students who have failed to make a connection with their school, who have made no contact with their school and who have not responded to any and all contact attempts made by the school will have one week to make a connection with their school. If no connection is made then the student and parent/guardian will begin the process of being referred to Family Court.

Browning Public Schools Safe Return to Learning Plan 2021-2022

CDC Guiding Principles

- Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to inperson instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.
- BPS plan is aligned with CDC recommendations and in most cases include extra mitigation strategies and protocols
- Vaccination is the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination can help schools safely

return to in-person learning as well as extracurricular activities and sports.

- Due to the circulating and highly contagious Delta variant, CDC recommends universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.
- In addition to universal indoor masking, CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as screening testing.
- Screening testing, ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.
- Students, teachers, and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (e.g., using multiple prevention strategies together consistently) to protect students, teachers, staff, visitors, and other members of their households and support in-person learning.
- Localities should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies (e.g., physical distancing, screening testing).

Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (e.g., using multiple prevention strategies together) to protect students, teachers, staff, and other members of their households, and to support in-person learning. This guidance is based on <u>current scientific evidence</u> and lessons learned from schools implementing COVID-19 prevention strategies.

COVID-19 Prevention Strategies Most Important for Safe In-Person Learning in K-12 Schools

Browning Public Schools Prevention Strategies

- Promoting vaccination
- <u>Consistent and correct mask use</u>
- Physical distancing
- <u>Screening testing to promptly identify cases, clusters, and outbreaks</u>
- <u>Ventilation</u>
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Staying home when sick and getting tested
- Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine
- <u>Cleaning and disinfection</u>

Browning Public Schools and CDC recommends universal indoor masking, physical distancing to the extent possible, and additional prevention strategies to protect students, teachers, and staff.

Schools should not exclude students from in-person learning to keep a minimum distance requirement; layering multiple prevention strategies is essential when physical distancing of at least 3 feet is not possible at all times.

1. Promoting Vaccination

COVID-19 vaccination among all eligible students as well as teachers, staff, and household members is the most critical strategy to help schools safely resume full operations.

Vaccination is the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. People who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are at low risk of symptomatic or severe infection. A <u>growing body of</u> <u>evidence</u> suggests that people who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are less likely to become infected and develop symptoms and are at substantially reduced risk from severe illness and death from COVID-19 compared with unvaccinated people.

Only a small proportion of fully vaccinated people get infected (breakthrough infections), even with the Delta variant. Moreover, when these infections occur among vaccinated people, they tend to be milder than among those who are unvaccinated. However, preliminary evidence suggests that fully vaccinated people who are infected with the Delta variant can be infectious and can spread the virus to others. To reduce the risk of becoming infected with the Delta variant and spreading it to others, students, teachers, and school staff should continue to use layered prevention strategies including universal masking in schools.

People 12 years and older are now eligible for COVID-19 vaccination. Schools can promote vaccinations among teachers, staff, families, and eligible students by providing information about COVID-19 vaccination, encouraging vaccine trust and confidence, and establishing supportive policies and practices that make getting vaccinated as easy and convenient as possible.

To promote vaccination, schools can:

- Encourage teachers, staff, and families, including extended family members that have frequent contact with students, to get vaccinated as soon as they can. BPS COVID Committee members can assist in that process.
- Find ways to adapt <u>key messages</u> to <u>help families, teachers, and staff</u> <u>become more confident about the vaccine</u> by using the language, tone, and format that fits the needs of the community and is responsive to concerns.
- Use CDC COVID-19 <u>Vaccination Toolkits to educate</u> members of the school community and promote COVID-19 vaccination.
- Promote vaccination information for parents and guardians, siblings who are eligible for vaccines, and other household members as part of kindergarten transition and enrollment in summer activities for families entering the school system.

• Provide students and families flexible options for excused absence to receive a COVID-19 vaccination and for possible side effects after vaccination.

2. Consistent and Correct Mask Use

When teachers, staff, and students consistently and correctly wear a mask, they <u>protect others as well as themselves</u>. Consistent and <u>correct mask use</u> is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

- **Indoors**: CDC recommends indoor masking for all individuals age 2 years and older, including students, teachers, staff, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status.
- **Outdoors**: In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors. CDC recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people. Fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised.

Exceptions can be made for the following categories of people:

- A person who <u>cannot wear a mask</u>, or <u>cannot safely wear a mask</u>, because of a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.). Discuss the possibility of <u>reasonable</u> <u>accommodationexternal icon</u> with workers who are unable to wear or have difficulty wearing certain types of masks because of a disability.
- A person for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace health, safety, or job duty as determined by the relevant workplace safety guidelines or federal regulations.

During school transportation: <u>CDC's Order</u> applies to all public transportation conveyances including school buses. Passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses, including on buses operated by public and private school systems, regardless of vaccination status, subject to the exclusions and exemptions in CDC's Order. Learn more <u>here</u>.

Schools should provide masks to those students who need them (including on buses), such as students who forgot to bring their mask or whose families are unable to afford them. No disciplinary action should be taken against a student who does not have a mask as described in the U.S. Department of Education <u>COVID-19 Handbook, Volume 1external icon</u>.

3. Physical Distancing

Because of the importance of in-person learning, schools should implement physical distancing to the extent possible within their structures but should not exclude students from in-person learning to keep a minimum distance requirement. In general, CDC recommends people who are not fully vaccinated maintain <u>physical distance</u> of at least 6 feet from other people who are not in their household. However, several <u>studies</u> from the 2020-2021 school year show low COVID-19 transmission levels among students in schools that had less than 6 feet of physical distance when the school implemented and layered other prevention strategies, such as the use of masks.

Based on studies from 2020-2021 school year, CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as screening testing, cohorting, improved ventilation, handwashing and covering coughs and sneezes, staying home when sick with symptoms of infectious illness including COVID-19, and regular cleaning to help reduce transmission risk. A distance of at least 6 feet is recommended between students and teachers/staff, and between teachers/staff who are not fully vaccinated. Mask use by all students, teachers, staff, and visitors is particularly important when physical distance cannot be maintained.

Cohorting: Cohorting means keeping people together in a small group and having each group stay together throughout an entire day. Cohorting can be used to limit the number of students, teachers, and staff who come in contact with each other, especially when it is challenging to maintain physical

distancing, such as among young children, and particularly in areas of moderate-to-high transmission levels. The use of cohorting can limit the spread of COVID-19 between cohorts but should not replace other prevention measures within each group. Cohorting people who are fully vaccinated and people who are not fully vaccinated into separate cohorts is not recommended. It is a school's responsibility to ensure that cohorting is done in an equitable manner that does not perpetuate academic, racial, or other tracking, as described in the U.S. Department of Education <u>COVID-19</u> Handbook, Volume 1external icon.

4. Screening Testing

Screening testing identifies infected people, including those with or without symptoms (or before development of symptoms) who may be contagious, so that measures can be taken to prevent further transmission.

CDC guidance provides that people who are fully vaccinated do not need to participate in screening testing and do not need to quarantine if they do not have any symptoms. Decisions regarding screening testing may be made at the District or building level. Screening testing should be done in a way that ensures the ability to maintain confidentiality of results and protect student, teacher, and staff privacy. Consistent with state legal requirements and <u>Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)external icon</u>, K-12 schools should obtain parental consent for minor students and assent/consent for students themselves.

5. Ventilation

Improving ventilation is an important COVID-19 prevention strategy that can reduce the number of virus particles in the air. Along with <u>other preventive</u> <u>strategies</u>, including wearing a well-fitting, multi-layered mask, bringing fresh outdoor air into a building helps keep virus particles from concentrating inside. This can be done by opening multiple doors and windows, using child-safe fans to increase the effectiveness of open windows, and making changes to the HVAC or air filtration systems.

During transportation, open or crack windows in buses and other forms of transportation, if doing so does not pose a safety risk. Keeping windows open a few inches improves air circulation.

For more specific information about maintenance, use of ventilation equipment, actions to improve ventilation, and other ventilation considerations, refer to:

- CDC's Ventilation in Schools and Child care Programs
- CDC's Ventilation in Buildings webpage
- CDC's Ventilation FAQs and
- CDC's Improving Ventilation in Your Home

Additional ventilation recommendations for different types of school buildings can be found in the <u>American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and</u> <u>Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) schools and universities guidance</u> <u>documentpdf iconexternal icon</u>.

6. Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

People should practice handwashing and <u>respiratory etiquette</u> (covering coughs and sneezes) to keep from getting and spreading infectious illnesses including COVID-19. Schools can monitor and reinforce these behaviors and provide adequate handwashing supplies.

- Teach and reinforce <u>handwashing</u> with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Remind everyone in the facility <u>to wash hands frequently</u> and assist young children with handwashing.
- If handwashing is not possible, use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol (for teachers, staff, and older students who can safely use hand sanitizer). Hand sanitizers should be stored up, away, and out of sight of young children and should be used only with adult supervision for children under 6 years of age.

7. Staying Home When Sick and Getting Tested

Students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as <u>influenza</u> (flu) or <u>COVID-19</u>, should stay home and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care, regardless of vaccination status. Staying home when sick with COVID-19 is essential to keep COVID-19 infections out of schools and prevent spread to others. If a student becomes sick at school, see <u>What to do if a Student Becomes Sick or Reports a New</u> <u>COVID-19 Diagnosis at School</u>.

Schools should educate teachers, staff, and families about when they and their children should <u>stay home</u> and when they can return to school. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is essential that parents keep children home if they are showing signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and get them tested.

Getting tested for COVID-19 when <u>symptoms</u> are compatible with COVID-19 will help with rapid contact tracing and prevent possible spread at schools, especially if key prevention strategies (masking and distancing) are not in use.

8. Contact Tracing in Combination with Isolation and Quarantine

Schools should continue to <u>collaborate with state and local health</u> <u>departments</u>, to the extent allowable by privacy laws and other applicable laws, to confidentially provide information about people diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19. This allows identifying which students, teachers, and staff with positive COVID-19 test results should <u>isolate</u>, and which <u>close</u> <u>contacts</u> should <u>quarantine</u>.

- Fully vaccinated close contacts should be referred for COVID-19 <u>testing</u>. If asymptomatic, fully vaccinated close contacts do not need to quarantine at home following an exposure (they can continue to attend school inperson and participate in other activities). In addition to correctly wearing masks in school, they should wear a mask in other indoor public settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.
- Close contacts who are not fully vaccinated should be referred for COVID-19 <u>testing</u>. Regardless of test result, they should quarantine at home for 14 days after exposure. <u>Options to shorten quarantine</u> provide

acceptable alternatives of a 10-day quarantine or a 7-day quarantine combined with testing and a negative test result.

See the added exception in the <u>close contact</u> definition for the exclusion of students in the K-12 indoor classroom who are within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student with masking. See the Department of Education's <u>Protecting</u> <u>Student Privacy FERPA and the Coronavirus Disease 2019external icon</u> for more information.

Schools should report, to the extent allowable by applicable privacy laws, new diagnoses of COVID-19 to their state or local health department as soon as they are informed. School officials should notify, to the extent allowable by applicable privacy laws, teachers, staff, and families of students who were close contacts as soon as possible (within the same day if possible) after they are notified that someone in the school has tested positive.

9. Cleaning and Disinfection

In general, cleaning once a day is usually enough to sufficiently remove potential virus that may be on surfaces. Disinfecting (using disinfectants on the <u>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency COVID-19 listexternal icon</u>) removes any remaining germs on surfaces, which further reduces any risk of spreading infection.

For more information on cleaning a facility regularly, when to clean more frequently or disinfect, cleaning a facility when someone is sick, safe storage of cleaning and disinfecting products, and considerations for protecting workers who clean facilities, see <u>Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility</u>.

If a facility has had a sick person or someone who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 24 hours, clean AND disinfect the space.

Additional Considerations

Visitors

Schools should review their rules for visitors and family engagement activities.

- Schools should limit nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations, particularly in areas where there is moderate-to-high COVID-19 community transmission.
- Schools should not limit access for <u>direct service providers</u>, but can ensure compliance with school visitor polices.
- Schools should continue to emphasize the importance of staying home when sick. Anyone, including visitors, who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as flu or <u>COVID-19</u>, should stay home and seek testing and care, regardless of vaccination status.

Food Service and School Meals

- Staff should wear masks at all times during meal preparation and service, and during breaks except when eating or drinking.
- Students should wear masks when moving through the food service line.
- Maximize physical distance as much as possible when moving through the food service line and while eating (especially indoors). Using additional spaces outside of the cafeteria for mealtime seating such as the gymnasium or outdoor seating can help facilitate distancing. Students should not be excluded from in-person learning to keep a minimum distance requirement, including during mealtimes.
- Given very low risk of transmission from surfaces and shared objects, there is no need to limit food service approaches to single use items and packaged meals.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces. Surfaces that come in contact with food should be washed, rinsed, and sanitized before and after meals.
- Promote hand washing before, after, and during shifts, before and after eating, after using the toilet, and after handling garbage, dirty dishes, or removing gloves.
- Improve ventilation in food preparation, service, and seating areas.

Recess and Physical Education

In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors (e.g., participating in outdoor play, recess, and physical education activities). CDC recommends people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded

outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people. Fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised. Universal masking is recommended during indoor physical education or recess.