

Owen County Schools

2020-2021 Return to School Frequently Asked Questions

Questions are grouped into four topic areas. Scroll down and look for these icons to help navigate this document.



Wellness



Instruction



Building
Management



Transportation



Wellness Questions/Answers

Q1: Will all students be REQUIRED to wear masks?

A1: Yes. Per the [Healthy at School Guidelines](#) provided by the Department of Public Health, students in K-12th grades will be required to wear masks. All masks must meet the guidelines of the school dress code. Students who do not have their own mask will be provided with one upon entering the bus or school building.

Q2: Are there any specifications for my child(ren)'s mask?

A2: Students may wear either cloth or disposable fabric face mask. Masks should cover the nose and mouth in order to effectively prevent the spread of respiratory droplets. Masks can be any color or fabric as long as they do not include any text/graphics that would violate your school's dress code guidelines. Masks should also: (1) fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face, (2) be secured with ties or ear loops, (3) include multiple layers of fabric, (4) allow for breathing without restriction (5) be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape, and (6) cover both nose and mouth.

Q3: What happens if my child comes to school with a FEVER greater than 100.4?

A3: Per the Healthy at Schools guidance document, schools will have a designated area for isolation of sick students with an ability to maintain adult supervision until the child is picked up by parent, guardian, or designee. Students in isolation should wear a face covering while waiting for transport.

Q4: What will happen if there is a positive case of COVID-19 in my child(ren)'s classroom?

A4: Upon any positive case of COVID-19, these decisions will be made in consultation with our local Health Department. Communication procedures for reporting cases to families/staff is handled by our local Health Department and their infectious disease staff. In addition, remote learning options may become necessary for your child(ren). These same guidelines would also apply to extracurricular groups (e.g. sports teams, band, clubs, etc.).

Q5: As a working parent, will I need to prepare for possible intermittent school closures?

A5: Yes. Based on guidance from the Kentucky Department of Education, families should prepare for intermittent school closures or periods of Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) throughout the school year. Please plan accordingly to have childcare arrangements for your child should these closures occur.

Q6: Will water be provided to students? Will water fountains be closed?

A6: Yes. Bottled water will be provided to students. Water fountains will be closed for use.

Q7: Will students be permitted to play outside for wellness time? Will playground equipment be sanitized?

A7: Schools will develop schedules to provide wellness time for students to be on the playground/outdoors and time to sanitize equipment between each group of students. Playground time will be scheduled for individual class/groups to minimize contacts. Hand washing will occur immediately before and after using the playground.

Q8: Will my child's temperature be screened daily at school?

A8: Yes. All students and staff will have daily temperature screenings. We also ask that parents check your child's temperature DAILY before boarding the bus or is dropped off at the school. If your child(ren) has a fever greater than 100.4, or are symptomatic, parents should keep children home and contact the school.

Q9: What happens if my child is diagnosed with COVID-19 or quarantined due to COVID-19 exposure?

A9: Parents and guardians are required by [KRS 158.160](#) to report to the school principal within 24 hours if a student tests positive for COVID-19 or been quarantined due to COVID-19 exposure.



Instruction Questions/Answers

Q1: What are the expectations for individualizing use of hands-on manipulatives? Will any sharing of materials be allowed? (i.e. Chromebooks, iPads, school supplies, etc.)

A1: Materials (i.e. math manipulatives, science equipment, etc.) can only be shared if they are used individually and then sanitized before being used by another student. Students will not be allowed to share common classroom materials (i.e. scissors, pencils, Chromebooks, etc.). So, schools will be very specific about the materials that you will need to provide for your student in the student supply list.

Q2: If my family chooses remote learning, will we need to have our own reliable device and Internet?

A2: No. You will not need a device. The district will be providing a device for ALL students enrolled in Owen County Schools. However, families choosing remote learning should have access to a high-quality Internet connection.

Q3: Will a parent have a choice of remote learning instead of traditional in-person instruction for their child(ren)?

A3: Yes, parents do have the option. However, we want to reinforce that students have the greatest success when instruction is delivered in person. If your child was not successful during remote learning, this may not be the best learning option. Please understand, as conditions change, students may be required to return to Traditional Learning and OCS Remote Learning may no longer be offered.

Q4: Can students receiving remote learning be eligible for extra-curricular activities?

A4: Yes. Students must be enrolled in an Owen County School (including those choosing OCS Remote Learning) and meet eligibility criteria in order to participate.

Q5: Will students be able to be pulled out for resource services (GT/SPED/EL)? If not, how will it be accommodated?

A5: Special education, English learners, and gifted/talented students may receive services as long as [Healthy at Schools Guidelines](#) are followed.

Q6: Will the students on remote learning follow the same curriculum as traditional, in-person, classes?

A6: Yes, it will be critical for students on remote learning to be exposed to all of the grade-level content. All Owen County Schools will follow the school-level curriculum maps and pacing guides.

Q7: With both types of instruction taking place (traditional/remote learning) will students be held to the same expectations/grading?

A7: Yes, remote learning expectations/grading will align with the same expectations for students receiving traditional instruction.

Q8: If students choose remote learning, will they be required to take state assessments (K-PREP) or ACT?

A8: Yes, students will not be exempt from these assessments if they choose remote learning.

Q9: Will school counselors continue to work with students from their own school who have moved to remote learning?

A9: Yes, counselors at each individual school will be responsible for working with the students that choose remote learning. School based therapy will also be provided based on the needs of students.

Q10: Can my child start on OCS Remote Learning and then switch to traditional instruction? Will students be able to transition between traditional and OCS Remote Learning?

A10: A continuous and consistent learning environment is best for student success. For the sake of continuity, students will be expected to complete a 9-week grading period regardless of traditional instruction or remote learning.

Q11: Will students take a diagnostic assessment (such as Measures of Academic Progress) in order to determine their current skill level upon returning to school?

A11: Yes, the Measures of Academic Progress test will be administered at designated grade levels once school starts to help guide instruction for students.

Q12: Will schools continue to hold Admissions and Release Committee (ARC) meetings and other parent conferences?

A12: Yes, ARC and other parent conferences will continue to be held.



Building Management Questions and Answers

Q1: Will the CLC program and other afterschool activities be available when school resumes?

A1: At this time, afterschool activities are being reviewed in consultation with the local Health Department. As conditions change, the availability of programs will be considered.

Q2: Will parents and visitors be allowed in the school buildings during the school day?

A2: Until further notice, parents and visitors will only be allowed in the school buildings for academic purposes. Anyone needing to visit a school must schedule an appointment with the school office. [Healthy at Schools](#) guidelines must be followed.

Q3: Will students enrolled in OCS Remote Learning be provided breakfast and lunch?

A3: OCS Remote Learning students are eligible for free breakfast and lunch. For pickup information, please contact Amy Chappell at 502-484-4002.

Q4: Where will students be eating lunch?

A4: Each building will develop a plan for providing school meals.



Transportation Questions and Answers

Q1: What steps will be taken to limit exposure on school buses?

A1: Students in grades K-12 will be required to wear masks. Drivers and monitors will be required to wear approved face coverings. Seating charts will be implemented. When possible, students will be spaced out on the bus and asked to sit with members of their own household. Buses will be disinfected between runs.

Q2: Will Owen County Schools implement staggered start/end times for schools with large numbers of students?

A2: At this time, no change to start and end times have been made.

Q3: Will my child be required to use hand sanitizer upon entering the bus?

A3: All students will be required to apply hand sanitizer when entering an Owen County School bus each morning and afternoon and throughout the school day. The hand sanitizer will be provided by the district.

Q4: Students who are enrolled in iLEAD, Carroll County ATC, and dual credit. Will transportation continue for these students?

A4: Yes, transportation will still be provided. Students will be required to follow the transportation guidelines.

Information in this document is subject to change. Please know additional specific information will be shared as plans are developed. If you have questions that were not addressed in this document, please contact your building-level principal.

Watch our district social media sites and website for updates.

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