

Brown County Schools

Return to School Plan 2020-2021

Addressing Community Spread in Brown County Schools

(As determined by the Brown County Health Department and the Indiana State Department of Health)

Substantial Spread	Minimal or Moderate Spread	Low to No Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none">COVID spread is such that rolling closures are needed (could be short term or long term)<u>Substantial active exposure cases or absences</u> impacting school building attendance, and staffing16%+ of the student population (per building) is reporting symptoms of COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establish and maintain communication with Local Health Department OfficialsMinimal or moderate <u>active exposure cases at school buildings</u>11-15% of the student population (per building) is reporting symptoms of COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establish and maintain communication with Local Health Department OfficialsLow to few known active exposure cases <u>at school buildings</u>0-10% of the student population (per building) is reporting symptoms of COVID-19.

Risk Mitigation Approach

Conduct self-screening (prevent sick people from attending school/work), **Provide options** (take care of all who cannot attend, until they can), **Promote hygiene** (hand washing), **Increase cleaning** (disinfect surfaces), **Keep kids in cohort groups as much as possible** (support tracing), **Maximize distance** (as feasible), **Avoid large groups** (where possible), **Allow masks** (support those who do)

Decisions based on: 1) medical advice, 2) what is feasible/practicable, 3) what parents will support

The Brown County Schools Return to School Plan is organized as follows:

Screening - Exclusion - Reporting

Teaching and Learning

Protective Measures

Protecting Vulnerable Populations

Cleaning and Sanitizing

Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular

Transporting Students

Serving Meals

Screening - Exclusion - Reporting

Current Statistics for Brown County	Source: https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm
Parent Screening Measures before a child leaves home (keep child home if one or more symptoms not otherwise explained):	<p>Symptoms of COVID-19: Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher; Sore throat; New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/ asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline); Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain; New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever; Loss of taste or smell *usually presents with more than one symptom.</p> <p>A child (or employee) should stay home from school if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit one or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 listed above based on CDC Guidance that is not otherwise explained. Parents/Guardians must call and report the absence if remaining home for this reason.</p>
Return to school after having one or more symptoms above and <u>NO COVID 19 test:</u>	The individual must remain home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms; Siblings and household members should follow the close contact chart below for exclusion; If diagnosed with another condition that explains the symptoms, such as ear or bladder infection, individual does not need to isolate and close contacts do not need to quarantine, doctor's note required to return to school.
Return to school after having one or more symptoms above and testing negative for COVID 19:	The individual must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of symptoms, unless otherwise advised by a healthcare provider; If diagnosed with another condition, the individual must complete the exclusion period for the diagnosed disease; Please provide proof of negative COVID-19 test (not antibody).
Return to school after having one or more symptoms above and testing POSITIVE for COVID 19 with symptoms:	<p>CALL THE COVID-19 POSITIVE TEST HOTLINE: 812-988-3477 This phone number dials directly to the Superintendent. Call this number ONLY if there is a positive case in your home.</p> <p>The individual must isolate at home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement in symptoms; Repeat testing is NOT recommended for making decisions about when people can return to work or school; Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow the close contact chart below.</p>
Return to school after testing POSITIVE for COVID 19 and asymptomatic (no symptoms):	Must isolate at home for 10 days after the day the sample was collected; Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow the close contact chart below.
If someone in your home or someone you have been in close contact (within 6 ft for more than 15 minutes) with has tested positive for COVID 19:	https://drive.google.com/file/d/14rE-6ZaZiU7Y4CEbKi7rLKv5li-OoGAU/view?usp=sharing

Decision Making Model Based on Level of COVID-19 Spread

Level of Spread	Substantial Spread (Plan C, until we can return to plan B)	Minimal or Moderate Spread (Plan B, until we can return to Plan A)	Low to No Spread (Plan A)
Instructional Model	Remote Learning until Community Spread decreases and then transition back to the Hybrid A/B Schedule with Remote Learning	<p>Hybrid A/B Schedule (brick and mortar and Remote Learning) 50% of students attend traditional school. Remote Learning on days students not in school.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-or-</p> <p>100% Remote Learning option available for students/families that do not feel safe or comfortable returning to the traditional learning (brick and mortar) or for students who are high risk</p>	<p>Traditional Learning (brick and mortar) 100% of students attend traditional school every day</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-or-</p> <p>100% Remote Learning option available for students/families that do not feel safe or comfortable returning to the traditional learning (brick and mortar) or for students who are high risk</p>
Level of Response	<p>Remote Learning will provide instruction from the teacher just as if the student was in the classroom. This may be a flipped model with a recorded instructional lesson followed by a “live” session or a “live” instructional session. All sessions (live and recorded) will be recorded for later viewing on Canvas. Students will be expected to attend all sessions and complete all work. Counselors are available for students.</p> <p>Short term closures for cleaning Extended closures for community spread</p> <p>100% Remote Learning Option Maintained.</p>	<p>Hybrid A/B Schedule: Students are assigned one of two schedules (and assigned as a family) in order to reduce occupancy on buses and building by 50%)</p> <p>100% Remote Learning Option Maintained.</p>	<p>School buildings are open with additional cleaning, safety, and protective measures in place. Teachers will provide instruction based on a traditional schedule. Technology used in the classroom will help students who participate in Remote Learning to participate.</p> <p>100% Remote Learning option will provide instruction from the teacher just as if the student was in the classroom. This may be a flipped model with a recorded instructional lesson followed by a “live” session or a “live” instructional session. All sessions (live and recorded) will be recorded for later viewing on Canvas. Students will be expected to attend all sessions and complete all work. Counselors are available for students.</p>

Teaching and Learning

Substantial Spread	Minimal or Moderate Spread	Low to No Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No students or staff in buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as low to no spread • Hybrid A/B Schedule • Provide educational content on Canvas on the days students are not in school (with support) until they come back the following scheduled day • Facilities and buses are occupied at 50% to support social distancing • Students with the last name of A-K will be on the "Blue Team" and will physically attend school on Mondays and Tuesdays and engage in remote learning on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. • Students with the last name of L-Z will be on the "Gold Team" and will physically attend school on Thursdays and Fridays and engage in remote learning on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. • Adjustments will be made for family members with different last names. • All students will be engaged in remote learning on Wednesdays. • Remote learning will be 100% online for grades 5-12. • Remote learning will be online and/or paper/pencil for grades K-4. • Athletics and ECA's may practice on days when school is not in session. Students are not required to attend an Athletic or ECA practice if the school day is not in session and the student does not have transportation. • BCS Preschool Programs will remain open daily during the Yellow Level. Students will attend on their regularly scheduled days under the following conditions: Clearance by school and local health officials is provided for the program to remain open; Preschool teachers, school administration, health office, food service, and custodial staff will be present during program hours of operation; Special transportation is accessible to students with disabilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff and students self-screen each day before starting the day • Staff/students are required to wear masks, per Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-37. • Staff/students will have a mask with them at all times. • Desks are separated as much as possible, unnecessary furniture is removed • Physical education held outside when weather permissible • Limit large group gatherings • Discourage the congregation of students in parking lots and common areas • Designating areas of the hallway (i.e. lanes) to walk to keep students separated (to the extent practicable) • Students are kept in a cohort group PK-4 and teachers rotate to the students, if necessary • Assigned seating

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Protective Measures

Substantial Spread	Minimal or Moderate Spread	Low to No Spread
No students or staff in buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as low to no spread • Hybrid A/B Schedule • Facilities and buses are occupied at 50% to support social distancing • A school will transition from the Green Level to the Yellow Level if a school sustains 11% of the building population evidencing symptoms of Covid-19 as indicated by the daily symptom tracker for two consecutive days. • When a school transitions from the Green Level to the Yellow Level, the entire student population will be excluded from school for one day. During the one day of exclusion, the schools will be deep cleaned and the schedule for student attendance will be distributed. • Schools will remain on the Yellow Level for at least four weeks. If a scheduled school break falls closely to that window, the Yellow Level may be extended to the conclusion of that break. When that time is indicated, the school will return to the Green Level. • When in the Yellow Level, if daily percentages of students in the building with COVID-19 symptoms reaches 16% for two consecutive days, the school will move to the Red Level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff self-screen each day before starting the day • Staff/students are required to wear masks, per Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-37. • Teach and reinforce good hygiene practices like hand washing, covering coughs, etc. • Signs are posted throughout the school about how to minimize the spread, how to wash hands, and staying home when you are sick • Hands are washed/sanitized at the start of school, prior to eating, after using the restroom, after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing, and after using shared equipment • Playground—recess times are staggered, hand washing or sanitizing prior to and after recess, equipment is cleaned daily • Spread desks apart in the classroom. Seating charts are maintained • All desks face the same direction, when possible • Students are kept in a cohort group PK-4 and teachers rotate to the student, if necessary • If desks are shared, they are wiped between use • Minimize the use of shared supplies and materials. Sanitize between each use if shared as feasible • Protocols established for students who begin to feel sick at school, including isolation rooms in each building • Water fountains are closed. Students bring water bottles from home. Bottled water provided by the food service program. • Reporting process in place to track symptoms, absence, COVID cases, and communicate with the health department • Passing period release times are staggered. • Visitors to the building will be screened for symptoms related to COVID-19 and temperature checked. • Before and After School Care will be offered to students in grades PreK - 8. (7-8 at BCIS)

Protecting Vulnerable Populations

Substantial Spread	Minimal or Moderate Spread	Low to No Spread
No students or staff in buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hybrid A/B Schedule • Facilities at 50% occupation to promote social distancing and the use of high touch surfaces • Allow vulnerable students to complete their coursework virtually through the 100% Remote Learning option • Establish a process for regular check-ins with vulnerable students and staff • Allow an early transition for vulnerable students to go to classes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 100% remote learning option • Provide high-risk students and staff accommodations • Establish a point-of-contact with the local health department • Identify local COVID-19 testing sites • Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff • Staff/students are required to wear masks, per Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-37. • Allow vulnerable students to complete their coursework virtually through the 100% Remote Learning option • Establish a process for regular check-ins with vulnerable students and staff • Allow an early transition for vulnerable students to go to classes • Limit large group gatherings/ Interactions for vulnerable students and staff • Students who test positive for COVID or who are quarantined may shift to remote learning until they can return.

Cleaning and Sanitizing

Substantial Spread	Minimal or Moderate Spread	Low to No Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deep cleaning procedures conducted by custodial staff at the direction of the Director of Facilities or Designee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as cleaning in low to no spread Hybrid A/B Schedule Facilities at 50% occupation to promote social distancing and reduce the use of high touch surfaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cleaning budget increased to add equipment, supplies and contracted services as needed All staff self-screen each day before starting shifts Soap and hand sanitizer are available throughout the building and in each classroom Routine cleaning is performed on a regularly scheduled basis by district custodial staff assigned to that building or area. Routine cleaning includes daily cleaning and disinfecting of all restrooms, scheduled sweeping of all floors, sanitizing of cafeteria tables, emptying trash and other building based tasks Supplemental cleaning is performed by custodial staff over and above what is considered routine. Supplemental cleaning is focused on cleaning and disinfecting high touch surfaces, specifically for the purpose of preventing spread of disease Emergency cleaning: The emergency cleaning plan will be implemented at the direction of the Superintendent or designee in response to an actual infection located at or attributed to a particular school or location or when directed by County or State health authorities Upon direction to implement an emergency cleaning plan, the facility will be evacuated and plans for the length and scope of facility closure will be communicated to the public and staff. This may only affect a portion of the facility.

Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular

Substantial Spread	Minimal or Moderate Spread	Low to No Spread
No students or staff in buildings or on school grounds All school practices, meetings, activities, concerts, performances, and competitions are canceled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as low to no spread response • Hybrid A/B Schedule • Events, activities and crowd attendance evaluated with county health department • Athletics and ECA's may practice on days when school is not in session. Students are not required to attend an Athletic or ECA practice if the school day is not in session and the student does not have transportation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff/students are required to wear masks, per Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-37. • All equipment must be sanitized before and after every use • Students must supply water bottles and no sharing of water bottles will be allowed • Locker rooms used at 50% capacity, or at AD scheduling. No clothing may be left at school. All athletes must take clothing home each day to be washed • Students must wash hands for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer before and after all workouts • Gathering sizes should be decreased. Workouts should be in small groups with the same group. Half capacity should be used. • Free weight lifts may be conducted. Spotters should wear masks while spotting a lift • Contact is limited to only contact necessary to compete as defined by the IHSAA • Schedule may be adjusted to reduce the number of events, duration, and participants present • Spectators may be present at competitions, but must social distance. Spectators may be limited. • Concessions can be sold in prepared, prepackaged formats. Food handlers and cashiers must be separate • Deploy 2020-2021 Phased Athletic Return to Play Plan issued by IHSAA • For specific ECA's (Choir/Band/Theater) and all athletics, if a student is presenting with symptoms related to COVID-19 and is quarantined, the student will be permitted to return to perform/play after the quarantine period expires AND the student receives a negative COVID-19 test.

Transporting Students

Substantial Spread	Minimal or Moderate Spread	Low to No Spread
School buildings are closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as transporting students in low to no spread. • Hybrid A/B Schedule • Bus occupation is at 50% permitting greater social distancing. • Bus routes will remain the same and will run every day to meet the needs of other schools that are running in the “Green” level of the plan. • If an inclement weather day is called on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday and remote learning is not deployed, Wednesday may be used as a makeup day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents may transport children to and from school as they feel most comfortable • Assigned seats on buses, siblings sit together • All staff self-screen each day before starting routes • Hand sanitizer available on the bus • Parents are to conduct health screening (page 2) prior to placing students on the bus and have students wash hands prior to getting on the bus. Do not send children to school if they have any symptoms (see page 2) • Students may use hand sanitizer as they enter the bus • Masks are required to be worn by bus drivers and students at all times. If a student refuses to wear a mask, they will not be transported. • Bus is cleaned and disinfected between each route • Field trips are cancelled for at least the first semester. • Students will wash hands or utilize hand sanitizer upon arrival at school • Student drop off and pickup should avoid the gathering of large groups. • Unloading and loading of students will be staggered. • No eating on the bus unless medically necessary. • Students need to consistently ride the same bus for the morning and afternoon routes.

Serving Meals

Substantial Spread	Minimal or Moderate Spread	Low to No Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School buildings are closed • Reduce contact by providing a week's worth of meals at one pick up • Serve 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, and 5 dinners for pickup one day per week at distribution sites used during the summer • All staff in masks • Return to bus-delivered food as was done in the spring and summer (subject to USDOE waivers). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as serving meals in low to no spread. • Hybrid A/B Schedule • Facility occupation is at 50% permitting greater social distancing. • Food Service will provide meals for families for days when students do not physically attend school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students wash hands prior to breakfast and lunch • Hand sanitizer is provided for students and staff • Food service staff are required to wear masks • No self-serve service available • Assigned seating in the lunchroom or students assigned as groups to tables to support cohorting and tracing. • Scan cards used in place of keypads as feasible • Disposable plates and utensils are utilized • Cafeteria is cleaned between each meal service • Floor is marked to space students while they wait to receive their meals • Food should not be shared • Students go in small groups to dispose of trash in cans spread throughout the cafeteria

