



# **SAFE RETURN TO LEARN, CONTINUITY OF SERVICES 2021-2022**

**Turkey Ford Public School District  
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Review December 21, 2021**

Turkey Ford School District plans to be 100% in-person for the 2021-2022 school year. We will continue to utilize CDC guidelines and Oklahoma Health Department recommendations. The nine components to address in the ARP Safe Return Plan include:

1. Universal and correct wearing of masks;
2. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);
3. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;
4. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;
5. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments;
6. Diagnostic and screening testing;
7. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;
8. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and,
9. Coordination with State and local health officials.

### **Symptoms of COVID-19**

People with COVID-19 have reported having a wide range of symptoms – from mild symptoms to severe illness. Children have similar symptoms to adults and generally experience mild illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

This list does not include all possible symptoms. Other symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea (CDC, 2020).

## **Universal Precautions Recommended by the CDC**

### **Hand Washing**

Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

### **Physical Distancing**

Avoid close contact by putting an appropriate distance between yourself and others. Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus. Keeping an appropriate distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

### **Masks and Face Shields**

CDC recommends covering your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover or a plastic shield when around others. You can spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. Everyone should wear a mask or shield when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities. Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. The cloth face covering or plastic shield is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.

### **Cover Coughs and Sneezes**

Remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

### **Clean and Disinfect**

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the school day. The district custodian sanitizes commonly used areas daily and disinfectant wipes and disinfectant are provided for use in all areas.

## **School Operations**

**Daily Health Screenings** – Each morning, families are asked to partner with the school and complete a wellness assessment before sending your child to school. The daily checklist ask if your child has a dry cough, sore throat, loss of taste or smell and a fever of 100.0 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. If it is necessary to keep your child home, please call and communicate with the school.

**Physical Distancing-** When needed, due to Ottawa/Delaware County being in the moderate to high risk level, teachers will practice socially distancing when in the cafeteria, hallways, buses, etc.

**Hygiene** – Handwashing is one of the best means of protection against infection. Teachers will help teach the importance of handwashing to students and the use of hand sanitizer. 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. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer is also available throughout the school buildings for everyone to utilize.

**Cleaning Protocols-** Turkey Ford School uses EPA recommended cleaning products and CDC recommended disinfecting procedures.

1. Bathrooms
  - Additional sanitization during the lunch time using disinfecting sprayers
  - Cleaning and sanitization after school each evening
2. Classrooms

- Each classroom will be sanitized daily.
- Sanitization supplies for teachers to disinfect as needed.
- Extra PPE supplies provided for each classroom.

### 3. Buses

- Students will have assigned seats
- Bus riders could be assigned seating by family groups (depending on the situation).
- Open windows to allow for airflow
- All field trips must be approved by the Superintendent of Schools
- Daily cleaning of buses after each route.

### 4. Cafeteria-

- Students will sanitize their hands before entering the serving line.
- Students will practice physical distancing as much as space allows.
- Serving lines will be modified, if needed to minimize the contamination of food being served and assist with social distancing.
- All leftover food will be disposed of daily.
- All tables will be sanitized after each lunch period.

**Training** – All staff have participated in COVID-19 professional development to be familiar with signs, symptoms, precautions, and responsibilities. Any new staff will attend professional development sessions at the beginning of the school year to ensure familiarity with COVID-19 protocols. All students will be instructed in best practices for healthy habits including education on COVID-19.

Handwashing Tip: It is important to teach children proper hygiene all the time, but especially to remind them about good habits during a public health crisis like COVID-19. One habit is proper handwashing. According to CDC guidelines, follow these five steps every time you wash your hands.

1. **Wet** your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
2. **Lather** your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
3. **Scrub** your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the “Happy Birthday” song from beginning to end twice.
4. **Rinse** your hands well under clean, running water.
5. **Dry** your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

### **Staff and Students** –

1. Students will have a bus drop off point of entry and car riders will have a separate entrance. Staff will monitor students at the car drop off point.
2. All students will go to the gym and seat with their grade level.
3. Face coverings will be optional for students and staff.
4. Infrared touchless thermometer kiosks will be available at the door for students to monitor temperatures.

5. Locations will be established to house students who may have symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 degrees or greater.
  - a. If a student's temperature registers 100.4 the student will be placed in the office. The temperature will be taken again in 30 minutes and if it reflects 100.4 or higher the parent will be called for pick up.
  - b. Cleaning will occur upon the exit of the quarantined student and/or staff.
6. Parents will be notified if the student is symptomatic and schedule a pick-up time and location.

### **Visitors –**

1. Visitors will be limited and by appointment only.
2. Visitors will be screened for temperatures.
3. Visitors may be asked to wear a mask when the county is in the moderate to high risk COVID-19 level.

### **Return to School after Exclusion:**

Once a student/staff member is excluded from school, they may return if they meet the requirements listed below.

1. **UNTESTED**: Have not received a test proving or disproving COVID-19, but did experience symptoms may return if all 3 conditions below are met
  - At least 10 calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared, **AND**
  - Fever free (without the use of fever-reducing medication) for 72 hours, **AND**
  - Symptoms have improved
2. **TESTED AND AWAITING RESULTS**: Persons who are suspected of having COVID-19 and are awaiting test results should be isolated at home until test results are received.
3. **POSITIVE RESULT**
  - Symptomatic Cases* may return if the following conditions are met:
    - 10 Calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared, **AND**
    - Fever free (without the use of fever-reducing medication) for 72 hours, **AND**
    - Symptoms have improved
  - Asymptomatic Cases* may return if the following conditions are met:
    - 10 Calendar days have passed since the date sample was collected, **AND**
    - Symptoms have not developed
    - If symptoms develop during the 10 day isolation period, then follow the above criteria for symptomatic cases with a new isolation period starting from the day symptoms started.
4. **NEGATIVE RESULT**
  - Known exposure to a COVID-19 case must be quarantined for 14 days. A negative test result within the 14 day quarantine period does NOT change the quarantine period; therefore, the person must finish their 14 days.
  - No known exposure to a COVID-19 case may return to school.

**Once the above requirements are met, parents are expected to accompany their student(s) to school to be cleared in the office to return to class.**

***Other Students and Staff in the Household***

- If a student/staff member is excluded from school due to a positive COVID-19 test, other students and any staff members living in that same household are considered close contacts and will be excluded from school for a mandatory 14 day quarantine period, which begins after their last exposure to the case.
- If a student/staff member is excluded from school due to being identified as a close contact, then other students and any staff members living in that same household are considered contacts of a contact and do NOT need to be excluded from school unless they were also identified as a close contact of a case.

**Whole Child & Family Supports**

Our mission is to ensure all students and their families feel welcome and safe at Turkey Ford School. This is especially important during the COVID-19 public health crisis. Whether students are learning through on site face-to-face instruction or during a quarantine time at home, we work to promote a feeling of community with all students and families.

In response to the increasing needs of families, Turkey Ford will do the following:

- Teachers will create regular check-ins with students
- Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum to assist students in building skills in self-awareness, self-regulation, and collaborative interaction.
- Provide additional training for teachers in trauma-informed practices.
- Provide health, wellness, and community resources for students and families on our website and/or district Facebook page.