



IRVING ISD

Blueprint for the Return to School 2021-2022



TABLE OF CONTENTS

General Information	3
Arrival and Dismissal Procedures	
Entering the Building	
Prevention Strategies	
Campus Visitors	4
Sanitization Protocol	
Face Coverings/PPE	
Screening	5
Notification Process	
Identifying Possible COVID-19 Symptoms on Campus	6
Transportation	7
Extracurricular	

Blueprint for the Return to School

GENERAL INFORMATION

Irving ISD is excited to welcome all our students back to their home campus when school begins on August 16. Irving ISD is committed to creating a safe environment for all students. There will be safety measures in place, as well as protocols outlined to ensure the safety of our learners and staff.

Irving ISD will not offer virtual learning. The legislation (HB 1468) providing the necessary funding for public schools to offer virtual learning was not passed during the regular 87th Texas Legislative Session.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

When possible, the following protocols should be implemented for arrival:

- Separate entrances will be utilized for car riders, bus riders, walkers and daycares. (Procedures may vary based on the number of campus entrances and exits).
- There will be bus procedures, based on campus-specific needs.

ENTERING THE BUILDING

In addition to the self-assessment (see page 5), students and staff will follow these procedures:

- Students and staff will enter through the designated entrance.
- If a student or staff member exhibits any symptoms of COVID-19, they will be sent to the nurse's office for an evaluation.

PREVENTION STRATEGIES

Several safety protocols will be in place for in-person learning. Even though the transmission of COVID in schools is lower, it is still critical that we implement and layer prevention strategies, such as:

- Maintaining at least 3 feet of physical distance as much as possible, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Handwashing and coughing/sneezing etiquette
 - Teaching and reinforcing handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - Reminding everyone to wash hands frequently.
 - Using hand sanitizer when hand washing is not possible.
 - Teaching coughing/sneezing into your sleeve or tissue to prevent spread of germs.
- Disinfecting surfaces regularly after use.
- Staying home when sick – It is essential that parents keep children home if they are showing signs and symptoms of COVID-19 or any other illness. Seek care from a physician if conditions are severe or not improving.

Blueprint for the Return to School

CAMPUS VISITORS

Currently, parents/guardians will be allowed on a “scheduled” basis. For example, parents will be allowed to attend meetings such as Admission, Review and Dismissals (ARD), teacher conferences, etc.

To maintain safe social distancing, Irving ISD will not permit visitors during breakfast and lunch (cafeteria) nor will they be allowed in the classrooms or other learning environments. We will continuously monitor and update our visitor policy accordingly.

SANITIZATION PROTOCOL

Classrooms and restrooms will be disinfected daily and in between class periods. In addition, all high-touch areas will be disinfected daily, and the cafeteria will be disinfected during and between lunch periods.

Staff will properly disinfect classrooms, and they will have access to disinfectant to sanitize working surfaces, collaboration areas and shared objects after each use and during breaks of instruction.

Please note: Irving ISD continues to rely on guidance issued by the Texas Education Agency, our local health authority at Dallas County and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as much as possible. Since this is an ever-changing situation, the district may need to change protocols at any time to address specific needs based on the recommendations of the CDC, Texas Education Agency (TEA), Dallas Health and Human Services (DCHHS) or other governmental entities/public health authorities.

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available at the main entry to the campus, in classrooms, in the cafeteria and in common areas throughout the school. Students and staff will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.

Requirements for handwashing and/or use of district-provided hand sanitizer include:

- Provide hand sanitizer upon entry to classroom.
- Periodic reminders from teachers to use the sanitizer during instructional day.
- Thorough hand washing after recess, before eating and following restroom breaks.

FACE COVERINGS/PPE

Irving ISD will adhere to the Executive Order No. GA-36 relating to the prohibition of governmental entities and officials from mandating face coverings. Please know students are permitted to wear face coverings if they choose. The district will support any student or staff member who wishes to continue to wear a mask.

Blueprint for the Return to School

SCREENING

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed below) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.

Self-Assessment

In the past 24 hours, has the student had at least two (2) of the following symptoms:

- New onset of severe headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- New congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

In the past 24 hours had one (1) of the following symptoms:

- New loss of taste or smell
- Temperature 100 degrees F or higher
- New onset of uncontrollable cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty of breathing

NOTIFICATION PROCESS

COVID-19 positive:

Any individuals who are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 must stay at home throughout the infection period. These individuals cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met.

In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:

- At least one day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications); AND
- The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); AND
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

Symptoms of COVID-19:

Any individual with symptoms that could be COVID-19, but they were not evaluated by a medical professional or not tested for COVID-19, the student is assumed to have COVID-19 and may not return until the individual has met the same 3 step criteria above.

Blueprint for the Return to School

If the individual wants to return to school before completing the 10 days stay at home, the student must either: (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing for return based on an alternative diagnosis or (b) take the rapid antigen test and receive a negative test result.

Asymptomatic, close contact:

Asymptomatic, vaccinated students or unvaccinated students, with mask or without mask

- A student may stay in school and receive a rapid antigen test within days 3-5 (from close contact date) with parent consent. If the test is negative, the student may remain in school.
- Per the Texas Education Agency, asymptomatic students in close contact with a positive case would not be required to quarantine. Dallas County Health department recommends a student receive a rapid antigen test within 3-5 days from the date of the close contact and Dallas County recommends wearing a mask for 14 days while indoors.

Students are able to be tested by utilizing a rapid COVID test.

For employees: Contact your supervisor and Human Resources to discuss return-to-work protocol.

IDENTIFYING POSSIBLE COVID-19 CASES ON CAMPUS

When a student displays COVID-19 symptoms, the school nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine when a student needs to be sent home. Students who are displaying COVID-19 symptoms will be separated from their peers and should be picked up no later than one hour from the time the campus contacted the student's parent/guardian. Other students will be removed from the classroom and taken to an alternate location on campus (e.g., go on a walk outside, move to a different classroom, etc.) so that the classroom can be disinfected. Students who report feeling feverish will be evaluated by the school nurse to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.

The following protocol will be put into place should a student or staff member who has been in a school tests positive:

- District will notify the local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Schools must close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 7 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
- Parents of students who are determined to be close contacts of an individual with COVID-19 may choose to keep their students at home during the recommended stay at home period.

Documentation by a medical professional is not required for the return to school when all the 3 following criteria are met:

Blueprint for the Return to School

- At least 24 hours have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications); AND
- The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) AND
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

TRANSPORTATION

To provide a safe bus ride for students, the following guidelines will be implemented:

- Parents will be highly encouraged to drop off or walk with students to school.
- Hand sanitizer will be available to all passengers as they enter the bus.
- If weather permits, the school bus windows will remain open for better air circulation.
- Bus drivers will wipe down high-touch surface areas between routes. Each bus will be sanitized at a minimum of twice a day with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved disinfectants. The buses will also be disinfected weekly using a Petra Backpack Fine Mist Sprayer that utilizes EPA-approved disinfectants as well.

EXTRACURRICULAR

UIL practices and contests will be conducted following safety protocols provided by guidance from UIL and TEA.



IRVING
Independent School District

