



Deweyville Independent School District

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Instructional Continuity Plan



Deweyville Independent School District

43200 HWY 87s. Orange, TX 77632 - (409) 746-2731

Contents

Part I: Safe Return to In-Person Instruction.....	2
Disinfecting and Hand Sanitizing Procedures	2
Distance and Transitioning Procedures	2
Restroom Procedures	2
Face Covering Procedures.....	3
Cafeteria Procedures	3
Transportation Procedures	3
Classroom Procedures	3
Pick- up Procedures	4
Events during the School Day	4
After School Events	4
Vaccinations to the School Community	4
Coordination with State and Local Health Officials	4
Part II: Student and Staff COVID-19 Protocols and Procedures	5
District Communication	5
Isolation Procedures	6
Testing Procedures for Staff	6
Close Contact:	7
Re-Entry Guidelines:	7
Stay-At-Home Period	8
Students	8
Staff-Updated January 2022	8



Deweyville Independent School District

The safety and health of our students and staff is a top priority of Deweyville ISD. In the 2021- 2022 school year, Deweyville ISD will be continuing to help prevent the spread of Covid-19 along with other communicable diseases. In order to safely return to school and a sense of normalcy, we will be following the guidelines outlined by the Governor and the TEA. These guidelines will be linked below if you wish to view them. Deweyville ISD will not be offering remote learning during this school year, unless a student is lab confirmed positive for Covid-19. This year we are striving to keep the schools open without having to endure closures and further academic setbacks. Students with any academic needs will be addressed and accelerated teaching opportunities provided to help catch them up from last year's obstacles. Keep in mind policies and procedures are subject to change based on the recommendations and guidelines of the Governor and the Texas Education Agency.

Part I: Safe Return to In-Person Instruction

Disinfecting and Hand Sanitizing Procedures

- DISD will continue to express the importance of frequent and proper hand hygiene to both students and staff.
- Hand sanitizer will be available
- Regular handwashing/hand sanitizer use by all students/staff will be required
- Hand sanitizer will be provided upon entry to the classroom in addition to periodic teacher reminders during instructional day.
- Common areas and classrooms will be sanitized daily by the custodians using disinfecting products
- Clorox 360 Total System Electrostatic Sprayer will be used in the event the district experiences a high volume of COVID positive cases

Distance and Transitioning Procedures

- Distancing measures will be in place, to the extent possible, within the school setting.
- Outdoor space for learning and lunch will be utilized when possible.
- Desks and tables will be distanced as much as instructionally and physically practical.

Restroom Procedures

- Proper handwashing techniques will be reviewed and consistently reinforced.
- After a restroom break, hand sanitizer will be available upon reentering the classroom.



Deweyville Independent School District

Face Covering Procedures

- Deweyville ISD will comply with best-practice recommendations as provided by the UIL, TEA, CDC and our legal advisors.
- DISD will be following the Governor's order GA-38 and will not be requiring the use of face masks in any educational space, buses, band hall, during extra-curricular activities, however the district strongly encourages masks as a safety measure to reduce the chances of transmission.
- Guidance for participation in extracurricular activities will be provided by your child's coach or director.
- Face masks should be appropriate for school and should not be a disruption to education.

Cafeteria Procedures

- No self-service items will be available; trays and condiments will be plated by cafeteria servers. Students will practice social distancing in the cafeteria.
- Students may be allowed to eat in non- traditional areas to create social distancing.
- Signage and staff will reinforce physical distancing and traffic patterns in the cafeteria.
- Lunch times will be staggered.
- Elementary classes will eat lunch as a group and will attempt to practice socially distancing.
- Cafeteria area will be cleaned and sanitized between serving times.

Transportation Procedures

- Hand sanitizer may be provided and available on each bus.
- Students may choose to wear a mask on the bus.
- Buses will be sanitized periodically or as needed in response to an outbreak.
- The district will purchase school bus camera systems for use to help identify students or individuals sitting in the vicinity of those individuals identified to have COVID-19. The district will utilize the cameras to help with early detection of symptoms after a possible exposure.

Classroom Procedures

- Desks or tables will be socially distanced as much as instructionally possible.
- Students and staff may choose to wear a mask or face shields in classrooms as long as they are school appropriate and are a minimal distraction in the classroom
- Classrooms will have hand sanitizer.
- Students will be allowed to have a water bottle in class.
- Elementary students will report to their homeroom.
- JH/ HS students will not be allowed to congregate while waiting to report to class.



Deweyville Independent School District

Pick- up Procedures

- Students with a fever or 100.0 or more or other COVID symptoms will be sent home. Parents must pick up students within 30 minutes of being contacted. Students may not return to school until a time of 24 hours has passed, fever or symptom free without the use of medication.

Events during the School Day

- Visitors will be permitted to events during school hours.
- For indoor events during the school day, masks will be optional.
- The district will, when possible, attempt to live-stream the events.

After School Events

- Visitors will be allowed to attend events taking place after school.
- Masks will not be required for visitors at outdoor events
- Visitors should attempt to social distance
- Seating will comply with capacity guidelines

Vaccinations to the School Community

- No person will be required or asked about their vaccination status
- Students or staff wishing to disclose their vaccination status can do so with the nurse if they would like to keep it in their file
- Individuals who are vaccinated are not considered close contacts.
- A vaccination locator has been added to the District's COVID-19 Information page to help the community locate where to get a COVID vaccine and can be found at: <https://www.vaccines.gov/search/>
- The American Academy of Pediatrics strongly recommends all eligible individuals to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. They also recommend continuing to wear a mask to reduce the risk of transmission.

Coordination with State and Local Health Officials

- If an individual who has been in a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school will notify the local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disability Act and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.
- Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school will submit a report to the Texas



Deweyville Independent School District

Department of State Health Services via an online form. The report will be submitted each Monday for the prior seven days (Monday-Sunday).

- DISD will submit testing results to required health officials in compliance with 21-22 COVID-19 Testing program
- DISD will remain in contact and encourages community communication with the following individuals:
 - Olen Bean-Assistant Coordinator, Jasper/Newton/Sabine Counties Emergency Management Homeland Security- Email: olen.bean@co.jasper.tx.us
 - Jasper Newton County Public Health District- 409-384-6829, Epidemiology Reporting Line (24/7)-409-310-9698.

When to Report:	Call Immediately	Within 1 work day:	Within 1 week:
Contact Method:	Please phone report	Phone or Fax report	Fax or Mail report

Part II: Student and Staff COVID-19 Protocols and Procedures

1. All staff must self-screen and parents must self-screen your child for COVID-19 symptoms before sending your student to school each day. Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if they meet the symptoms listed below or is test-confirmed with COVID-19, until the conditions of reentry are met. Symptoms of COVID-19 include:
 - a. Change in cough
 - b. Fever of 100 degrees or more
 - c. Loss of taste or smell
 - d. Difficulty breathing
 - e. Chills
 - f. Shortness of breath
 - g. Fatigue-out of the normal
 - h. Sore throat
 - i. Congestion or runny nose-out of the normal
 - j. Diarrhea
 - k. Nausea
2. Staff Members must report to Deweyville ISD if they themselves have COVID- 19 symptoms or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and if so they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria listed below.

District Communication

- If an individual who has been in a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, as with requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, the district will notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a classroom



Deweyville Independent School District

or extracurricular or after-school program cohort if a test-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff.

- The district will utilize the district website to keep an accurate and up to date count of COVID-19 confirmed cases. The information is available at: <https://www.deweyvilleisd.com/District/2258-Untitled.html>

Isolation Procedures

- All DISD campuses are served by a full-time Registered Nurse or LVN.
- When a staff member or student displays symptoms of COVID-19 or reports feeling feverish, the school nurse will provide a diagnostic testing to determine if and when a staff member or student needs to be sent home. In the event a student starts to run fever while at school you must have your child picked up from school immediately (within 30 minutes) to help minimize the risk of further exposure.
- Staff members or students who show COVID-19 symptoms while at school will be immediately separated from their peers. Other staff members and students may be removed from the classroom and taken to an alternate location (e.g. go on a walk outside, move to a different classroom, etc.) so that the classroom can be disinfected.
- Staff members and students who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to meet the Reentry Guidelines listed in this document.
- If a child with a disability is required to quarantine, the school is required to provide services consistent with federal disability laws.

Testing Procedures

Diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2 is intended to identify occurrence of SARS-CoV-2 infection at the individual level and is performed when there is a reason to suspect that an individual may be infected, such as having symptoms or suspected recent exposure.

Staff Testing

- Tests for staff members will be provided for the following reasons only:
 - Unvaccinated staff whom have been in close contact (closer than 6 feet for longer than 15 minutes) with someone who has tested positive. Must be at least 5 days from exposure if showing no symptoms, or sooner if showing symptoms of COVID-19.
 - Any symptomatic staff (including fever over 100, coughing, shortness of breath, loss of taste/smell, etc.
- Testing will only be administered during school hours. Staff must call ahead schedule an appointment with the nurse and let campus office know a test is needed and the appointment time.

Student Testing

Testing will be offered to students for the following instances:



Deweyville Independent School District

- Students who are present at school and developed a 100 degree fever or higher who obtain parental consent
- Students who are present at school who have a member of their household COVID positive and begin showing symptoms while at school.
- Students who are out of school due to COVID but need a negative test result to participate in UIL events
- School age children attending the district of COVID positive staff members

Notice:

This K-12 COVID-19 Testing Project is supported by the CDC of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$55,484 with 100 percent funded by CDC/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CDC/HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit the Center for Disease Control Website.

Close Contact:

- “As a reference, close contact determinations are generally based on guidance outlined by the CDC, which notes that **individuals who are vaccinated are not considered close contacts**. Given the data from 2020-21 showing very low COVID-19 transmission rates in a classroom setting and data demonstrating lower transmission rates among children than adults, school systems are not required to conduct COVID-19 contact tracing. If school systems are made aware that a student is a close contact, the school system should notify the student’s parents.” The parents then may opt to keep the child in school and monitor them, or keep them at home for the recommended quarantine period as mentioned above.- TEA Public Health Guidance, August 5, 2021. Parents who opt to send their children to school in the two weeks following exposure are encouraged to closely monitor their children for symptoms.
- While school systems are not required to conduct COVID-19 case investigations, local public health entities have authority to investigate cases and are currently engaged in cooperative efforts on that front. Participation by individuals in these investigations remains voluntary. –TEA Public Health Guidance August 19, 2021.

Re-Entry Guidelines:

- A school administrator shall exclude from attendance any child having or suspected of having COVID-19. Exclusion shall continue until the readmission criteria for the conditions are met. The readmission criteria for COVID-19 are as follows:
 - If symptomatic, exclude until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever free, and other symptoms have improved.
 - Children who test positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 10 days after the day they were tested.



Deweyville Independent School District

- Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications. Fever is a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.
- In addition to the criteria and processes described above, a student who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 must receive clearance from a physician prior to returning to participation in UIL marching band or athletic activities.

Stay-At-Home Period

Students

TEA Public Health Guidance August 19, 2021- For individuals who are determined to be in close contacts, a 14-day stay-at-home period was previously advised by the CDC based on incubation period of the virus. CDCV has since updated their guidance, and the stay-at-home period can end for the students experiencing no symptoms on Day 10 after close contact exposure, if no subsequent COVID-19 testing is performed. Alternately, students can end the stay-at-home period if they receive a negative result from PCR acute infection test after the close contact exposure ends.

During the stay-at-home period, the district may deliver remote instruction consistent with the practice of remote conferencing outlined in the proposed Student Attendance Accounting Handbook (SAAH) rules.

Staff-Updated January 2022

Based on recent updates from the CDC, staff may return when:

- If symptomatic- at least 5 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever free*, and other symptoms have improved
- For those with no symptoms, at least 5 days after the date of testing positive.

*Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications. Fever is temperature of 100 degree Fahrenheit (37.8 Celsius) or higher

Additionally, the CDC updated guidance on March 8, 2021, to indicate that:

A vaccinated individual does not need to stay at home following close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual if the following conditions are true:

- The exposed individual is fully vaccinated (at least two weeks have passed since receiving the second dose of a two-dose vaccine or the first dose of a single-dose vaccine);
- and the exposed individual has not experienced any COVID-19 symptoms following close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual.

Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past three (3) months and recovered do not have to stay at home or get tested again, as long as they do not develop new symptoms. (Individuals who develop symptoms again within three (3) months of their first bout of COVID-19 may need to be tested again if there is no other cause identified for their symptoms.



Deweyville Independent School District

For staff who meet the close contact threshold with a COVID-19 positive individual, if these staff continue to work on campus, rapid testing must be performed at the start of the day, at least one every other day until the end of day 5.

These protocols and procedures will be in effect until these guidelines have been revoked by the State of Texas.