

Addendum to 2020-2021 Parent/Student Handbook
Miami-Dade County Public Schools
COVID-19 Policies and Procedures for the Schoolhouse Instructional Model

During declared health emergencies, the District will implement policies and procedures consistent with applicable Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Florida Department of Health (FDOH) guidance. In addition, as applicable, the District will consult with and comply with applicable local health department protections. Requirements and procedures established by the District in response to an emergency affecting the health safety and welfare of our students and staff will take precedence over provisions of the Parent/Student Handbook when necessary and until the emergency has ended. Due to circumstances related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, Miami-Dade County Public Schools may need to alter or suspend select in-person operations to protect the health and safety of its students, employees, and their families. Please refer to <http://reopening.dadeschools.net/index.html> to find updated information regarding the District's reopening plan. The following procedures and guidelines are applicable to student attendance in brick and mortar buildings during Stage II reopening.

Arrival Procedures During Stage II

Children, parents and visitors are always required to maintain the maximum amount of social distancing possible during arrival. No one should congregate in large groups.

[Bowman Ashe/Doolin K-8 will open doors to allow students into both the Lower and Upper Academy buildings at 7:45 AM. Parents/Guardians must go through the driveway of their respective campus to drop off their children. All parents/guardians must remain in their vehicles during drop-off. Students must walk into the building through the main doors while maintaining 6 ft. social distancing protocols.](#)

[Students will be separated by grade level into various holding areas supervised by teachers and staff. Holding areas are as follows: PK-1st Grades in the Lower Academy Cafeteria, 2nd and 3rd grades in the Media Center, 4th and 5th grades under the PE shelter, and 6th- 8th grades in the Upper Academy Cafeteria. Student seating will be staggered in these areas according to social distancing requirements.](#)

[Several identified staff members' schedules have been staggered to allow them to arrive earlier in order to assist with supervision of students during breakfast and in each arrival holding area. Alternative staff has also been identified in the event that an employee who is designated to supervise a specific area of the school is unavailable or absent.](#)

Dismissal Procedures During Stage II

Children, parents and visitors are always required to maintain the maximum amount of social distancing possible during arrival. No one should congregate in large groups.

[Dismissal will be staggered by grade level and/or building location in order to maximize social distancing protocols.](#)

Multiple exits and holding areas will be utilized as follows: PK- 1st Grades will exit and dismiss in the South circular driveway, 2nd -5th Grades will exit through the two main double doors in the front of the school at the Lower Academy and dismiss in the front driveway, 6th – 8th Grades will exit through the two main double doors in the front of the school at the Upper Academy and dismiss in the front driveway, After School care students will meet in the Media Center of their respective campus, and students who ride a bus will be held in the cafeteria (Lower Academy) and the bus loop (Upper Academy).

Teachers and staff will walk all students out to their designated dismissal areas to maintain social distancing as per CDC guidelines and to ensure that no students are left behind to linger around campus unsupervised.

Breakfast/Lunch During Stage II

Grab and go breakfasts will be distributed through two lines in the cafeteria with a staff member supervising to ensure social distancing. Students will be allowed to eat their breakfast in designated tables in the cafeterias with staggered seating. Areas will be wiped down and disinfected immediately after each student has finished eating their breakfast.

All students will eat in the cafeteria/spill out area following social distancing guidelines and staggered seating. In grades PK-5th, a staggered lunch schedule will be implemented to maintain social distancing protocols. In grades 6th – 8th, two staggered lunch schedules will be implemented. Signage has been placed in the cafeteria in order to alleviate traffic flow issues.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided at various locations at designated areas. A staggered lunch schedule must be followed. During lunch periods, social distancing will be monitored and enforced by all staff. Once a group of students leaves their table, the cafeteria table will be sanitized appropriately.

Before/After School Care During Stage II

The After-School Care Program in both campuses will follow the MDCPS protocols for parent pickup. Parents will not be allowed into the building to pick up their student. They will need to sign out at the main entrance with After-School Care staff and present proper ID. Students will then be escorted down one at a time to be dismissed. They will maintain social distancing and practice hygiene while on campus.

If a parent or student discloses to staff that a student is ill or positive for COVID-19 and the student reports to school campus, student will be escorted to isolation room. Administration will follow proper protocol for reporting to appropriate region and district personnel.

School Transitions

All MDCPS schools have put procedures in place to limit large group gatherings. Signage has been placed throughout every campus to remind students of the expectations to promote the safest learning environment possible. When transition between classrooms is necessary schools have developed a plan of either one way or two-lane hallways depending on school design and need. School staff will monitor transitions to ensure students are maintaining maximum social distancing and wearing face coverings. Parents should remind students of the need to comply with school procedures to ensure their safety as well as their classmates.

Elementary students will remain in their cohort/classes while departmentalized teachers will move to the different classrooms. PE classes will meet outside in the PE shelter and all other special area teachers will travel to each classroom. For double special area classes, the art and music room will be utilized since they are larger than a homeroom class and will accommodate social distancing protocols.

Middle school students will be dismissed by grade level for all class changes including dismissal. Teachers and Security Guards will be stationed at their doors and in the hallways, to ensure that students keep to the CDC guidelines and maintain proper distance from each other during transitions.

Bathrooms will be closed during arrival/dismissal and middle school switching of classes. Teachers will include as part of their schedule, frequent hand washing breaks throughout the day.

Custodial staff will wipe down high traffic areas routinely and outdoor playground will be locked.

School custodial staff will perform routine environmental cleaning or regular cleaning for most surfaces. School site custodial procedures have been adjusted to increase the frequency of sanitizing high-touch areas with hospital-grade germicide throughout the day. Upon the end of each day, custodial teams will sanitize all areas of the campus in preparation for the next day of learning.

Duty to Report Symptoms

If anyone in the student's household is diagnosed with COVID-19, parents/guardians must report that exposure to the school(s). The school will consult with the public health department to assess what precautions should be taken, including but not limited to, asking your student to stay home from school for fourteen (14) days in order to protect the school community. This is a precaution, and the school will work with you to keep your student engaged and current on all schoolwork to the extent possible during the fourteen (14) day period.

Daily Pre-Arrival Health Screening

Before coming to school in the morning, students and parents should assess whether the student has any symptoms of COVID-19. At this time, those symptoms include: a fever over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit; cough; shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fatigue; muscle or body

aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; or diarrhea. If a student develops any of these symptoms, the symptoms should be reported to the school and discussed prior to the student reporting to school.

While the District will not be taking temperature checks on-site at this time, the school will rely on the students, staff, and families to report accurate information for the safety of all the other families affected throughout the District.

All information provided will be kept confidential as required by law, except to the extent that it is necessary to advise or protect staff and other students from transmission of the virus.

If you have symptoms or are diagnosed with COVID-19, or a family member residing in your household tests positive for COVID-19, your student may be required to stay home until they can be tested or receive medical clearance indicating they do not have COVID-19 and can safely return to school.

Expectations of All Students at School

General:

1. Stay home if sick.
2. Sanitize hands with hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol upon entering the building.
3. Wash hands frequently or use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
4. Avoid touching face and eyes.
5. Wash/sanitize hands after touching or removing facial covering.
6. Limit use of shared objects, such as physical education equipment, playground equipment, art supplies, toys, and games. Shared objects will be cleaned after each use.
7. Bring personal water bottles with water. Water fountains will be turned off and hydration stations will be made available for refills.
8. Follow all directions provided by teachers or administrators for the safety of the school community. It is especially important that students stay in the classrooms and spaces

Face Coverings and Social Distancing:

1. All persons must maximize physical distancing to the extent possible under the circumstances.
2. All persons must wear facial coverings that cover both the mouth and nose when on school board property, at a school board activity, or riding a bus or in other approved transportation. Students and children over 2 years of age are expected to come to school each day with their personal face coverings. However, quality facial coverings will be available for distribution to students in case of emergency or to reduce stigma where necessary. Students are responsible for their own personal property and face coverings should be stored appropriately. If your child needs a face covering, please contact your child's principal.

3. Facial coverings must be made from a minimum of double layer cloth and be snug fitting to cover both the nose and mouth. Facial coverings should not include any type of exhalation valves or vents or masks designed as a costume.
4. It is recommended to have two face coverings available each day in case one face covering becomes unfit for use. Under no circumstances should student share or swap facial coverings. To learn more about appropriate face covering use and the types of face coverings recommended for use in schools, please review pages 28 and 29 of the District's Reopening Guide [Reopening Guide-English](#)
5. All student facial coverings must meet the requirements of the *Code of Student Conduct* and Policy 5511, Dress Code and School Uniform. Face coverings are apparel/accessory and must not include obscene, profane, drug-related, gang-related, or inflammatory messages or pictorial graphics. Face coverings which include inappropriate language that could be perceived as offensive, derogatory, threatening, or intimidating are strictly prohibited. Repeated display of such face coverings will constitute disciplinary measures as outlined in the *Code of Student Conduct*.
6. Refusal to wear a face covering after directed to comply by an authority figure will constitute defiance of school personnel and/or disruptive behavior pursuant to the *Code of Student Conduct*. Continuous refusal to comply may result in a student being assigned to online or remote learning. Developmental ages and intellectual, developmental, and behavioral disabilities must be duly considered by the principal, as appropriate.
7. Students participating in extracurricular activities, such as athletics, musical or theatrical performances, where the wearing of facial coverings is not practicable or may create a health risk, will be directed by their teacher, coach, or advisor as to when facial coverings may be removed during the activity such as swimming or high intensity activities where breathing may be more difficult. However, students must continue to follow maximum social distancing and all other safety procedures in place for the activity and must resume wearing the facial covering when directed to do so.
8. Exemptions from the use of facial coverings must be requested directly to the school principal. Supporting documentation for the any exemption will be required. Students who have difficulty breathing, or sensory issues arising from a documented medical or psychological issue, or students who have communication issues and may require the teacher or service provider to see their mouth, may request an exemption from the Principal. If appropriate, they may be asked to wear a clear facial covering or face shield. Face shields must wrap around the sides of the wearer's face and extend below the chin. Documentation from a medical provider must be on file and reviewed by staff before a student will be excused from this facial covering requirement.
9. Facial coverings should not be required for anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the facial covering without assistance.

Student Illness at School

If a student becomes ill or exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, the student will be separated from other students and staff to the designated space identified as the school's Isolation Room. While in the Isolation Room, the student will be monitored by school staff. Students must be picked up by a parent/guardian after initial illness identification. The District will

contact parents/guardians and, if needed, the student's emergency contacts. Parents/guardians and/or emergency contacts will be informed of the importance of the student being picked up for the safety of the student and others.

Return to School

1. Students presenting with general illness symptoms that are non-COVID related will need to remain home until they are symptom-free without the use of medication for 24 hours.
2. Students presenting with COVID-like symptoms, **but no known COVID contact**, are required to remain home until they receive a negative COVID test OR are fever-free without the use of medication for 24 hours AND have improved symptoms.
3. Students presenting with COVID-like symptoms, and **have a known COVID contact**, are required to remain home until they are cleared from isolation or quarantine by a medical professional AND they are fever free without the use of medication for 24 hours AND have improved symptoms.

Parents and other Visitors

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, visitor access will be limited and restricted to the main office. Visitors are not permitted to enter any District buildings under the following conditions:

1. The individual has any of the following symptoms: a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher; shortness of breath; cough; loss of taste or smell; muscle aches; weakness; chills; nausea; vomiting; or any other symptoms of COVID-19;
2. The individual has tested positive for COVID-19;
3. The individual has been exposed to someone with symptoms of COVID-19;
4. The individual has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Any visitors that are permitted to enter District buildings will be subject to screening, must wear a face covering and adhere to all District guidelines contained at [MDCPS Reopening Website](#), CDC, FDOH, and local health department guidelines.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDENDUM TO PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

Student Name

Student ID#

School

Homeroom

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read this Addendum to the 2020-2021 Parent/Student Handbook. I agree to abide by these requirements, as well as any other applicable District guidelines, and understand that these requirements are subject to change. In an effort to keep myself and my family safe from infectious disease, specifically COVID-19, I will comply with these requirements.

Specifically, I understand that it is my personal responsibility to ensure that prior to boarding a school bus or arriving at school, I have taken care to assess any potential symptoms of my child, to take my child's temperature, and to ensure that there is no appearance of illness that would warrant my child staying home from school. I acknowledge that this is my responsibility and that for the safety of my school community, I must comply with these policies.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date