



2021-22 Return to Learn FAQ

*Texas Education Agency (TEA) and local guidelines are fluid and continuously developing. Hillsboro ISD will continue to communicate as changes are made. Due to the changing nature of COVID-19, stricter guidelines may be put in place based on local infection rate. We encourage all employees and students 12 and older to get vaccinated.

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is test-confirmed with COVID-19, until the conditions for re-entry are met.

- **What are the learning options for students and families?**
 - We believe that it is important for students to be at school with their teachers, friends, and peers to develop academically and socially so face-to-face-learning will be the only learning model provided.

Updated Aug. 20,
2021

Face-to-Face Learning (PK-12)

- On-campus classes with face-to-face instruction will be taught by HISD teachers.
- Curriculum, grading, and attendance policies will apply.

Updated Sept 2,
2021

- **What if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?**
 - Anyone who is actively sick with COVID-19, tests positive, or is symptomatic with 2 or more COVID-19 symptoms will be required to **stay home for 10 days**.
 - Stay-at-home (quarantine) period can end for students or staff experiencing no major symptoms **on day 10 or a negative COVID-19 test result on day 7 or after**.
- **If a child must stay home because they have COVID-19, will they be allowed to learn virtually during that time?**
 - No, if the *school requires* a student to stay home because of any illness, including COVID-19, the student will be counted absent but will have the opportunity to complete classwork through work packets or electronic resources such as Google Classroom. We will follow make-up work guidelines found in the student handbook.
- **Will Attendance and Truancy laws still apply?**
 - Yes, attendance and truancy laws still apply and will be enforced. If a student is quarantined due to COVID-19, a doctor's note will be required for an excused absence. If parents keep their children at home due to close contact, the student will be counted absent and must complete make-up work. As with other absences, a parent or doctor's note will be required.

Updated Aug. 20,
2021

- **How is HISD addressing the health and safety of staff and students?**
 - Staff and students will not be required to wear a mask **but strongly encouraged** if they have not been vaccinated.
 - Parents **must not** send a child to school if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.

- HISD will continue with intensified cleaning efforts of all facilities and buses, particularly high touch surfaces..
- Classrooms will be equipped with small spray sanitizing equipment and cloths.
- Frequent hand washing
- Hand sanitizer will be available
- Water bottle filling stations will be available on each campus.
- ***Are students required to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)?***
 - Per GA-38, school systems can not require students or staff to wear PPE. School systems must allow individuals to wear a mask if they choose.
 - Masks, if worn, must meet dress code requirements--no obscene/offensive language or graphics.
- ***Will the District provide students with PPE?***
 - No.
- Updated Aug. 20, 2021 ***Will HISD conduct contact tracing?***
 - Yes. In accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), schools will notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a classroom or extracurricular or after-school program if a test-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participated in those classrooms or activities.
- Updated Aug. 20, 2021 ***How will communication occur when/if a student or staff member tests positive? Will parents be notified? Will the class be expected to quarantine?***
 - The district will communicate positive cases of COVID-19 through a campus letter on the campus and district websites and social media.
 - Due to FERPA regulations, we will not communicate who tested positive.
 - The class will not be expected to quarantine.
- Updated Sept. 2, 2021 ***What if students are exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID-19?***
 - If parents are aware that their child has been in close contact with an individual who has tested positive in their home or are awaiting COVID-19 test results, they will be **required** to stay at home.
 - Parents of students who are determined to be close contacts of an individual with COVID-19(outside the home) are **strongly advised** to keep their students at home during the recommended stay-at-home period. Parents who opt to send their children to school in the two weeks following exposure are encouraged to closely monitor their children for symptoms.
- ***Will parents be allowed to enter the campus during the day?***
 - Yes, parents will be allowed to enter the building to drop off lunches (but not birthday treats to be shared) or student work as well as pick up a child for an appointment. Parents will not be allowed to eat lunch with their child or visit classrooms.
 - To limit the possibility of increased exposure, no visitors will be allowed outside the office area of each campus during the school day.
 - Parents can still schedule face-to-face meetings with the campus administration if needed. These meetings may also be held via phone call, Zoom or Google Meet if possible.