



2021-2022 Return to In-Person Learning Plan

As a system, we are eager to see our students return in-person learning on August 2nd, 2021 for the first day of school. Realizing that students benefit from in-person learning, safety is a priority for the 2021-2022 school year. We are excited and looking forward to the new year!

Appling County School System will continue to monitor health concerns and decisions will be made locally at the system level. As mandated by the Department of Public Health, schools are required to contact trace COVID-19 cases and enforce quarantines/isolation of staff and students as needed.

https://www.appling.k12.ga.us/userfiles/2/my%20files/covid%20quarantine-isolation%20procedure%2007_15_21.pdf?id=1590

Things to Know for the 2021-2022 School Year:

- 1. COVID-19 Transmission Prevention Strategies Remain a Priority.** Protecting our students, teachers, and staff from infection is critical to ensuring that instruction continues without interruption. Schools will continue to use physical distancing when possible and encourage proper hygiene practice, such as washing hands regularly and using hand sanitizer. Cohort/Static grouping will be used as much as possible to limit the amount of exposure. Seating Charts will be maintained in all student daily transitions, including cafeterias and buses to ensure proper contact tracing. Schools are now encouraged to ask "caregivers" to monitor their students and staff to monitor themselves, daily, BEFORE coming to school. Any staff or student with symptoms should be reminded to STAY at home. Therefore, students and staff should self-monitor daily for COVID-19 symptoms and are required to STAY HOME if they are sick. Buildings will be cleaned and sanitized daily or as often as needed to assist in preventing contamination or virus transmission.
- 2. Masks.** Masks in the school buildings are highly recommended for staff, students, and visitors. Especially, when physical distance cannot be maintained. For more information on guidelines for wearing masks to prevent COVID-19 transmission, visit the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov). Masks will be worn by school bus drivers and masks will be required for students on buses that have at least 50% capacity, due to the inability to physical distance.
- 3. Visitors are welcome in the buildings.** Masks are highly recommended for visitors. Prior to open house, our schools will share on the school websites and social media guidance about open house activities and first day escorts to classrooms.
- 4. Meals will be served in the cafeteria.** Student meals will be served in the cafeteria, using physical distancing as feasible, unless there is a school activity that lends itself to having meals in another location.