

Allen-Bowden

School Opening / Return to Learn Plan

2023-2024

NO CHANGE
2024-2025



This plan is subject to change and may be amended, added to, revised, edited, or changed in any way without notice and at any time.

May 8, 2023

The Allen Bowden Board of Education and administration are committed to having an open campus and in-person learning to the greatest extent possible. The district commits to being proactive in terms of safety and maintaining the health of all students, staff and patrons who visit the campus. In an effort to keep the campus of Allen-Bowden School open for the School Year 2023-2024, the following guidelines and protocols will be followed.

Prevention Guidelines for Parents, Students, and Staff:

1. All parents and students are encouraged to get vaccinations. All parents will be asked to ensure their children are free of all known Covid-19 Symptoms or other contagious illnesses before sending them to school each day. **Persons should stay home or be sent home with any 1 “a” symptom or any 3 “b” symptoms.**

a. Symptoms include:

- i. Fever, greater than 100 degrees F.
- ii. Sore throat
- iii. Constant Cough
- iv. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- v. Vomiting or diarrhea
- vi. New loss of taste or smell
- vii. Rash or new unexplained lesions

b. Symptoms include:

- i. Congestion or runny nose
- ii. Muscle or body aches
- iii. Fatigue
- iv. Chills or repeated shaking with chills
- v. Nausea
- vi. Loss of appetite
- vii. Persistent Headache or new onset of severe headache

Existing Law provides that anyone with a communicable disease is prohibited from attending a private or public school. It is the duty of the parent or guardian, and the school, to exclude such persons from school until the period of isolation or quarantine ordered for the case expires or until permission has been given by local health officers. See 63 O.S. § 1-507

2. Students who arrive at school with any of the known symptoms listed in number one above will be isolated at school until a parent or guardian arrives and then will be sent home until cleared by a medical professional.
 - a. A parent that notifies the school that their child has a known symptom as listed in number one above and informs the school they will keep their child home, will be allowed to send their child back to school once the symptom(s) are no longer present, except for in the case of a fever. **Persons who become feverish should remain home for an additional 24 hours after they are fever free.**
 - b. Testing for COVID is optional. If a person tests positive for COVID, it is recommended that they return to school no earlier than 5 days from the date symptoms started. Persons may return to school once the symptom(s) are no longer present, except for in the case of a fever. **Persons who become feverish should remain home for an additional 24 hours after they are fever free.** The Oklahoma State Department of Health recommends that masks be worn for 5 days upon return from Covid-19.
 - c. A parent that contacts the school in regards to their child that is experiencing any of the known systems, but has a doctors' note that they are being treated for the cause of the symptom(s) and are not contagious, will be allowed to send their child to school.

General Guidelines for Families

PROTECTING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The following guidelines are shared with our school community, including students, families, and staff, in an effort to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Our goal is to create carefully layered, flexible, and developmentally appropriate practices that will ensure the strongest advice given by the American Academy of Pediatrics: All policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school.

A host of reasons support this AAP recommendation, from the importance of in-person learning to the damage of social isolation. This goal will require all of us to work together. The information presented in this document is shared so that all of our community can begin school with a shared understanding of our responsibility in keeping our students and staff safe from COVID-19. The district is committed to providing coordinated services with State and Local Health Officials in order to provide the safest on campus and in person learning possible.

LAYERED MITIGATION PRACTICES

MASKS

The use of masks and face coverings will be allowed, and supported by the district. However, there will be no mask mandate for use unless required by authorities that have jurisdiction over public schools in the state of Oklahoma. The district will provide masks to

both students and staff on a limited basis as funds are available, but students and staff that wish to regularly wear masks or face coverings are encouraged to supply their own. The Oklahoma State Department of Health recommends that masks be worn for 5 days upon return from Covid-19.

DAILY TEMPERATURE CHECKS

Families are asked to take their children's temperatures, as a fever of 100 or greater may be an indication of an active case of COVID-19. If this is the case, please keep your child home to monitor for additional symptoms. The school may also implement a program to check student and staff temperatures during the day.

HYGIENE

Handwashing is one of the best means of protection against infection. Students will be reminded to wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing their noses, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating. They will also have access to an alcohol-based hand sanitizer throughout the school building when hand-washing opportunities are not readily available.

BREAKFAST & LUNCH

Students should wash hands prior to eating. No guests will be allowed to have lunch on-site as long as the threat of COVID exposure is predominant in the community. Parents are encouraged to limit the times they check their students out for lunch in an effort to minimize unnecessary potential exposure.

RECESS

Each building will develop a recess schedule that allows daily outdoor recess time for all students. Recess schedules may vary by building due to limiting the number of students in any one area.

HANDWASHING AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

Students will be allowed to wash hands before eating and at other times as necessary to ensure the safety of students and staff. Students will also be instructed in ways to properly cough and sneeze as to reduce the risk of transmission of viruses.

PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent / Teacher Conferences may be held remotely or in person, depending on the level of spread in the community at the time of conferences.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

The district will work with all student groups, including children with disabilities to ensure their health and safety is taken into full consideration.

CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

The district is fully committed to providing continuity of services including student academic needs, social, emotional and mental health, food services and possible other needs regardless of viral spread in the community. While the district will strive to provide in-person services to the greatest extent possible, in the event of a school closure due to viral spread, the district will transition staff and students in a distant learning environment. The district has prepared for this by purchasing technology and software for all students and staff to use at home. For full details, the district's Distance Learning Program plan can be accessed, which contains information in detail about this program.

REVIEW OF PLAN

The district will review this plan, at a minimum, every six months to ensure the plan addresses all aspects of safety currently recommended by the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

1. If school buildings or classrooms are forced to close and move to distance learning, teachers will be allowed, with caution, to go to their classrooms to perform instructional activities to support the distance learning program. Teachers may also be allowed to work remotely.
2. If the absentee rate of a site or the district reaches 30% of either students or staff, then the site and or the district will go to distance learning for a 7 day period with the count starting on the first day of distance learning.
3. Grab and go meals will be provided to the best of district abilities in the event of a school closure.
4. Some circumstances may require quarantining beyond these basic guidelines.
5. Students and staff will be allowed the necessary time for diagnostic testing and screening as necessary.
6. Students and staff will be allowed the necessary time to attend vaccination clinics as necessary.
7. Sick leave will be granted in accordance with Oklahoma School Law.

Oklahoma State Department of Health Recommendations and Resources:

https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/covid19/documents/resources-and-recommendations/K-12_Best_Practices.pdf

*Quarantining is currently optional, any mandatory quarantine authority comes from Statutory Law with the Oklahoma Health Department.

**If conditions warrant, contact tracers will evaluate each case independently and make quarantine determinations that best meet the needs of safety and maintaining educational opportunities.

APPENDIX A- Sample Tracking Form

DAILY SCREENING TO BE DONE FOR EACH CHILD BEFORE SENDING TO SCHOOL

- Students are encouraged to complete the checklist for safety guidelines each day. Arrival at school will confirm that the student or staff member has answered “no” to all questions. Answering “yes” to any of the questions means the student or staff should remain off-site unless the symptom is caused by a known other condition and the person is not contagious.

Please Answer Yes or No:

1. _____ Does your child / do you have a Fever, greater than 100 degrees F.
2. _____ Does your child / do you have a Constant Cough?
3. _____ Does your child / do you have a Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
4. _____ Does your child / do you have Fatigue?
5. _____ Does your child / do you have Muscle or body aches?
6. _____ Does your child / do you have a Persistent Headache?
7. _____ Does your child / do you have a new loss of taste or smell?
8. _____ Does your child / do you have a Sore throat?
9. _____ Does your child / do you have Congestion or a runny nose?
10. _____ Does your child / do you have Nausea or vomiting?
11. _____ Does your child / do you have Diarrhea?

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