



COVID-19 Prevention, Mitigation, and Response Procedures

As we plan for returning to school, we recognize that this will be an unusual school year, but we remain committed to supporting our students' learning, as well as their safety. The Return to School Guide, which we have previously sent to all families and staff and posted on our website, outlines the procedures our schools will have in place to prevent or mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to respond if a positive case is identified. While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, teachers, staff, and their families. Our strategy for opening and operating is outlined below. A more detailed plan can be found [on our district website](https://www.bisdtx.org/Page/7599) (<https://www.bisdtx.org/Page/7599>).

PREVENTION

To prevent COVID-positive individuals from entering our campuses, we will have the following COVID-19 symptom screening procedures in place:

- All staff will be trained in COVID-19 symptoms, hygiene practices, campus protocols, and response protocols.
- All staff will be required to self-screen daily, including checking their own temperature. Staff exhibiting symptoms are asked not to come to work, to contact their healthcare provider and their supervisor.
- Parents will be required to screen their child daily and to keep them home if they are sick or are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. Parents should contact the school nurse if their child has symptoms, is being tested for COVID-19, or has tested positive.
- All visitors will be screened upon arrival, including a temperature check. If their temperature is 100°F or higher, or if they do not pass the screening, they will be instructed to leave the building.

MITIGATION

Our district will be taking the following steps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

- All staff and students will wear a face covering unless eating, drinking, exercising, or developmentally or medically inappropriate.
- All visitors will be required to wear a face covering.
- Hand sanitizing/hand washing will be available in all classrooms and throughout the campus.
- Schools will be cleaned and disinfected daily with special focus on high-touch surfaces.
- Routines and procedures will be in place to encourage social distancing, hand washing/sanitizing and other hygiene practices.

RESPONSE

In the event that a lab-confirmed COVID-positive case occurs on a campus, the school will take the steps outlined below:

- The student will remain in an isolation room until picked up by a parent (required within one hour). If a staff member, the staff member will leave the building after notifying his or her supervisor.
- All areas heavily used by the individual who is lab-confirmed positive will be disinfected.
- All teachers, staff, and families of all students in that school will be notified.
- The local health authority will be notified.

CRITERIA FOR RETURN

Asymptomatic

- A student or staff member without symptoms who tested positive for COVID-19 may return to school/work when 10 days have passed since the positive test for COVID-19.

Symptomatic

- A student or staff member who had symptoms of COVID-19 may return to school when the following conditions have been met:
 - 24 hours fever-free (without the use of fever-reducing medication); AND
 - Symptoms have improved; AND
 - 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

Or:

- An acute infection test (PCR) at an approved testing location (<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/>) comes back negative for COVID-19

Or:

- A doctor's note indicating an alternate diagnosis

Exposure

- A student or staff member who has had close contact with someone who is lab-confirmed positive for COVID-19 must stay home for 14 days after their last exposure to that individual.

While this will be a challenging year, we believe it can also be a great one! We must work together in partnership to follow important health protocols, communicate effectively, and support one another in this journey. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 512-772-7100.