

SARALAND CITY SCHOOLS

COVID-19 GUIDANCE

On August 9, 2021 Saraland City Schools will return to traditional, on-campus classrooms for the 2021-2022 school year.



PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITY

Parents/guardians are advised to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19. Students with a fever of 100 degrees or higher should not report to school. Parents/guardians of sick children who have concerns should immediately contact their respective school nurse to discuss symptoms, obtain physician clearance, and discuss an appropriate return to school date. Parents/guardians are encouraged to be transparent with their respective school nurse or administrator should their child or a family member be diagnosed with COVID-19. A successful school year is dependent upon support from all parents/guardians.



MASKS/FACIAL COVERINGS/VACCINATIONS/QUARANTINES

Masks/facial coverings are recommended, and students are urged to wear a mask throughout the school day. Parents/guardians are asked to educate students on the importance of maintaining physical distance of at least 3 feet, when possible, as well as encourage the wearing of a mask/face covering. Under current guidance the wearing of a mask/facial covering is likely to eliminate a school ordered quarantine due to exposure. If worn, cloth masks (those other than disposable medical masks) and neck gaiters must be solid gray, black, white, or red. Masks/facial coverings may display the Saraland Spartan. No other insignia is permitted on masks/face coverings. Typical disposable surgical masks are also permitted. Note: Under current guidance, those who are fully vaccinated will not have to quarantine due to exposure.



TRANSPORTATION

Saraland City Schools will offer transportation to students for the 2021-2022 school year. However, physical distancing of 3 or more feet cannot be guaranteed on buses while transporting students. To reduce the number of students riding school buses, all who can transport their child to and from school are encouraged to do so for the upcoming school year. **The CDC has issued an order that face coverings be worn by all people using public transportation to include school buses.** Saraland City Schools will comply with this order from the CDC. Buses will be disinfected by school personnel at the conclusion of each route.



CHILD NUTRITION

A contactless system will be used by students for breakfast and lunch purchases. Students will be issued a barcode which will be scanned at each point of sale. Additionally, students will eat lunch in assigned areas throughout the campus, including classrooms, to ensure smaller groups than the number typically served in the cafeteria. Lunch will be served at times similar to previous school years. Cafeteria staff will maintain compliance with ALSDE and MCHD when preparing and serving food. Cleaning and disinfecting measures by cafeteria staff will continue to uphold high standards in preventative measures against the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses. Visitors will not be allowed to eat lunch with students during the school year.



CLASSROOM SETTING

A typical number of students will be educated within each classroom as in previous years. Teachers will monitor students to ensure appropriate practices that assist in limiting transmission are in place. While all square footage of each classroom will be utilized, the goal is for students to maintain three (3) feet physical distance throughout the school day, class, period, or block. Parents/guardians are encouraged to educate students on the importance of maintaining physical distance, when possible, as well as the option of wearing a mask/face covering when physical distance is not feasible.



SCHOOL VISITORS

All school visitors are required to report to the main office upon arrival at a school campus. All visitors will be required to present a photo ID, sign in, complete health screening, and secure a visitor's pass. To support physical distancing, campus access to visitors will be restricted and will require administrator approval.



CDC RECOMMENDATION FOR K-12 SCHOOLS

Although not an order at this time, the CDC has issued the following recommendation: "Given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant, CDC has updated the guidance for fully vaccinated people. CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Children should return to full-time in-person learning in the fall with layered prevention strategies in place." - www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community