

COVID-19 AND SCHOOL SAFETY

While we regret the current health situation our nation is facing, student and staff well-being remains a top priority at Homeland Park Primary. It is important to recognize and understand that despite reopening of school campuses, school will look and operate differently with the safety and health of students and staff at the forefront. Our school and district remain confident in implementing various instructional models, and is fully committed to ensuring each and every child is provided with a quality education.

Universal Safety Measures

- Classes will remain together throughout the day and transitions will be minimal. Support staff, including related arts teachers, will deliver instruction in the classroom.
- Student arrival and dismissal procedures will be modified to ensure social distancing. Parents are encouraged to transport their children to and from school, if possible. School buses, however, will be available and will implement safety measures to protect students.
- Implementation of Social Distancing guidelines to the fullest possible extent in a school setting, including the spacing of classroom desks and tables. Recreational furniture (couches, flexible seating, etc.) have also been removed from classrooms.
- Classes will remain together throughout the day and transitions will be minimal. Support staff, including related arts teachers, will deliver instruction in the classroom.
- Continuation of robust cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing routines throughout the entire school day and on into after-hours at school and on the buses, with priority going to high-trafficked areas and frequently encountered surfaces.
- In addition to regular cleaning and disinfecting routines, use of electrostatic cleaning equipment will also be implemented.
- All faculty and staff members have been provided with personal protective equipment including masks and/or face shields and are required to wear them, as mandated by the South Carolina Department of Education.
- Required face masks for all students in all grades levels, as mandated by the South Carolina Department of Education. (Provided two (2) per student by the school district)

- Also as mandated by the SC Department of Education, ALL students in ALL grade levels MUST wear a mask on the school bus. Social Distancing measures will also be in effect on the school bus, which includes students of the same families being seated together.
- All classrooms are stocked with gloves, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant. Hand soap washing stations will also be readily available.
- Proper hand hygiene signage, as well as social distancing reminder signage, will be placed throughout the school.
- All playground equipment will be closed. Recess will still take place, but use of equipment will not be permitted. At Homeland Park, the teachers will engage students in two recess periods each day.
- Drinking fountains have been closed until further notice. Students are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle to use in the classroom.
- Classes will use restrooms in the classroom to limit use of main group restrooms. Main restrooms will be reserved for classes without restrooms.
- There will be no mass gatherings, no field trips, and no entry of nonessential visitors for all Anderson Five school campuses for the foreseeable future.
- Homeland Park students all qualify for the federal free meal program. Students will be provided breakfast in the classroom when they arrive. For lunch, the children will be socially distanced by class in the cafeteria. Lunch choices will be limited and eating trays/utensils will be disposable.
- Nurse Marie will be made aware and stay abreast of special health care needs among student populations, and remain readily available to educate and guide our school on best health practices and safety protocols.
- Non-contact thermometers will be used to check student temperatures as they arrive each day.
- Homeland Park will have a designated isolation room (separate from the healthroom) to evaluate students and/or staff displaying symptoms of COVID-19. Students/staff displaying symptoms of COVID-19 will be evaluated in the isolation room and contained until being picked up. Symptomatic students and staff will be referred to COVID-19 testing from a health care provider.
- In the event of any confirmed case or cluster of COVID-19 among staff or students, school administrators will notify local public health officials and DHEC immediately. All decisions thereafter will be made in conjunction with

our local DHEC officials. Depending on the recommendations issued by DHEC, Anderson Five would be prepared to shut down district-wide, school-wide, or possibly by classroom. Similar to protocols followed in other cases of illness (such as TB, Measles, etc.), letters from DHEC will be mailed to notify school communities, and the district will work with DHEC to provide information to trace possible contact exposure. Further recommendations and actions from that point would come directly from DHEC.

- In the event that an individual student must self-quarantine due to exposure, this will be similar to any other instance in which students are out for extended periods of time: said student should notify the school/teacher(s), teachers will provide said student with the necessary classwork to be completed from home. Students will not be penalized/punished for being unable to attend school due to self quarantining due to exposure.
- In any event in which students and/or staff members have a known or suspected COVID-19 case, OR display symptoms of COVID-19: these parties CANNOT remain at school. In NO CASE may a student or staff member return to school before the passage of 14 calendar days after exposure, and 72 hours (3 days) fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medication.