

**BENJAMIN ISD**

**SAFE RETURN TO  
SCHOOL PLAN**

(as of 01/03/2022)

Benjamin ISD is looking forward to operating school in a normal fashion as we continue the 2021-2022 school year. Despite the challenges of COVID-19, our district will continue to provide an excellent education to our students. The district is committed to focus on the health, safety, and well-being of our students, staff, and community as we continue the 2021-2022 school year.

Benjamin ISD's plan is based on current CDC and TEA guidance and safety recommendations.

1. Mask Requirements
  - A. Masks are not required per Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-36.
  - B. Individuals will be allowed to wear a mask if they choose to do so.
  - C. Masks will be available for those individuals who desire one.
  
2. Modifying Facilities to Allow For Physical Distancing
  - A. Space available will be maximized to the greatest extent possible.
  - B. No minimum distance requirement will be enforced.
  
3. Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette
  - A. Proper handwashing techniques will be taught to younger students. Students will be reminded of importance to wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds several times a day.
  - B. Multiple hand sanitizing opportunities will be available for Benjamin ISD employees and students throughout the campus in locations such as office, classrooms, cafeteria, etc.
  - C. Students will be reminded that if they need to sneeze to make every attempt to do so into a tissue or in the bend of their elbow.
  
4. Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities
  - A. Each classroom and restroom will be cleaned and disinfected daily.
  - B. All high-touch/high-traffic areas will be disinfected more frequently.
  - C. The cafeteria will be disinfected between breakfast and lunch period.
  - D. Classrooms will be ventilated to the best extent possible through the circulation of air by means of air conditioning and/or heating units.
  
5. Contact Tracing/Quarantine
  - A. Staff will be required to complete a self-screening process before entering any campus facility.
  - B. Parents/Guardians will be required to screen their children for COVID-19 symptoms each day before sending them to school. Additional screening may be conducted during the school day.
  - C. Students/Staff should not enter a campus building if they experience COVID-19 symptoms.
  - D. Parents must not send children to school if they are lab-confirmed with COVID-19 or if they have been in close contact with a person who has a confirmed case.

- E. Students/Staff should not enter a campus building if they or a household member is awaiting results of a COVID-19 test.
  - F. If a student begins experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, he/she will be placed in isolation while parent is contacted.
6. Diagnostic and Screening Test
    - A. If a student exhibits symptoms, a parent will be contacted and advised of appropriate follow-up actions.
  7. Vaccinations
    - A. Staff members were encouraged to receive vaccinations provided by county health officials during the spring of 2020-2021 school year.
  8. Accommodations for Children with Disabilities
    - A. Individual student IEP's will be reviewed and if accommodations are required, appropriate staff will be notified.
  9. Coordination with State and Local Health Officials
    - A. The school district will continue to work with local health officials and consider guidance provided through local and state agencies.
  10. Ensuring Continuity of Services
    - A. The district continues employment of existing staff.
    - B. Staff members will provide intervention for instruction and academic loss due to the pandemic.
    - C. The district will provide services to attempt to meet the social, emotional, and mental health needs of students and/or staff.

This plan will be reviewed every 6 months in relation to updated CDC guidance and with public input.

The plan is available to be translated into Spanish upon request.  
El plan está disponible para ser traducido al español bajo petición.

The plan will be available in an accessible format for people with disabilities, upon request to Gordon Thomas.

The plan will be posted on the district website within 30 days of the receipt of the funds.

