



## Newport Independent Schools 2020-2021

# Introduction

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Returning to school during a global pandemic is concerning to everyone involved. While we would all like to return to a normal school day, the decision to return must be based on the district's ability to provide a safe and healthy environment for all students and staff. There is nothing more important to Newport Schools than the safety of our students, staff, and community at large. The Kentucky Dept of Education (KDE) has developed guidance documents to serve as a guide for the development of district return-to-school plans. However, due to the nature of COVID-19 we expect those plans will be re-evaluated and adjusted. During this time, we are working with the Northern Kentucky Health Department and others to ensure our plans aligned with current scientific information and are prepared to re-evaluate and adjust as needed.

As we learn more about the virus, we are often faced with differing views concerning the impact on our students. Many parents/guardians have valid concerns about the transmission of the virus from their child to a family member living in the same house. It is for this reason, we have created an educational plan which we believe will offer both our students and parent's alternatives to meet their personal needs. The work of our school leadership teams has been crucial in developing these educational opportunities which value our students and staff. We respect your decision on what you believe is in the best interest of your child. Please be assured, we will always act on what we believe is best for our students and staff.

# Health & Wellbeing

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The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has developed a *Readiness and Planning Tool* to share ways district and school administrators can protect students and staff and slow the spread of COVID-19. This tool is aligned with the CDC's *Considerations for Schools* and will help planners meet the unique needs of a school district.

The Readiness and Planning Tool is divided into four categories:

- General Readiness Assessment
- Daily/Weekly Readiness Assessment
- Preparing for if Someone Gets Sick
- Special Considerations

# Health Assessment at Home

Parents should complete a quick health assessment, including a temperature check, before sending their student to school. If there are no symptoms observed, the student should proceed to school as normal regardless of transportation mode.

## Masks

All students shall wear a cloth mask unless the student has a medical exemption. Wearing of cloth masks is strongly recommended as they protect individuals if the wearer unknowingly is infectious. Face coverings are essential when proper social distancing is difficult.

NOTE: Face coverings should not be used in the following situations:

- Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious;
- Anyone who is incapacitated and unable to remove the covering without assistance; and
- Anyone with underlying medical, developmental, sensory or behavioral health issues that may preclude wearing a mask.

Masks can be lowered during the classroom time if all students and staff are 6 feet or more apart and no persons are walking around inside the classroom. When students are outside and 6 feet or more from others, masks are not required. Although not as effective as a face mask, face shields should be considered for those who have an exemption from wearing a mask.

Masks should:

- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face;
- Be secured with ties or ear loops;
- Include multiple layers of fabric;
- Allow for breathing without restriction;
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape;
- Cover both nose and mouth; and
- Meet school standards for appropriate messaging and images aligned with school dress code.

## Masks While Moving

Students should also wear masks when they move throughout the school day.

Mask Breaks:

Each school will provide daily breaks to all students. Outdoor activities are encouraged, weather permitting.

## Hand Hygiene

Students should be taught proper hand hygiene practices. Signs and reminders should be posted throughout buildings. Regular breaks for handwashing and use of hand sanitizer should be planned into the school day.

Those wearing masks should be reminded not to touch their face. Students should cough or sneeze into a tissue, immediately throw the tissue away and wash or sanitize their hands.

## Social Distancing

Since it is currently believed that COVID-19 is transmitted through respiratory droplets, social distancing (spreading people at minimum 6 feet apart) is a very important strategy to slow the spread of the virus. It is encouraged that social distancing be practiced as much as feasible in the school setting. To help do so:

- Utilize markings on floors to determine 6 feet spacing.
- Use assigned entrance/exits for a predetermined group of classrooms.
- Use self-contained classrooms, if feasible, to limit exposure to a small group of students/staff.
- Have breaks/recess outside, and open windows where feasible to help improve ventilation.
- Clean classrooms during the time students are out of the room.
- Limit non-essential visitors and activities with outside groups and organization when possible.
- Students requiring outside services – such as mental health, speech, occupational and physical therapies – are allowed, but service providers must follow screening protocol and must wear proper PPE.

### **Temperature Checks**

Conduct temperature screenings with touchless thermometers for students and staff entering the building. Fever is determined by a temperature of greater than 100 degrees. Depending on the level of cases in the community, the local health department may recommend sending students home with a lower temperature.

- Use non-touch thermometers
- Students/staff should wait at least 6 feet apart and temperature stations will be spread out in different locations to prevent individuals from congregating.
- Procedure for taking temperatures at entry and that if the temperature exceeds the 100 degree threshold, they will be sent home.

### **Employee Health Self Assessment**

Employees must stay home if they are ill. Upon arrival at school, district employees should complete a quick health self-assessment for common COVID-19 symptoms, including temperature check. If there are no symptoms or fever, the employee should proceed to work as normal.

If an employee exhibits at least one symptom, the employee must immediately go home and should notify their health care provider. If a person suspects they may have been exposed to COVID-19, that person should be tested immediately and then begin a quarantine period until test results are available.

### **Health Assessment at School**

- Procedures for temperature checks and health conditions for employees prior to entry;
- Procedures for temperature checks and health conditions for students prior to entry;
- Adjust traffic patterns for buses, car riders, walkers, and student drivers as necessary for each school campus;
- Adjust schedule times as necessary;
- Utilizes separate entrances to promote orderly entrance so temperatures may be taken, and social distancing can be promoted;

If a student shows at least one symptom (fever, chills, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, new cough, new loss of taste or smell or gastrointestinal symptoms), the student must be isolated

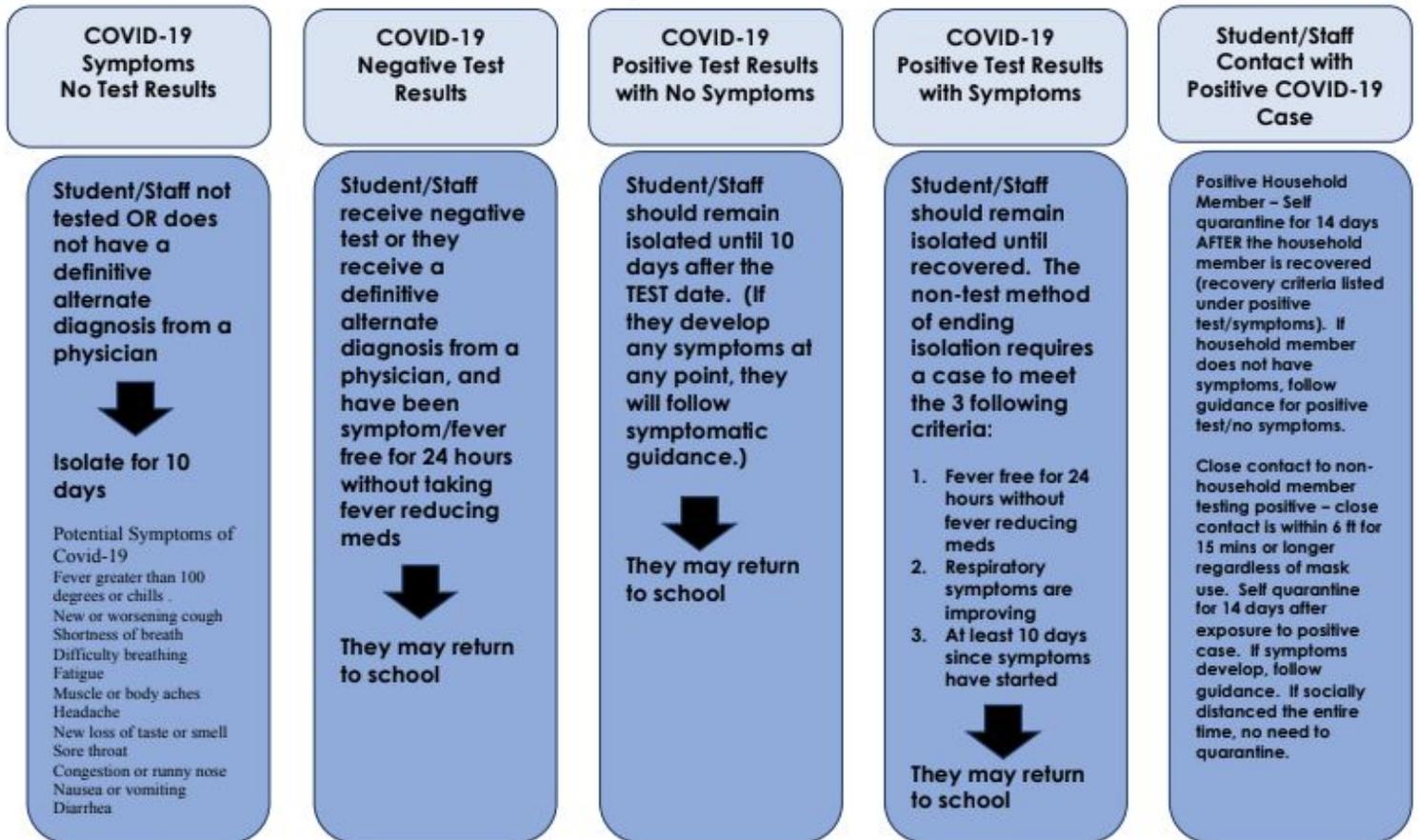
immediately until the parent can pick up the child. The parents should be encouraged to notify their health care provider for further guidance and possible testing for COVID-19.

A student sent home with COVID-19 symptoms who has a negative COVID-19 test, or the symptoms have subsided may return to school once they are fever-free (without fever reducing medication) for 72 hours and have no other COVID-19 related symptoms.

Students who have been exposed to a person who is infectious with COVID-19 or students who have tested positive for COVID-19, at a minimum, shall:

- Parent notification to the school of a COVID-19 related absence;
- Required quarantine or isolation when sick;
- Notification to the local health department;
- Provision of relevant data to the contact tracing team;
- Recovery and return to school criteria for both symptomatic and asymptomatic cases; and
- A remote instruction option, if feasible.

### Newport Independent Schools COVID-19 Response for Students and Staff



## **Food Services**

Every student enrolled in Newport Independent Schools is eligible for free meals. Multiple meal service methods will be utilized, all of which will comply with social distancing guidelines and ensure that contact tracing can occur. With a mission to keep staff, students, and families safe while providing nutritious meals, the Food Service Department will continue to monitor circumstances of the pandemic and adjust service as needed.

COVID-19 has presented many challenges for meals to be served in accordance with regulations of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. The USDA has issued flexibilities in the form of waivers to assist in the complexities of school meal programs. These waivers are important for the many students that rely on school meals who otherwise might not receive them amid the pandemic.

Thorough collaboration and scenario-planning have taken place to ensure meals are distributed in a safe environment. Thoughtful consideration has been given on identifying additional equipment, supplies and resources based on new service procedures. Staff has placed significant attention on menus and menu items that can easily be consumed in the classrooms, hot and cold holding equipment for transporting and serving meals in alternate locations, individual packaging options, disposables and keeping waste to a minimum.

### **Meal Service Methods**

#### *In-Person Instruction*

Students will eat all meals in the classroom. Each school will have a specific meal service plan based on the age of students, number of students enrolled, class size and layout of the building. Menus and the quantity of items served are based on the USDA meal pattern requirements. Hot and cold entrée items will be available for breakfast and lunch every day. Menus and additional meal information can be found here:

[www.catskitchencafe.com](http://www.catskitchencafe.com)

#### *Virtual/Remote Instruction*

Virtual students will have daily access to meals. This includes students participating in blended learning groups, students receiving full-time virtual instruction and students enrolled in the Newport School of Innovation. Meal pick-up sites will be determined by the number and location of students requesting meals. Students and families without transportation will have the opportunity to request for meals to be delivered.

### **Meal Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

The USDA required meal pattern must be met to the extent that a child's disability allows. Federal regulations require reasonable dietary accommodations of school meals for children whose disabilities restrict their diet. A child must be provided with a reasonable dietary accommodation when that need is supported by the statements of a physician. Prior to the first day of school, a parent/guardian should complete the [Accommodating Children with Special Needs Medical Form](#) and submit it to the Food Service Department. The Food Service Director will work with the parents, child, and the school nurse to provide menu items, recipes and ingredients for all food served from the cafeterias. Reasonable alternative food items will be made available when possible.

## **Food Safety**

Food service staff will check and document temperatures upon arrival each day. Staff who develop symptoms during the workday will follow district protocol for staff illness. Face masks are required unless a medical exemption has been granted. These procedures are in addition to any existing health-related standard operating procedures or policies the district has in place for food service staff.

Each school is required to have an individualized written food safety plan. The plan must include standard operating procedures that are specific to the processes used within the school. To ensure safe food practices are followed, school staff will be trained on the SOPs and processes in the food safety plan that are relevant to their role in providing meals. This may include administrators, teachers, support staff, custodians, and bus drivers.

## **Transportation**

Pupil transportation is a vital component of the education system for Newport Independent Schools. There are many issues that must be addressed in order to provide the safest transportation possible.

### Optimizing the Number of Students on the Bus

#### Surveying Parents

Newport Independent Schools administrators contacted parents to better understand the number of students that will require pupil transportation. Many parents may choose to transport their students to school until a time when social distancing on the school bus no longer is required. Parents will still need to call to confirm students riding the bus and availability of seating. If we return to a normal school day, then we may not be able to provide transportation so it will be based on parent contact dates.

#### Times

Newport Independent Schools has evaluated their current transportation times to see if changes are needed. Depending upon the number of students riding we may have to adjust our times accordingly.

### Car Riders, Drivers, and Walkers

Parents will be responsible for ensuring students who are car riders, drivers, or walking to school are maintaining safe practices, including social distancing. Face masks should be utilized when social distancing cannot be observed or as students approach the school building entrance.

### Mitigation Strategies

Parents should help monitor the bus stops and help remind students of the social distancing requirements.

## **Students who ride the bus must comply with these mitigation strategies:**

### Wearing a Mask

- Students in Kindergarten and up, riding a bus shall wear a face mask. All students should understand how to properly wear a mask.
- Some students might not be able to wear masks for a variety of reasons. For those who are unable to wear a mask, it is more important to maintain social distancing. Monitors and drivers who encounter students shall always wear a mask or a face shield, unless a medical waiver is granted.

### Seating

- Each rider shall have an assigned seat.
- No bus passes will be permitted.
- Seats will be filled from back to front when boarding.
- Each bus will have a roster of eligible student riders (passenger manifest) and document the assigned seats for contact tracing. At morning routes, rider attendance will be documented on the manifest before unloading at school.
- First seat behind the driver will remain empty.
- Load back to front and unload front to back.
- Stagger seating if not at full capacity.
- Seat preschool and kindergarten students together.
- For afternoon routes, rider attendance will be documented on the manifest before the bus leaves the school. Riders will be loaded back to front.

### Temperatures of Students

- Parents shall take their students' temperatures before they go to the bus stop. Children exhibiting a fever 100 degrees or greater should be kept at home.
- The district will have a bus monitor conduct a temperature screen for each rider as the student boards the bus. In this case, riders do not need to have the temperature screening done again at school. Bus monitors doing the temperature screening can look for other signs of illness prior to the child getting on the bus.
- If a student with a fever must be transported on the bus, the student should be seated at the front of the bus, door side, apart from other students as much as possible.
- Upon arrival at school, the ill student should be escorted to the office where the student will be monitored until the parent or guardian can arrange to pick up the child.
- During the wait period, the student should continue to wear a mask and be isolated from other students and staff as much as possible until released to the parent or guardian.
- Temperature scans are not required for boarding the bus for the trip home. However, students who have been identified with a fever at any point during the school day will not be transported home on a bus.

### Hand Sanitizer

Each student shall utilize hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol upon entry to the bus.

### Number of Students on The Bus

Newport Independent Schools is working with the Northern Kentucky Health Department to determine the occupancy rate to achieve an acceptable level of social distancing depending on the prevalence of COVID-19 in the community.

If there is a need to increase the distance between students, fewer students can be transported. Buses will be picking up students from the bus stops by school. This will allow us to have improved contact tracing if needed.

### Ventilation

Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, such as opening windows and roof hatches to the degree recommended by the Kentucky Department for Public Health.

## **Employee Safety Considerations**

### Drivers and Monitors

Drivers and monitors will have temperature scans and complete the employee health assessment screening per district protocol each morning before pre - tripping their bus. Drivers shall report temperatures that are greater than 100 degrees to their designated supervisor. All drivers and monitors will wear a face mask unless they are unable to do so and have been provided with a doctor's excuse. Gloves are to be worn.

### Bus Garage Employees

All employees will maintain social distancing to the extent possible. All employee temperatures will be checked as they enter the work area and employees will complete any employee health screening per district protocol. Garage employees that also are bus drivers and monitors will be checked prior to driving a route. Employees shall wear a mask unless they are unable to do so and have been provided with a doctor's excuse. All garage employees will clean and sanitize surfaces and shared tools daily. Shared tools need to be sanitized between use by different people.

### Idle Buses/Between Runs

Employees will wear a face mask any time they are inside a bus, even if it is for maintenance or cleaning. Surfaces and high-touch areas should be cleaned and disinfected between runs. Check to ensure there is enough hand sanitizer for each run. Ventilate the bus to maintain air circulation when possible.

### Gloves

Nitrile gloves should always be worn. However, when working the elementary runs or special needs routes. These students often need more assistance and there may be a requirement to touch students when strapping them into seatbelts or lifting them to the seat.

### Bus Cleaning

Buses shall be disinfected/sanitized between routes utilizing the manufacturer's recommendations. Wipe down all seats that were used and high-touch areas of unused seats. At the end of the day, the bus shall receive a thorough disinfecting/sanitizing and all surfaces wiped down.

All drivers shall have sanitizing sprays and towels available to them. Aerosol cans are not to be stored on the bus as they might explode in high heat. Newport Independent Schools will also use electrostatic

sprayers to disinfect buses at the end of each shift. All cleaning supplies must be out of the reach of students.

### Masks

All students in the 1st grade and up shall wear a face mask unless the student has a medical exemption. Wearing of face masks is strongly recommended as they protect individuals if the wearer unknowingly is infectious. Face coverings are essential when proper social distancing is difficult.

NOTE: Face coverings should not be used in the following situations:

- Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious;
- Children under the age of 2;
- Anyone who is incapacitated and unable to remove the covering without assistance; and
- Anyone with underlying medical, developmental, sensory or behavioral health issues that may preclude wearing a mask.

Although not as effective as a face mask, face shields should be considered for those who have an exemption from wearing a mask.

## **Facilities & General Operations**

Newport Independent Schools has contemplated how to safely reopen schools and maintain a safe and healthy environment. Building principals have assessed any additional needs and resources. This involves cleaning and sanitization, modifications supporting social distancing, modification of movement patterns for both vehicular and foot traffic and building security. All normal inspections and maintenance work have completed as well for each facility.

### Cleaning and Sanitization

Newport Independent Schools shall follow the general CDC guidance for cleaning and sanitizing a facility.

Prior to the opening the facility to students and staff, the building and grounds department shall work with building principals to:

- Plan for cleaning and sanitation supplies, including personal protective equipment (PPE) for custodial staff.
- Create a schedule to clean and sanitize high-use areas during the day where needed.
- Evaluate areas within each facility to determine custodial guidelines for:
  - Type of service: Cleaning, sanitization, disinfection
  - Frequency of service: Hourly, daily, specific time, such as 8:30 a.m. or 1 p.m.
  - Product to be used
  - Other instructions: Sanitize all door handles, empty trash, etc.

If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 within a school, additional cleaning and disinfection will occur that meets the guidance from the CDC.

### Facility Utilization

A key mitigation strategy to reopen schools involves maintaining minimum 6-foot social distancing between students, teachers and staff as much as is practicable during the instructional day. Based on input from the local health department, other factors may influence the capacity either up or down.

### Enhancements to Improve Mitigation Strategies

- Multiple hand sanitizer stations throughout each facility
- Evaluation of hygiene products like soap, paper towels, tissues and toilet paper are dispensed, replenished and stored; change or clean forced-air hand dryer filters
- Plexiglass shields in public-facing spaces
- Signage from CDC to publicize strategies of hand-washing, social distancing, etc.
- Establish water fountain procedures
- Provide training for all staff on proper cleaning and disinfecting protocols

### Building Systems

Newport Independent School facilities have a wide variety of HVAC (heating, ventilating and air-conditioning) and control systems.

The following mitigation strategies may be considered as appropriate to the facility's existing systems and spaces:

#### Dilution and Filtration

- Keep systems running for longer hours.
- Increase outdoor air ventilation.
- Use fans to destratify air, equalize temperatures and provide dilution.
- Filters are changed regularly
- The CDC recommends opening doors and windows when possible to improve building ventilation while maintaining building and classroom security.

### Mitigation Strategies

- Reduce class sizes
- Reduce congestion in common areas
- Cancel large group gathers and field trips
- Limit non-essential visitors
- Eliminate morning and afternoon congregation areas
- Adjust classroom layouts (remove furniture if necessary)

### Emergency Procedures

The District Safety Coordinator shall work with building administrators to ensure all emergency response drills are conducted in a safe and healthy manner while meeting CDC guidelines.

### Vehicular Traffic Control

As there are no two schools exactly alike, each school administration will discuss possible traffic control strategies with their local law enforcement officials and communicate any changes to the traffic pattern to their respective community.

### Student Arrival

Each school shall widely advertise the precise time each school will be open to receive students.

**Parents should drop their children off at school only after the publicized time that staff members will be present and prepared to receive students in their classrooms.**

### Student Dismissal

Student dismissal should be staggered to eliminate bottlenecks at the exit points that impact social distancing.

### Playgrounds

- Students must practice good hand hygiene by washing their hands before going out to play and immediately upon returning inside the school building.
- Create a schedule that limits how many classes are on the playground at one time. If multiple playgrounds are available, utilize them to minimize how many students are mixing.
- Each school shall generate a plan for proper cleaning and sanitizing of playground equipment between classes.

### Masks

All students in the Kindergarten and up shall wear a face mask unless the student has a medical exemption. Wearing of face masks is strongly recommended as they protect individuals if the wearer unknowingly is infectious. Face coverings are essential when proper social distancing is difficult.

NOTE: Face coverings should not be used in the following situations:

- Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious;
- Children under the age of 2;
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- Anyone with underlying medical, developmental, sensory or behavioral health issues that may preclude wearing a mask.

Although not as effective as a face mask, face shields should be considered for those who have an exemption from wearing a mask.

### Hand Hygiene

Students should be taught proper hand hygiene practices. Signs and reminders should be posted throughout buildings. Regular breaks for handwashing and use of hand sanitizer should be planned into the school day. Those wearing masks should be reminded not to touch their face. Students should cough or sneeze into a tissue, immediately throw the tissue away and wash or sanitize their hands.

# Attendance & Student Participation

During the 2020-2021 school year, student participation will be recorded similar to the usual daily attendance, but will reflect our Blended Learning Plan. As a school system, we will track daily information in the state system, Infinite Campus as follows:

- Hybrid model - participation tracked for in-person learning and remote learning days.
- Virtual learning model - participation tracked daily by students, parents, and educators.
- High school students - participation recorded for *each* scheduled course (period) of the day's learning.
- School of Innovation, High School Dual Credit/ College courses, - participation in performance based courses based on completion of performance events. Students attending college courses will follow the safety procedures for the higher education institution.

The Director of Pupil Personnel reports participation rates monthly to the Board of Education. Participation rates will be reported in October, January, and July to the Kentucky Department of Education. Adjustment of current attendance procedures include hybrid and virtual learning models.

Newport Independent variable school calendar has been approved by the Newport Board of Education and the Kentucky Department of Education.

The Safety Coordinator, in conjunction with the Director of Pupil Personnel report cases of COVID-19 into a statewide dashboard.

## Truancy

All students are expected to attend school each day as assigned whether by 1) hybrid in-person learning and remote learning three days per week, 2) virtual learning participation, or through 3) Non-Traditional Instruction.

Truancy laws and regulations remain active for the 2020-21 school year.

## Student Absence Events

Guardians should monitor their student's health daily by checking each student's temperature and well being **prior** to participation daily.

Any student diagnosed with COVID-19, had direct contact with someone that has a lab confirmed case of COVID19, or has suspected exposure or symptoms of COVID-19 will need to remain at home. Notify the school of the current situation. The Healthy at School Team determines absent event type. Please refer to the NISD Decision Tree.

**A parent, legal guardian, or other person or agency responsible for a student must notify the student's Principal within 24 hours if a student tests positive for COVID-19.** Students testing positive and not exhibiting symptoms may participate virtually. Students testing positive and exhibiting symptoms will be assisted by the school on an individual basis to determine a learning plan.

## Student Illness While at School

Should a student exhibit symptoms of Covid 19 while at school, the student primary guardian will be contacted via the telephone number provided to the school by a school staff member. If the primary guardian is unavailable the secondary contact, any emergency contacts, and potentially work numbers will be contacted to

locate an adult. Students must be collected from school within a reasonable time and no more than one hour from the time of the initial call.

Absent Events Based on Illness May Include:

- Nurse Excused
- Principal Excused
- Medical Excused
- Parent Excused

Unexcused based on an individual student and situation.

For the 2020-2021 School Year, the maximum number of Nurse, Principal, and Medical Excused absence events will not be limited. It is imperative that guardians contact the school team as soon as a potential illness is identified, so students may be provided with the appropriate absence event type and ensure the student's access to learning platforms during illness. This includes during times of 100% virtual learning.

- Newport Primary School (859)-292-3011
- Newport Intermediate School (859)-292-3021
- Newport High School (859)-292-3023
- Newport School of Innovation (859) 292-3001
- Newport Regional School (859) 292-6371

Newport Independent Schools are required through 902 KAR 2:220E to report daily on the number of identified COVID 19 cases, both students and personnel, through the COVID Dashboard. Newport Independent is also required to report to the Northern Kentucky Health Department the following information for each new reported COVID - 19 case for students and school personnel:

- Name
- Address
- Date of Birth
- Gender
- If the information is for school personnel- the contact telephone number
- If the information is for a student- the name and contact telephone number of the parent, legal guardian, or other person/agency responsible for the student.

**Student Learning Placement**

School Administrative Teams contacted all guardians of students returning to the Newport Independent School District (NISD) to determine preference of the hybrid or virtual models. If a guardian did not respond by July 31, 2020, their student was automatically enrolled in the virtual learning model. All new enrollees are automatically enrolled into the virtual model regardless of prior placement. Placements will be in effect for the first nine weeks of school.

Guardians may apply for a learning placement change from hybrid to virtual OR virtual to hybrid one week prior to the end of each grading period.

Guardians will submit this form to the Principal of their child's school and will be notified of change of placement decisions. Guardians will need to complete one application per child. Placement is based upon the capacity of the classroom, needs of the student, needs of the school, and the preference of the family.

## **Check In Participation**

### **Virtual and Hybrid Attendance**

We will be utilizing Participation Based Entry during our time of 100% virtual learning.

#### **Features of Participation Based Entry for Virtual Learning to Be Familiar With**

- ❑ Students and Parents are able to complete participation check in via Infinite Campus once per day from 12:00 am- 11:59 PM at the Primary and Intermediate Schools with the expectation of a once daily participation check in.
- ❑ At the Middle/High School level students must check in once per course between the hours of 12:00am-11:59pm.
- ❑ Teachers are able to mark student participation for the previous 5 days and are required to maintain this data and updated information as students participate in learning.
- ❑ Teachers are able to override participation after a student has checked in. Overriding participation data may only be completed from the teacher IC- attendance clerks do not have access to this.
- ❑ Students at the Primary and Intermediate level are expected to check in at least once per day while actively participating in learning every day. Teachers must review participation through IC as well as live lessons, assignment completion, and learning platforms to ensure that all students that have participated are counted.
- ❑ Teachers will work collaboratively with other content and grade level teachers, school counselors, school attendance clerks in communicating participation and contacting those students not participating.

#### **Participation and Attendance Defined**

Daily participation is the measure of the interactions between teachers and students. Those interactions will vary based on whether the student is learning in person or is participating remotely in instruction. Students who are learning in person will be considered “participating” by their presence in the classrooms. Participation may be in real time during the school day, or at times outside of normal school hours as scheduled through the school. Participation shall include at least one of the following:

1. One on one video communication or phone calls between teacher and student(or teacher and parent with smaller children or students with special needs);
2. Group video communication or phone calls between the teacher and a whole class or between teacher and smaller groups of students within a class;
3. Student time logged into a learning management software system completing assignments; or
4. Submission of paper-based assignments for students in a non-digital, non-traditional setting.

#### **K-12 Mode of Instruction Metrics**

**Green**, with fewer than one case per 100,000 county residents, means schools can hold either in-person or remote classes as long as schools are following the [Healthy at School](#) guidance. Gov. Beshear’s guidance on group gatherings and other standard precautions still must be followed. Sports may resume if [Kentucky High School Athletic Association \(KHSAA\) guidelines](#) are followed.

**Yellow**, with 9.9 or fewer cases per 100,000 people, also allows in-person or remote learning and sports, but with heightened mitigation steps as coordinated by local officials, school administrators and public health leaders.

**Orange**, with 24.9 or fewer cases per 100,000, means schools should take into account a variety of factors to determine if they should move to remote learning exclusively. Sports still would be allowed, but there must be strict adherence to health guidelines. Small groups of students may be allowed into schools for targeted services.

**Red**, for more than 25 cases per 100,000, means schools should move the following week to all-virtual instruction. Sports and all extracurricular activities must be suspended. Only essential staff should regularly be in school buildings, still adhering to Healthy at School guidance. Essential student support services, such as providing meals, should continue. Small groups of students can be allowed in schools for targeted services. All these measures should remain in effect until the community returns to yellow status at a future Thursday decision point.

[Kentucky Department of Public Health COVID 19 Dashboard](#)