



Shoals Community School Corporation

Back to School Plan

2021-2022

Shoals will implement the following guidelines addressing the local impact and spread of COVID-19 effective July 1, 2021. Please note that changes to this guidance may occur as a result of future guidance and requirements from the Governor, CDC, Indiana State Department of Health and Martin County Health Department.

School Operations

- Students will attend in-person instruction 5 days per week.
- Virtual learning will only be available to students during quarantine due to COVID-19 or students who participated in COVID online during the 20-21 school year and maintained a C average or better.
- Virtual learning *IS NOT* available for general illness, vacations, etc. unless approved by the principal.
- Students attending virtually due to COVID-19 will be required to log into class/classes via Zoom or Google meets and utilize Google Classroom during all assigned school periods to be counted present for attendance purposes.
- Students will be responsible for completing all assignments and assessments on the date assigned by the teacher.
- Students needing technical support should contact Chase Butler at chase.butler@shoals.k12.in.us.

Prevention Practices

- Students / staff should self-assess for COVID-19 symptoms daily.
- STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK
 - Students and employees should remain home if someone in the household has two or more COVID-19 symptoms, a fever, or is being tested for COVID-19.
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, fever, new loss of taste or smell, or is being tested for Covid 19 preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.
- Wash hands frequently with hand soap and/or hand sanitizer
- Cover coughs
- School facilities will be cleaned using routine protocols. Disinfectant and paper products will be available in each classroom.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available throughout each facility.

Masks / Facial Coverings

- Masks will be optional for all students/staff unless a significant outbreak of COVID-19 occurs within the school or community.
- SCS will follow IDOE attendance guidelines for student absence due to illness and monitor COVID-19 guidance and recommendations.

Teaching and Learning

- Desks will be separated by 3 feet or to the extent possible and be facing one direction.
- Student cohorts and assigned seating will be used in each classroom.
- Additional instructional supports will be provided to students who are academically and socially/emotionally at-risk.
- Learning loss will be addressed through the use of formative assessments and multiple other strategies.

Transportation

- Buses will be cleaned and sanitized prior to students return.
- Implement standard operating procedures.
- *The use of a face covering is recommended.*
- Drivers will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Buses will be aired out when not in use.
- *Students will be assigned seating with siblings and by bus stop.*

Food Service

- Students wash hands before and after meal service
- Students will be assigned seating.
- Cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day
- Salads and soups will be pre-packaged

Health Clinic

- The health clinic will be used to evaluate and assess ill students. Students displaying two or more COVID-19 symptoms or a fever or loss of taste and smell will be isolated from other clinic patients.
- All ill students/staff presenting with two or more Covid-19 symptoms or a fever or loss of tastes and smell will be required to wear a face covering.
- A record of who enters the isolation area will be kept. The room will be disinfected frequently.

Illness

- Anyone exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms during school will be assessed by the school nurse.
- School nurses will use *nurse medical judgement* to communicate next steps to parents.
- Strict social distancing (6ft) will be required for ill students/staff.
- Students being picked up by parents/guardians will be walked out of the building to their parents.
- Contact the school nurse with any questions regarding student illness.

School Exclusion and Return

State statute gives public school districts the authority to exclude students who have a contagious disease such as COVID-19 or are liable to transmit it after exposure (IC 20-34-3-9). In addition, the local health department has the authority to exclude students from school and may order students and others to isolate or quarantine (IC 16-41-9-1.6).

SCS will monitor CDC guidelines pertaining to student/staff illness, exclusion and quarantine.

Students/staff exhibiting fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, headache, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea may be excluded from school attendance until one of the following:

- Documentation of an alternative diagnosis (Not COVID-19) is acquired from a healthcare provider and symptoms have improved.
 - Be fever free for 24 hours without the use of any medication
 - Diarrhea or Vomiting – be 24 hours free from diarrhea or vomiting

OR

- Documentation of a Negative COVID-19 test is provided. (excluding at home test)

Students/staff testing positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine for 10 days starting with day 1 as the first day after the start of symptoms, or after the COVID-19 positive test draw.

Close Contacts

A close contact is anyone within 6 feet of a confirmed positive COVID-19 person for 15 minutes or more. These individuals are required to quarantine per the CDC/ISDH.

- Students/staff identified as a close contact to a confirmed positive COVID-19 person must quarantine 14 full days, with day 1 starting after the last day of close contact with the positive person.
- Return options for a close contact;
 - 1) To return on day 15
 - 2) Day 11 return with wearing a mask until the end of day 14,
 - 3) To return on day 8 with a negative test result between days 5-7 and wearing a mask until the end of day 14 (excluding at home tests).
 - For all return options, students/staff must remain asymptomatic.
- A close contact with a negative test result but still having 2 or more Covid-19 symptoms, a fever, or new loss of taste or smell, must still quarantine until they have the negative test result, or an alternative diagnosis by a physician, and must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication , and symptoms improved before returning to school.
- Students/staff who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are not required to quarantine as long as they remain symptom free. Information regarding vaccination status will not be officially collected. Proof of vaccination status is voluntary however, it is recommended to notify the school nurse if fully vaccinated to avoid unnecessary quarantine.
- Students/staff who have documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past three (3) months

will not be required to quarantine as long as they remain symptom free.

- Students / staff who provide medical documentation of antibodies for COVID-19 through lab testing are not required to quarantine as long as they remain symptom free.