

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS COVID-19

UPDATED AUGUST 2021

QUESTION: WILL STUDENTS BE REQUIRED TO WEAR MASKS IN SCHOOLS?

No. Following the proviso from the South Carolina Legislature, students nor staff are required to wear masks. Per the CDC's recommendation, we encourage all students and staff who are unvaccinated to wear masks.

QUESTION: WILL STUDENTS STILL BE BEHIND PLEXIGLASS DIVIDERS?

No. All plexiglass barriers have been removed from classrooms. However, a student can request a divider.

QUESTION: ARE STUDENTS REQUIRED TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS ON SCHOOL BUSES?

No. The SC Department of Education recently removed the requirement for coverings on state-owned school buses. However, our students will have assigned seats on buses and be able to distance.

QUESTION: ARE SCHOOL PROTOCOLS/SCHEDULES GUARANTEED TO STAY THE SAME ALL YEAR?

No. Our guidance from the CDC, DHEC, and health officials, as well as changes by the SC Department of Education and legislature change frequently. These can impact protocols and schedules.

QUESTION: WILL STUDENTS SWITCH TO ELEARNING IF CORONAVIRUS CASES SUDDENLY INCREASE?

Under South Carolina law, school districts are now limited to five (5) eLearning days per year, so at this time, we do not have the option of running an alternate schedule.

QUESTION: WHAT ARE THE PROTOCOLS IF MY CHILD IS EXPOSED TO COVID-19?

Students and teachers who come in close contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for a minimum of 10 days. However, per the CDC, students who provide proof that they have been fully vaccinated are exempt from quarantine, unless they develop symptoms.

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QUESTION: WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19?

A student who tests positive for the coronavirus is required to isolate for 10 days, or longer if symptoms have not improved.

QUESTION: ARE VACCINES REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF?

No, but they are recommended.

QUESTION: WHAT TYPE OF SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL OCCUR WITHIN SCHOOLS?

Schools will enforce 3-feet of social distancing when possible.

QUESTION: WILL WATER FOUNTAINS BE TURNED BACK ON OR WILL WE CONTINUE TO ONLY USE BOTTLED WATER?

No. Water bottle refill stations and water bottles are provided, if needed.

QUESTION: IS THERE ANY DIFFERENCE IN OPERATIONS/PROTOCOLS FOR GRADES PRE-K THROUGH 6 (NO OPTION TO BE VACCINATED) AND GRADES 7-12 (HAVE OPTION TO BE VACCINATED)?

No.

QUESTION: WILL SPARTANBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT THREE CONTINUE TO PROVIDE A COVID-19 DASHBOARD ON ITS WEBSITE?

Yes.

