A Parent's Planning Tool for School Reopening

Please contact your school's principal or Special Education Director for your district. A contact list of SPED directors for each county is available [here](#). For additional Special Education Services information, click [here](#).

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Health and Safety

What is my School District’s plan for the 2020-2021 school year?

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Who should I contact with questions about the start of the school year and what is the contact information?

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____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
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Visit [FamilyConnectionSC.org](http://FamilyConnectionSC.org) or call [1-800-578-8750](tel:1-800-578-8750). Para Español: [1-888-808-7462](tel:1-888-808-7462).

1800 Saint Julian Place, Suite 104, Columbia, SC 29204
How will the school district communicate with families so we have up-to-date information related to student schedule, instruction, progress monitoring, or any information related to COVID-19? How can families connect with schools?

If you are considering in-person instruction:

• What are the health and safety precautions my school is requiring?

• Is a face mask required? __________

• Is the school providing face masks to students? To employees? __________________________

• Will everyone’s temperature be taken before entering the school? __________________________

• How will social distancing occur? __________________________

• How will they maintain a healthy environment? (ex. cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces) __________________________

• What happens if my child’s teacher tests positive for COVID-19? __________________________

• What happens if my child tests positive for COVID-19? __________________________

• How will my child’s school bus be cleaned? __________________________

• Will there be any special requirements or restrictions regarding what my child should bring to school?

• What protocols will be in place for lunch, recess, or break times during the daily in-person schedule?
If you are considering virtual only instruction:

• What will a typical day look like for my child in remote learning?

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_______________________________________________________________________________________________

• What resources will be available for families with limited internet options or lack of devices?

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_______________________________________________________________________________________________

• Will training be provided to me as a parent to learn how to assist with online learning for my child?

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• How will social skills and mental health concerns be addressed in a virtual environment?

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• How will online bullying be monitored if distance learning is in session?

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• If my child starts the school year remotely, may I send him/her back to in-person training learning later in the year?

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Special Education Considerations

Does our school have a SPED Parent Liaison? If so, how do I get in contact with them?

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How will related services be provided to my child in each of the learning environment options?


How will schools ensure Least Restricted Environment (LRE) and a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for my student?


How will inclusion work for my child? Especially if socialization and inclusion are part of my child's IEP?


Will my child need a new Individualized Education Plan (IEP)?


How will my child’s IEP goals be tracked if we choose online learning?


How will my child’s accommodations/modifications be delivered in general education classrooms if I choose online learning?


If my child has behavioral goals, how will these goals be implemented and monitored?
How will evaluations occur if we stay in a 5-day virtual session?

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What plan is in place to support students who may have fallen behind during the school closures?

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Will retention be considered for students with significant gaps or delays in expected academic gains?

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Make a written list of pros/cons of in-person classes at school vs. in-home virtual learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-Person Classes</th>
<th>In-Home Virtual Learning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pros:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Pros:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cons:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cons:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Many families are wondering whether their child should go to school in-person or learn from home online. The statements below may help you identify some things that you and your family are concerned about. You may want to discuss this list with your doctor or nurse, especially if your child has any health issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Very Concerned</th>
<th>Somewhat Concerned</th>
<th>Not Very Concerned</th>
<th>Not Concerned At All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My child’s risk of getting sick from COVID-19</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Another household member’s risk of getting sick from COVID-19 (other than my child’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>My child’s mood and behavior</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another household member’s mood and behavior (other than my child’s)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>My child’s ability to socialize with friends</td>
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<tr>
<td>My child’s access to a computer or device to participate in school, medical care or therapies</td>
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<tr>
<td>My child’s access to food from school</td>
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<tr>
<td>My child’s access to additional services and supports (for example speech therapy)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Having enough money to pay our bills</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Information collected from University of Miami Health System Mailman Center for Child Development, Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and Family Network of Disabilities.