



COVID MITIGATION PLAN FOR 2021-2022

Effective March 10, 2022

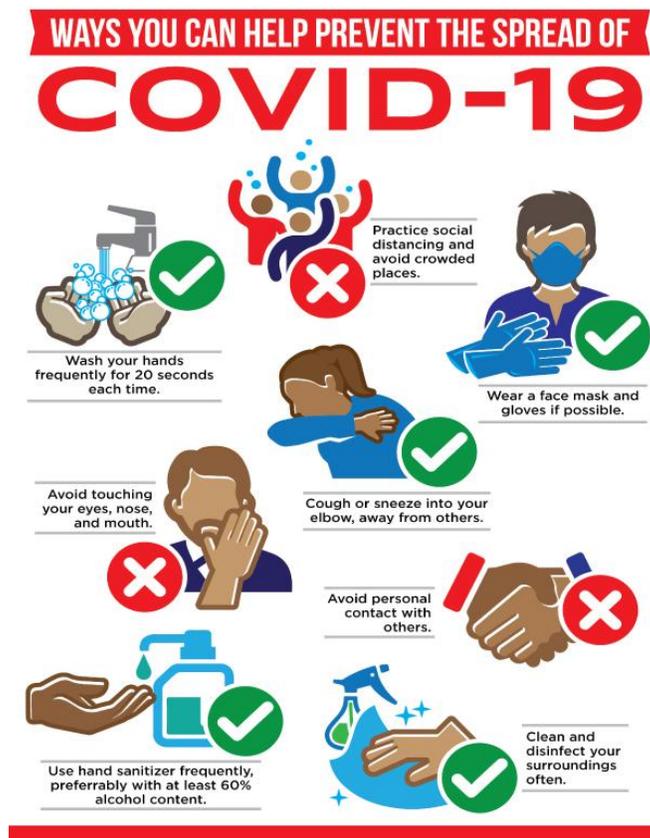
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Signage

There will be signage throughout our facilities promoting ways students and staff can help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Signage will promote the following precautions:

- Wash your hands frequently for 20 seconds each time
- Practice social distancing and avoid crowded places whenever possible
- Wear a face mask except where social distancing as defined in the StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12) can be accomplished
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow, away from others
- Avoid personal contact with others
- Use hand sanitizer frequently
- Clean and disinfect your surroundings often
- Limit visitors



Masking

Effective March 10, 2022, masking is optional during the instructional day for students, staff, and visitors in all settings and while on school transportation vehicles, including school buses, vans and other group transportation.



Vaccinations

The decision regarding whether or not to be vaccinated is a personal choice but if you would like any information regarding vaccinations, you may contact [Albemarle Regional Health Department](#).

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

ARHS is continuing to accept vaccine appointments for first and second dose Moderna and Pfizer, along with Johnson and Johnson, at each of the local health departments. Appointments will be available to residents of the eight county region who are 12 and older.

**Pasquotank County
Health Department**
[252-338-4400](#)

**Perquimans County
Health Department**
[252-426-2100](#)

**Camden County
Health Department**
[252-338-4460](#)

**Chowan County
Health Department**
[252-482-6003](#)

**Currituck County
Health Department**
[252-232-2271](#)

**Bertie County Health
Department**
[252-794-5322](#)

**Gates County
Health Department**
[252-357-1380](#)

**Hertford County
Health Department**
[252-862-4054](#)



Physical Distancing

Whenever and wherever possible, CCS will maintain the minimum distance as defined in the StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12) between students and adults within school settings to the greatest extent possible. CCS will minimize opportunities for close contact resulting from sustained exposure between students by encouraging teachers to develop instructional and non-instructional activities that minimize close contact. Additionally, teachers and staff should minimize opportunities for close contact during staff meetings, planning periods, lunch, recess, in teacher lounges, and break rooms and other areas teachers and staff may congregate. Visitors will be allowed in the school buildings by appointment only and the requirement of masking will depend on whether masks are optional or mandatory for the school.



Transportation

Effective February 25, 2022, the CDC determined that face coverings are optional while on school transportation vehicles, including school buses, vans and other group school transportation. These guideline revisions were officially adopted by Camden County Board of Education on March 10, 2022.



Cleaning and Hygiene



Camden County Schools will:

- Provide adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (e.g. soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, etc.)
- Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Utilize cleaning supplies designed to kill the COVID virus.



Instructional Spaces

Students will be socially distanced to *maintain the minimum distance as defined in the StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)* when feasible and encouraged to limit the sharing of resources.

Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Students will be placed to maintain the minimum distance as defined in the StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12) (3 feet to the extent possible) in order to lower the risk of transmission of any illness. Group activities such as “carpet time” will be strongly discouraged.</i><input type="checkbox"/> <i>The sharing of personal items and supplies in the classroom such as writing utensils will be limited with precautions in place.</i><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Hand sanitizer will be available to students as they enter and exit the classroom during the day.</i><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Classrooms will be cleaned and sanitized at the end of each day.</i>

Shared Spaces



Limiting use of shared spaces ensures that student and staff health and safety is prioritized. The following guidelines will be used to limit use of shared spaces.

Cafeteria

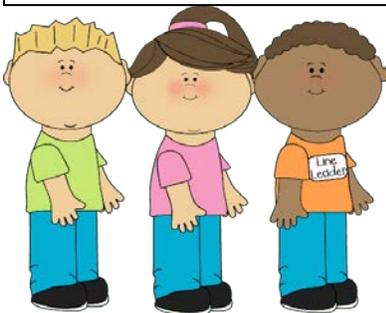
- Breakfast will be served Grab-N-Go via Kiosk, delivered to the classrooms, and/or picked up in the cafeteria setting and taken back to the classroom.*
- Lunch will be served/eaten in the school cafeterias.*

Hallways

- Signage will be placed throughout the school to remind students to social distance and to wash their hands frequently.*
- Students are encouraged to bring water bottles and use the touchless filling stations when available.*

Restrooms

- Teachers will work out a schedule that allows students to use the restroom one class at a time.*
- Bathroom access will be limited to a small number of students at one time.*
- Students will be expected to wash their hands before leaving the restroom.*



Handling Possible, Suspected, Presumptive, or Confirmed Positive Cases of COVID-19

Symptoms: Students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms of [COVID-19](#) should stay home and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care. Staying home when sick is essential to keep infections out of schools and prevent spread to others.

For students, staff, and teachers with chronic conditions, symptom presence should represent a change from their typical health status to warrant exclusion from school. Occurrence of any of the symptoms below while a student, teacher, or staff member is at school suggests the person may be referred for diagnostic COVID-19 testing, evaluation and/or quarantine:

- Fever (temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher)
- Sore throat
- Cough (for people with chronic cough due to allergies or asthma, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Difficulty breathing (for people with asthma, a change from their baseline breathing)
- New loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

More information on [how to monitor for symptoms](#) is available from the CDC.

Diagnosed: People presumed to have or who are diagnosed with COVID-19 must stay home until they meet the criteria for return to school. Staying home when sick with COVID is essential to keeping COVID-19 infections out of schools and preventing spread to others.

Effective February 21, 2022, individual contact tracing and exclusion from school of asymptomatic people after an identified exposure is no longer recommended statewide in K-12 schools.

All schools will:

- Have staff perform self-monitoring of symptoms.
- Have families conduct home-based symptom screening for students, following typical school policies to keep children at home when ill. Recommend that families refer children to diagnostic testing who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19.
 - NCDHHS does not recommend daily COVID-19 symptom screening for all students at school entry. Schools should follow their typical procedures for exclusion as they would for any type of illness if a child is symptomatic at school.
- Immediately isolate symptomatic individuals to a designated area at the school
 - Maintain a dedicated space to isolate symptomatic individuals who become ill during the school day or disclose that they have tested positive for COVID-19. That Space should not be used for other purposes.
- Require school nurses or dedicated school staff who provide direct patient care to wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and perform hand hygiene after removing PPE.
- Ensure symptomatic students remain under visual supervision of a staff member who is at least 6 feet away. The supervising adult should wear a cloth face covering or a procedure mask.
- Have a plan for how to transport an ill student or staff member home or to medical care.
- Quarantine and suggest diagnostic testing for individuals who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 at school or disclose recent known close contact to a person with COVID-19.

- Implement cleaning and disinfecting procedures following [CDC guidelines](#).

CONFIRMED POSITIVE COVID CASE

Isolation is required for all presumptive or confirmed cases of COVID-19.

- Require that staff and students disclose and stay at home or go home if:
 - They are showing COVID-19 symptoms, until they meet criteria for return
 - They have tested positive for COVID-19, until they meet criteria for return

QUARANTINE

Effective February 21, 2022, quarantine is only required for an individual who has been tested positive or who is exhibiting COVID symptoms, with the following exceptions:

- **CDC recommends a person testing positive via antigen tests or PCR tests but is asymptomatic can quarantine for five (5) days after the date of the positive test. Upon return, a person must continue to mask for five (5) days.**
- **A person who has tested positive and who has symptoms can return to school five (5) days after the first day of symptoms. Additionally, it must be at least 24 hours since the person has had a fever (without fever reducing medicine) and COVID symptoms continue to improve.**
- **A person who has symptoms, has not been tested for COVID and has not visited a health care provider but is presumed positive due to the presence of COVID compatible symptoms can return to school when it has been five (5) days since the first day of symptoms, has been at least 24 hours since the person has had a fever (without fever reducing medicine) and COVID symptoms continue to improve.**

- **A person who has symptoms of COVID but has received a negative test or has visited a health care provider and received an alternate diagnosis that would explain the symptoms of COVID can return to school when it has been at least 24 hours since the person has had a fever (without fever reducing medicine) and have felt well for at least 24 hours.**
 - **A person who is not up-to-date on the recommended vaccinations for their age and has been in close contact with someone who has a confirmed case must complete five (5) days of quarantine if asymptomatic and then five (5) days of strict mask use. The five days of quarantine begin on the day after the last known day of the close contact with the COVID positive individual.**
 - **A person with up-to-date vaccinations does not need to be excluded from school if they have no symptoms after being in close contact with a COVID-19 positive person.**
- Report to local health authorities any suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases among students and staff (as required by [NCGS §130A-136](#)).
- CCS will implement the approved [Contact Tracing Plan](#) and all persons impacted will be contacted as soon as possible.



Athletics, School Programs and Extracurricular Activities

Camden County Schools will allow students the opportunity to participate in athletics, school programs and extracurricular activities with masks optional. When traveling to other school districts, the guidelines of that district will apply to all CCS staff, students, athletes and spectators.

