

Y.A.L.E. School Return to School FAQs

THIS DOCUMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE UPDATED

This section contains Frequently Asked Questions provided by the New Jersey Department of Education, edited for the Y.A.L.E. Schools (September 10, 2020)

Face Coverings

1. Are face coverings required for staff, students, and visitors in school facilities?

Yes. District staff, students, and visitors are required to wear face coverings except under the following circumstances:

- a. When doing so would inhibit the individual's health.
- b. When a student is in extreme heat outdoors.
- c. When a student is in water.
- d. If a student's documented medical condition, or disability as reflected in an Individualized Education Program (IEP), precludes the use of a face covering.
- e. If a student is under the age of two (2), due to the risk of suffocation.
- f. When eating or drinking.
- g. If or when anyone has trouble breathing or is unconscious, is incapacitated, or is otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance (e.g., face coverings should not be worn by Pre-K students during nap time).
- h. The student is engaged in high intensity aerobic or anaerobic activities.
- i. During gym and music classes when individuals are in a well-ventilated location and able to maintain a physical distance of six feet apart (see number 2 below).
- j. When wearing a face covering creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task (for example, students operating machinery in which face coverings may get caught).

2. Are students required to wear face coverings during specials/electives such as music/choir or physical education?

Face coverings may be removed during physical education or music classes, provided individuals are in a well-ventilated location and able to maintain a physical distance of six feet apart. Vigorous exercise, as well as music and choir classes in a confined space (e.g., indoors) may [contribute to transmission of COVID-19](#) and should be limited. Consider conducting such activities in an area with greater ventilation or air exchange (e.g., outdoors). When students are not singing or playing an instrument that requires the use of their mouth, they should wear a face covering in music class (unless class is outdoors and distance can be maintained).

3. Who is responsible for supplying face coverings and other supplies to staff and students? Who should be notified if the school cannot acquire the necessary health and safety supplies needed for reopening? Is an enhanced level of PPE needed for school nurses and/or other staff who work more closely with students?

Face coverings may be provided by the student's family/guardian and can be included as part of the back to school supplies list provided to families/guardians prior to the start of school year. Schools should provide extra disposable face coverings for students who need them (e.g. students who forget or misplace their face coverings) and should, to the greatest extent possible, provide face coverings for students that are experiencing financial hardship and are unable to afford them.

Districts should provide (in addition to normal supplies) any additional supplies/materials necessary for staff to do their jobs. Y.A.L.E. will have extra masks on hand for staff as well. For example, teaching staff, nursing staff, food service professionals, etc., should be provided with gloves, as necessary.

The Road Back (p. 25-27) advises that special consideration should be given to protect staff members, such as school nurses, custodians, and some special education teachers, paraprofessionals and services providers, who will be in close contact with students or handle waste materials. As a resource, the Department's guidance also refers to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's [memo](#) regarding Guidance on Required Safety Supplies for Re-opening Schools, which provides additional information on the quantity and type of PPE materials for such staff members.

4. How long should a face mask be used before it is replaced?

Based on updated reopening standards from the Department of Education, all students and staff are required to wear face coverings. Cloth face coverings are different than surgical face masks (which could also be worn but which are in short supply and should generally be reserved for healthcare workers); additionally, employees, students and visitors may not wear masks containing ventilators or exhaust valves, because such functions interfere with source control. Cloth face coverings should be washed at the end of every day (sooner if they become wet or soiled). Single use disposable face masks should be changed daily unless they become damp or soiled, in this case they should be replaced immediately.

5. Can staff and/or students wear face shields instead of face coverings?

Currently, the CDC does not recommend use of face shields as a substitute for face coverings. Therefore, they may not be used to satisfy face covering requirements. However, they may be an option for students with medical or other challenges that preclude the use of face coverings. If face shields are used without a mask, they should wrap around the sides of the wearer's face and extend to below the chin.

Screening and Testing

1. **What measures need to be in place to identify people that have COVID-19 but do not know it because they are asymptomatic?**

Asymptomatic individuals do not have symptoms that can be identified without a test. Contact tracing is designed to identify those individuals without symptoms who may have been in contact with a person with COVID-19 and who should quarantine. Per CDS guidance, if individuals have been in close contact (defined by the CDC as being within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, they should self-quarantine for 14 days from last possible exposure prior to returning.

2. **Should school districts require daily testing of all students and staff?**

No. There is no statewide policy for testing students and currently neither the CDC nor the NJ DOH recommend daily testing of students.

3. **Should students, staff, or others who have been tested for COVID-19 attend or visit school while they await test results?**

Anyone who is sick should stay home from school. Anyone who suspects they are ill and received a COVID-19 test should not attend or visit school while awaiting test results. Should the test result be negative, they should follow normal illness exclusion rules (typically 24 hours without fever before they can return to school). If a clinician has a suspicion that the illness may be COVID-19 despite a negative test, they should follow general guidance related to COVID-19 – ie, unless they were immunocompromised, they would wait at least 10 days from symptom onset and at least one day from resolution of symptoms prior to returning. If the individual should be quarantined based upon a known exposure, then they would need to wait 14 days from last possible exposure prior to returning even if they test negative for COVID-19.

4. **What are the rules and procedures to clear an individual to return to school following a positive test result? Does a test need to come back negative?**

A negative test is not necessary to return to school. CDS follows CDC guidelines, which provide that persons with COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:

- At least 10 days* have passed since symptom onset, and
- At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, and
- Other symptoms have improved.

See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>.

*A limited number of persons with severe illness may produce replication-competent virus beyond 10 days, that may warrant extending duration of isolation for up to 20 days after symptom onset. Consider consultation with infection control experts. See Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Disposition of Patients with COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings (Interim Guidance).

Persons infected with SARS-CoV-2 who never develop COVID-19 symptoms may discontinue isolation and other precautions 10 days after the date of their first positive RT-PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 RNA.

5. Should there be a specific place at school to isolate students or staff who show symptoms of COVID-19?

Yes. Schools must identify a designated space where persons with COVID-19 symptoms can be separated from other students and staff, and adequately supervised while they wait to be picked up from school. School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people.

6. If a student who has been at school is identified as having COVID, does the entire class have to be quarantined for 14 days?

As provided in CDS guidance, if individuals have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, meaning they are within 6 feet of someone for at least fifteen minutes, they should self-quarantine for 14 days from the date of last exposure before returning to school. In the case of a positive COVID test, local health departments, working in coordination with school districts, will conduct contact tracing to determine whether or not an individual has been in close contact with a student and advise any affected individuals, via trained contact tracers, to self-quarantine for 14 days. The local health department in coordination with the school will assess the specific circumstances of the individual with the positive test to determine those individuals that have been in close contact and need to self-quarantine – this may or may not include all students in the class.

7. If a student is removed from or denied access to the school building based on the screening required under Critical Area of Operation #5 in [The Road Back](#), how should attendance for that student be marked?

In such an instance, districts should mark the student's attendance in accordance with local attendance policy, which will depend in part on whether the student is able to participate in remote instruction on that day. District and school policies for attendance and instructional time may require modification for the 2020-2021 school year and will need to accommodate opportunities for both synchronous and asynchronous instruction, while ensuring the requirements for the 180-day school year are met. The policy will need to specify attendance procedures for students that will be participating in any combination of remote, hybrid, or in person instruction, including details on the recording of absences due to illness or attendance when a student is participating in fully remote learning.

Social Distancing

1. **Are schools responsible for maintaining social distancing in all buses, classrooms, bathrooms and school spaces at all times?**

Face coverings must be worn by all staff, students, and visitors in accordance with the [updated guidance](#).

In addition to wearing face coverings, schools and districts must implement policies that allow for social distancing within the classroom to the maximum extent practicable. This can be achieved by ensuring students are seated at least six feet apart. If schools are not able to maintain this physical distance, additional modifications should be considered. These include using physical barriers between desks and turning desks to face the same direction (rather than facing each other) or having students sit on only one side of the table, spaced apart.

Policies must be designed so that all instructional and non-instructional rooms (e.g. bathrooms, common areas, and auditoriums) in school and district facilities comply with social distancing standards to the maximum extent practicable. Any modifications to school district facilities should be in coordination with local code officials and Department county offices to ensure that alterations adhere to school safety requirements.

School districts should enact policies to maintain social distancing practices on buses (at least six feet of distance between riders) to the maximum extent practicable. Several methods are available to achieve such social distancing:

- a. The CDC recommends that school districts modify the manner students are seated on a school bus such that there is one student seated per row, skipping a row between each child, if possible. Under this scenario, a 54-passenger bus would only have 11 passengers (seating students who reside in the same household in the same row, whenever possible, would increase capacity).
- b. Alternatively, a district may consider seating one student per row, doubling the vehicle's capacity.
 - i. For example, several companies have started marketing physical barriers that separate rows on a school bus. Such equipment would allow students to be seated in each row, thereby doubling the socially distant capacity that was previously noted. Entities that oversee the safety of school buses, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and federal regulators, would need to approve the use of such equipment.

2. **What is the current research on the relationship between the length of time an individual spends in close proximity to another and the level of risk of contracting COVID-19? For example, what is the increased degree of risk for students in a school building for 6 hours vs 4 hours vs the hour an individual may be in a hair salon?**

There are many factors that determine the likelihood of an individual becoming infected. Such factors include the infectivity of infected individuals, whether face coverings are worn, and conditions in the physical environment (indoor vs outdoor, air circulation, etc.). As such, it is impossible to directly quantify risk over time. However, it is clear that prolonged exposure without proper social distancing or face coverings increases risk.

- 3. Will there be an expectation that a second adult will be on each school bus in order to enforce social distancing and wearing masks so that the driver can focus on the road and the students will comply?**

There is no NJDOE COVID-19 anticipated minimum standard that school buses require additional staff. Staffing decisions remain in the purview of the board of education. The NJDOE encourages school district Restart Committees to consider methods for implementing the minimum anticipated standards described in the Road Back in a manner that reflects local needs and circumstances.

- 4. What notifications are required to the school community when there is an exposure? Timing? Method of communication? What notifications are required to the school community when there is a positive test result of a teacher / student / staff member?**

As outlined in The Road Back, if the school district becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in a district facility tests positive for COVID-19, district officials must immediately notify local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality. Notification procedures must be consistent with the district's contact tracing policy to the maximum extent practicable.

Districts should work with their local health department and follow CDC guidelines for illness reporting. They should also work with their local health department to develop written protocols to address a positive case.

- 5. How should districts accommodate class activities with shared objects, such as art supplies or musical instruments?**

As stated on page 10 of "The Road Back: Restart and Recovery for Education," school districts should avoid or limit sharing objects and equipment. When sharing is unavoidable, objects and equipment should be disinfected between uses.

Contact Tracing Responsibilities and Procedures

- 1. Which entity should serve as a health and safety contact if school districts have questions about reopening?**

The primary contact for school districts should be the local health departments, which will use state level guidance to work with local officials upon school reopening. The Department of Education and Department of Health work closely together on all school

reopening guidance, and DOE field representatives should continue to serve as district and school points of contact should questions arise throughout the school year.

Plan Development and Submission

1. **Can districts share reopening plans with teachers, parents, and the school community prior to review from the NJDOE?**

NJDOE review of plans is not required prior to sharing information with staff, parents, and the school community. Districts should ensure that staff, parents, and the school community understand the plans are pending review and may be subject to change. Districts should communicate regularly with the school community during the plan development process and post reopening plans on their district's website.

Scheduling

1. **Will school days be required to meet any length of day requirements in the 2020-2021 school year?**

As noted on page 49 of "The Road Back: Restart and Recovery for Education," according to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3, a school day shall consist of not less than four hours, except that one continuous session of two and one-half hours may be considered a full day in kindergarten. District and school policies for attendance and instructional contact time will need to accommodate opportunities for both synchronous and asynchronous instruction, while ensuring the requirements for a 180-day school year are met.

2. **Are districts allowed to utilize varying hybrid approaches that best fit their school community's needs, i.e. four, four-hour days and one day of remote instruction?**

Yes. School districts may utilize a variety of schedules that ensure compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3. District and school policies for attendance and instructional contact time will need to accommodate opportunities for both synchronous and asynchronous instruction, while ensuring the requirements for a 180-day school year are met.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

This section contains additional questions for Parents / Guardians (September 10, 2020)

What will the start of the school year look like for each of the different Y.A.L.E. Schools?

All Y.A.L.E. Schools will begin on September 8th. Based upon many factors; including health and safety protocols, facility improvements, PPE availability, etc., the following are the individualized start up plans per campus:

- Y.A.L.E. School Cherry Hill, Ellisburg, Northfield, Evans, Audubon, and West 2 campuses:
 - Will begin on September 8th in Phase 1, 100% remote leaning, hours 8:45 am – 2:30 pm.
 - In person instruction to tentatively begin on September 29th, Hybrid Learning Module Option 2, 4 days in-person / 1 day remote, hours 8:30 am – 1:00 pm.
 - Note: 100% remote learning remains an option for families who elected this route.
- Y.A.L.E. School Medford campuses:
 - Will begin on September 8th in Phase 1, 100% remote leaning, hours 9:00 am – 2:45 pm.
 - In person instruction to tentatively begin on September 29th, Hybrid Learning Module Option 2, 4 days in-person / 1 day remote, hours 9:00 am – 1:30 pm.
 - Note: 100% remote learning remains an option for families who elected this route.
- Y.A.L.E. School Mullica campus:
 - Effective 9/4/20 the Mullica Township School District has closed based upon the discovery of surface mold. As a result of this closure the Y.A.L.E. School Mullica campus is forced to begin in Phase 1, 100% remote learning, with an anticipated return to in-person instruction on October 12th or later. Hours will be 8:45 am – 2:30 pm during 100% remote instruction.

Will families have the option of changing their child's placement from hybrid to virtual only or vice versa at any point during the year?

Students may move from in school instruction to virtual instruction at any time after securing approval from their sending district and Y.A.L.E. building supervisor.

If a student chooses to start the year on virtual only instruction, he/she may change (i.e. move from virtual only to in-school learning) to coincide with a new marking period. Notice

to the building supervisor and sending school district must be provided at least 2 weeks prior to the end of the marking period.

Students placed on virtual only instruction due to a documented medical necessity may return to in-person instruction pending medical clearance and documentation.

An additional exception to the marking period rule is if the school district moves to a less restrictive phase of educational programming (e.g. extends in-person school day), he/she may return to in-person instruction.

What measures are being put into place to protect student and staff health and safety?

All staff and students are required to wear face coverings, unless doing so would inhibit the individual’s health. The CDC has defined certain students and staff who need extra precautions against infection. As prescribed in the governor’s [The Road Back](#), we will provide a full-time virtual option for any student (regardless of reason). We will provide reasonable accommodations to all faculty that require them due to medical risk(s). Our PPE measures include:

<p>Staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face coverings mandatory and will have the option to wear a face shield as an additional precaution. Face shields provided by Y.A.L.E. Disposable masks and one set of washable scrubs will also be available and provided by Y.A.L.E. ● Temperature checks daily ● COVID-19 Screening conducted daily ● Teachers will wash hands with antibacterial soap for at least 20 seconds at regular intervals, including before eating, after using the bathroom, and after blowing their nose/coughing/sneezing. When hand washing is not available, hand sanitizer should be used ● Sneeze guards will be available
<p>Students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All (PK-12) required to wear face coverings unless excused due to health conditions. Disposable masks, provided by the school, will also be available. ● Students that cannot wear a face covering for documented medical reasons will be provided a face shield ● Temperature checks for all students ● Students will wash hands with antibacterial soap for at least 20 seconds at regular intervals, including before eating, after using the bathroom, and after blowing their nose/coughing/sneezing. When hand washing is not available, hand sanitizer should be used ● Number of students in bathrooms will be limited and every other stall will be in use. ● Students remain in cohorts of students when possible (teachers travel, not students)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Portable sneeze guards will be available
Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Visitors will not be allowed during the school day ● Masks required for emergency school visits ● Water fountains will not be in use. Bottle filling stations will be available ● Isolation rooms will be set up on every campus ● Hand sanitizing stations in each classroom and throughout buildings ● Odorox hydroxyl generators for all health offices ● Physical guides will be installed to help ensure that staff and students remain at least six feet apart. ● Increased frequency for disinfecting bathrooms and high-touch points, including rest room and common areas disinfection while students are in buildings. All classrooms and office areas will be disinfected daily ● HVAC systems will run in evenings and on weekends to maintain fresh air flow throughout buildings

Will there be temperature checks for students and staff each day?

Yes, temperature checks for students will occur at multiple entrances before school.

Staff will have temperature checks before they enter the building. Students and staff that register a temperature at/above 100.4 will be sent to the isolation room for a secondary screening and temperature check.

Where can my student get a COVID-19 test if he/she displays symptoms? Can the nurse administer a COVID-19 test?

School Nurses are not administering COVID-19 tests. Please contact your pediatrician for guidance.

Whom do I notify if my child tests positive for COVID-19?

Please notify the school nurse and the building supervisor as soon as possible. Refer to: [How to Report a Disease](#)

Whom do I notify if someone in my household tests positive?

Please notify the school nurse and the building supervisor. Refer to: [How to Report a Disease](#)

If a student or teacher requires a COVID-19 test, how will things change, if at all, until they receive their test results?

Students and staff who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, or with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. We will follow current [Communicable Disease Service Guidance](#) for illness reporting.

If the school becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in a school facility tests positive for COVID-19, school officials must immediately notify local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality. All the families within that class will be notified via letter.

- Isolation spaces will be established. Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. Students must remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult.
- We will follow current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting.
- We will establish methods to assist in contact tracing.
- We will continuously monitor symptoms.
- We will continue to encourage parents/guardians/caregivers and employees to monitor symptoms at home and to stay home when sick.
- Possible short term closure [as per guidance from the CDC](#): “Any school in any community might need to implement short-term closure procedures regardless of community spread if an infected person has been in a school building.
- Readmittance policies consistent with [Department of Health guidance and information for schools](#) and [Department of Health/Communicable Disease Service’s Quick Reference Guidance on Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation for Persons Diagnosed with COVID-19](#)

If there is a diagnosis of COVID-19 in my child’s classroom or school, what will happen?

Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. We will follow current [Communicable Disease Service Guidance](#) for illness reporting.

If the school becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in a school facility tests positive for COVID-19, school officials must immediately notify local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality. All the families within that class will be notified via letter.

- Establishment of an isolation space. Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others.
- Students should remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult.

- Follow current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting.
- Methods to assist in contact tracing including records of groups/cohorts, assigned.
- Continuous monitoring of symptoms.
- Parents/guardians/caregivers of students who may have been in close contact with the infected person will be notified.
- Readmittance policies consistent with [Department of Health guidance and information for schools](#) and [Department of Health/Communicable Disease Service's Quick Reference Guidance on Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation for Persons Diagnosed with COVID-19](#)
- Possible short term closure [as per guidance from the CDC](#): "Any school in any community might need to implement short-term closure procedures regardless of community spread if an infected person has been in a school building."

How have cleaning procedures changed since pre-COVID?

Y.A.L.E. School is issuing and implementing guidelines for deep cleaning, disinfecting, and healthful ventilation plans across all campuses following best practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

1. Evolving standards and additional best-practices will be monitored regularly and adopted to continually ensure the best possible conditions for maintaining the health of the school community.
2. All YALE School buildings will be routinely cleaned and disinfected 5 days per week by professional, certified cleaning vendors.
3. Contracted services will apply EPA approved cleaning and disinfecting products on a regular schedule.
 - Facilities will be disinfected with US EPA Registered/CDC N List Disinfectants, which are hospital grade and meet the [EPA's criteria](#) for use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.
 - Chemical used has a 1 minute kill time for most viruses and has a 10 minute kill time for Human Coronavirus (COVID-19).
4. CDC approved mist sprayer/electrostatic sprayer will be used once each week to help guard against the virus that causes COVID-19. Contracted companies will spray the high touch areas once a week following that day's cleaning and disinfecting. Examples of High Touch Areas that will be treated with a mist sprayer/electrostatic sprayer once a week in addition to the daily cleaning are:
 - Classroom Desk and Chairs
 - Multipurpose Room and Chairs/Cafe Area
 - Light Switches
 - Stairwells/Handrails
 - Bathroom Partitions, Toilets/Urinals, Faucets/Sinks

- Phones
 - Tables/Countertops
 - Door Knobs/Push Plates
5. Electrostatic Sprayers & Atomized Foggers will be used during quarterly cleaning to further boost protection by dispensing the disinfectant to visible and unseen surfaces. The process will be done by premier disinfecting company with over 35 years of professional working experience in the Healthcare Industry, using advanced technology to eliminate and prevent the growth of harmful bacteria and viruses.
 6. Hydroxyl Air Processors have been installed in all YALE Schools common areas, including main offices, lobbies, bathrooms, gyms, all-purpose rooms and nurse's offices to safely destroy germs, bacteria, mold, mildew and viruses in the air on porous and non porous surfaces. Hydroxyl Processors have the following features:
 - Chemical free
 - Most advanced solution for eliminating odors, purifying the air, decontaminating surfaces and contents.
 - Process converts ambient moisture in the air into atmospheric hydroxyl radicals that reach out and destroy bacteria, viruses, mold, mildew, and odors.
 7. Custodial staff will be trained in daily cleaning practices, specialized/responsive cleaning, enhanced disinfecting techniques and how to respond to emergency situations as they arise.
 8. A cleaning/sanitizing checklist will be created and completed by the custodial staff responsible for the cleaning of all areas and surfaces, including protective barriers.
 9. All heat and Air conditioner filters will be changed according to manufacturer recommendations and a log of changes available
 10. Signage will be posted throughout each building identifying high touch areas and cleaning frequency.
 11. All cleaning supplies and materials will be maintained in good supply and readily accessible for daily use including:
 - Nitrile Gloves
 - Hand Sanitizer Pumps
 - EPA approved disinfecting sprays/wipes
 - Touchless hand sanitizers located at all entrances/hallways/classrooms

- Posters/signage promoting frequent hand washing and social distancing
12. All cleaning supplies will be stored in a secure area away from students.
 13. Teaching staff and office staff are required to wipe down desks, chairs, keyboards, phones and high touch areas with disinfecting wipes.
 14. All classroom staff must wipe down commonly touched surfaces at least once per day.
 15. Each homeroom teacher will assign a point person to answer the phone and the same point person must wipe down the phone periodically during the day avoiding any phone sharing.
 16. All teaching staff will promote frequent hand-washing throughout the day.
 17. Soap is available at all sinks, and 75% alcohol based hand sanitizer dispensers are available at all entrances in every classroom and throughout the building.
 18. After each gym class has ended, teaching staff must wipe down all gym equipment if used that period with sanitizing wipes/spray.

Positive COVID-19 Test Response

1. In the event that a student/staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the following actions will be taken:
 - Incident will be immediately reported to the local Health Department.
 - Health Department will issue directions for cleaning/sanitizing/disinfecting.
 - Classroom/area will be closed to others as directed.
 - Under Health Department guidance, after 24 hours or as directed, a deep cleaning and disinfecting, focusing on frequently touched surfaces by the ill person will be implemented.
 - Outside doors and windows will be opened to increase air circulation in the area.
 - School will follow Health Department guidance for any required closure.

Hand Sanitizer Stations

1. Hand sanitizing stations are equipped with at least a 75% alcohol-based sanitizer.
2. Stations are mounted and maintained outside of entrances/exits, entryways of cafeterias, all-purpose rooms and bathrooms, at the ends of hallways and inside School Health offices.
3. Classrooms have been provided with hand sanitizer and cleaning/disinfecting supplies.
4. Custodial staff will ensure that all hand-washing sinks are operational and have clean running water, soap and paper towels.
5. If a sink becomes inoperable, immediate steps will be taken to repair it or a hand sanitizer will be provided in its place until the repair occurs.
6. To increase ventilation, air filters will be replaced on the recommended schedule of the manufacturer of the ventilation equipment.
7. Facilities staff will ensure that windows remain operable and secure to allow for increased outdoor air flow, and increased circulation of air as much as possible, adding portable fans if needed.
8. Trashcans, including those in restrooms and classrooms will be touch-less.

How will rooms be configured for social distancing?

Rooms will be configured to enforce social distancing. All desks will be 6 feet apart and no classroom will have more than 12 student desks. Rooms will be cleared of extraneous equipment and furnishings in order to maximize social distancing. 6ft of social distancing will be maintained to the greatest possible extent, but cannot be guaranteed at all times.

How will social distancing be enforced and how will situations be handled when students are not adhering to the expectations?

All infractions will be handled on an individualized basis as per our School Wide Positive Behavior Support Program. Please refer to the Parent Attestation required before each student begins school.

Will the use of masks be required?

Yes. Masks will be required at all times unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health.

If a student or staff member travels outside the state, will they be required to quarantine before their return to school?

Yes. As per travel advisories you must quarantine for 14 days if you have been to any states on the list below. This is also part of the screening questionnaire.

<https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/travel-information/which-states-are-on-the-travel-advisory-list-are-there-travel-restrictions-to-or-from-new-jersey>

How will visitors to the buildings be limited?

Visitors will only be permitted if deemed absolutely necessary, and by appointment only.

How can I talk to my children about Covid-19?

[Talking with children about Coronavirus Disease 2019: Messages for parents, school staff, and others working with children](#)

How will drop-off and pick-up procedures change? Will parents need to socially distance and wear masks on school grounds?

Specific building drop-off/pickup procedures will be shared with parents. Any individual on campus will be expected to wear a mask unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health.

What are the options for parents if they do not want their child to return to in-person school this fall?

There will be a virtual learning option for families that will adhere to the highest quality standards of a Y.A.L.E. School education. Families will need to indicate this on the survey that goes out before the August 10th deadline.

Will there be live streaming of classes?

We are planning to utilize live streaming to our students' best advantage in the most developmentally appropriate ways.

What do I do if I need a device?

Send an email to your building supervisor and they will work with the technology department to get your child an assigned device.

What do I do if my child is having difficulty with a device while at home?

The technology team will be responding through email and phone to requests for assistance Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. We will make every effort to assist any student technical issue remotely. If a face-to-face meeting is required, an appointment will be arranged. Please email Todd Serenbetz and Jason James at tserenbetz@yaleschoolnj.com and jjames@yaleschoolnj.com.

Will the school offer in-school lunch?

No. At this time the school cannot provide a place to eat lunch that is consistent with social distancing, safety and health guidelines from the CDC. We are developing plans so that students can have snacks.

Will teachers be allowed to take their students outside? Are there restrictions with outdoor play?

Weather permitting, 'face-covering breaks' outdoors will be utilized. Schedules will be created to limit the number of students outside at any given time, and keep cohorts intact. If equipment is used (slides, monkey bars, swings, balls, etc), it must be sanitized before another group of students uses it.

How do I continue to stay updated with Y.A.L.E. plans?

Staff and parents are encouraged to sign up for Y.A.L.E. School text alerts. Staff, parents and students should check email frequently as the administration will be in regular contact, sharing updates and news. Additionally, everyone can access the "Welcome Back" tab on our website.

Will students and staff be able to take down their masks to drink water throughout the day?

Yes, students and staff are encouraged to bring their own water bottles, socially distance, and drink throughout the day.

Is standardized testing taking place this year? Are the dates set?

The NJDOE has not provided information about standardized testing for the 20-21 school year yet. We are unsure about the standardized testing procedures for this year. As the state releases information, we will provide it to teachers and families.

STAFF SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

This section contains additional questions for Staff (September 10, 2020)

How is Y.A.L.E. School handling staff that are considered high risk?

Faculty/Staff that are high risk, which is defined in The Road Back and by the [CDC](#), may request additional accommodations by completing the Employee's Emergency Medical Information Form. A doctor's note will be required before a decision is made.

If I test positive for COVID-19 what happens next and how do I return to work?

Your doctor and/or testing facility will report your test result to the county Board of Health. The county will notify your building supervisor. Return to work will be dependent on the county and your medical provider. A doctor's note will be required for your return to the school building.

How should I talk to my students about COVID-19?

[Talking with children about Coronavirus Disease 2019: Messages for parents, school staff, and others working with children](#)

How will I know when to send my student to the nurse?

Staff members should be in constant communication with the building supervisor and the school nurse if concerned of student's exhibiting possible symptoms of COVID-19. If the Y.A.L.E. School becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in a district facility tests positive for COVID-19, officials will immediately notify local health officials, staff, and all families of any confirmed cases, while maintaining confidentiality. The County Department of Health will then provide the district with guidance on next steps, including the possibility of targeted and/or full closure.

The following are COVID-19 Symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea. This list is not inclusive and will be updated pursuant to information set forth by the CDC and/or Department of Health.

Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 will be safely and respectfully isolated from others in a designated space established by school nursing staff.

Will the school provide masks and PPE to staff?

Yes all staff will be provided with a mask and scrubs. Wearing a mask is required for all staff, but a face shield is optional. A mask should cover your face from the bridge of your

nose to under your chin. Masks must comply with the Y.A.L.E. School dress code policy and should not have symbols or messages that support any group or cause other than a sports team.