



COVID – 19 Hybrid-In Person/Virtual Learning Plan for September 2020

The Rebecca School leadership in collaboration with the staff and families and ensuring we follow the NYS DOH, NYSED, NYC DOH, NYCDOE and the CDC guidelines created this hybrid plan for learning for September 2020 having the students, staff and families safety and wellbeing as the priority.

If the staff and students cannot be in the school building, as determined by the guidelines, all education services will be provided by virtual learning platforms.

If the staff and students can be in the school building, the policies and procedures below will be implemented.

Theresa Millerschoen, the school nurse, is Rebecca School's Designated COVID-19 Point of Contact.

In an effort to limit exposure, students will attend in person 2 days per week, and 3 days per week will be Virtual. Families may opt out of in person learning and choose virtual learning full time. The school will be split with 9 classrooms on 2 days (Group A Tuesday and Wednesday) and the other 9 classrooms on the other 2 days (Group B Thursday and Friday). Classes will stay together throughout the school day. Monday will be Virtual for all students and staff. In person learning will focus on services that benefit from being in person. Therapists and classroom staff will be split into Group A or Group B. Virtual learning will continue with a combination of Zoom individual and group sessions and Edmodo. Any related services not delivered in person will be conducted through Zoom.

Art and APE teachers will go to the classrooms instead of students' going to them.

Before we reopen, all facilities will be checked. There will be staff and family Zoom Town Halls to discuss our plans and hear questions and/or concerns. The plan will be distributed to staff and families. All communication will be in the families preferred language. The plan will be posted on our website. For the students, there is ongoing exposure and training in the use of masks. Social stories have been sent home and are reinforced during Zoom sessions. There will be weekly communication with staff and families to support understanding and maintaining all necessary actions to prevent the spread.

We will promote behaviors that reduce spread:

Staff and students who are sick or recently had close contact with COVID-19 are strongly encouraged to stay home. Staff and students that test positive or are showing COVID-19 symptoms must stay home.

There will be signage throughout the school on how to protect yourself from COVID-19 and stop the spread of germs including; to stay home if you feel sick, cover your nose and mouth with an acceptable face covering when unable to maintain social distance, how to properly store and discard PPE, adhere to social distancing instructions, report symptoms of or exposure to, COVID-19, follow hand hygiene and cleaning and disinfecting guidelines, follow respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette.

In addition to regular intervals, staff and students will wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds upon entering the building and each classroom; after using shared objects or surfaces (e.g. electronic devices, musical instruments, writing utensils, tools, toys, desks or table tops); before and after snacks and lunch; after using the bathroom; after helping a student with toileting; after sneezing, wiping or blowing nose, or coughing into hands; upon coming in from outdoors; and anytime hands are visibly soiled.

If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer will be used. There will be hand sanitizer pumps at the entrance and throughout the school building wherever there are high touch areas. There will be hand sanitizer pumps wherever there is not a sink nearby.

Water coolers will be replaced with bottle filling stations.

Staff and students will be supported to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues will be thrown in the trash and hands will be washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Rebecca School cloth face coverings will be available for all staff and students. Face coverings can be challenging for students to wear all day or even part of the day. Face coverings will be worn by staff and students as feasible, and **most** essentially in times when physical distancing is difficult. Students will be frequently reminded not to touch the face covering or their faces.

Gowns, gloves and clear face shields will be available as needed.

All frequently touched surfaces (e.g., playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the school will be cleaned and disinfected throughout the school day. Shared objects will be limited and if shared cleaned and disinfected between users. The whole school will be cleaned and disinfected nightly.

We will keep a log that documents the date, time and the scope of cleaning/ disinfecting for all areas of the school.

When feasible, seating/desks will be at least 6 feet apart. Areas around the school will be marked to show appropriate distance.

The students will bring meals from home and will be eaten in their classroom with the students 6 feet apart and with plexiglass barriers where needed.

Staff will eat in areas designated as eating areas, marked for 6 feet apart and with plexiglass barriers where needed.

Maintaining Healthy Operations

Prior to entering the building, a screening for all students, faculty, staff, and necessary vendors will be completed daily using a questionnaire that determines whether the individual has:

(a) knowingly been in close or proximate contact in the past 14 days with anyone who has tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 or who has or had symptoms of COVID-19;

Fever or chills (100°F or greater);

Cough;

Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;

Fatigue;

Muscle or body aches;

Headache;

New loss of taste or smell;

Sore throat;

Congestion or runny nose;

Nausea or vomiting; and/or

Diarrhea.

(b) tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 14 days;

(c) has experienced any symptoms of COVID-19, including a temperature of greater than 100.0°F, in the past 14 days;

and/or

d) has traveled internationally or from a state with widespread community transmission of COVID-19 per the New York State Travel Advisory in the past 14 days. The link to these states will be sent with the screening.

Consistent with applicable law and privacy policies, staff and families need to self-report to the school if they or their student have [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, a positive test for COVID-19, or were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days.

We will immediately separate staff and children with COVID-19 symptoms (such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath) at school. Room 122 on the mezzanine, next to the nurses' office is our designated isolation room. A staff or child with symptoms will be placed in the isolation room until further recommendations are made in coordination with NYC DOH, the nurse, and administration. The staff member with the isolated person will wear PPE consisting of gloves, a gown, a N-95 mask (if available or a surgical mask and face shield) and eye protection.

When there is a student and/or staff with a positive screening, they will be provided with information on health care and testing resources. If there is a positive test result, Theresa will notify the NYC and NYS DOH immediately. While maintaining confidentiality, contact tracing will be implemented.

After a person tests positive, they may return with a health care provider evaluation, negative test results and symptom resolution or release from isolation. Theresa will make this determination in consultation with the NYC DOH.

In consultation with the NYC DOH, if cases of COVID-19 are discovered at the school, areas of the school may be closed or the entire school

Arrival and drop-off times will be staggered for all staff and students that are not bussed. Staff will enter by floor 15 minutes apart and dismiss by floor 15 minutes apart. All students not taking a school bus will be taken from parents outside the school and brought to the parent outside the school at the end of the day. There will be designated drop off and pick up times for those students not on a school bus. For students that take the school bus, for arrival staff will take students from one bus at a time, empty that bus and move to the next bus. For dismissal, buses will be loaded one by one. When that bus is complete, we will start on the next bus.

Upon entering the building all staff and students will have their temperature taken with a no contact thermometer. If a student's temperature is 100.0 F or greater, the student will be isolated in our designated isolation room Room 122 on the mezzanine and a parent/guardian will be contacted. The parent/guardian will be expected to pick the student up from school as soon as possible and seek appropriate treatment as recommended by the school nurse based on NYC DOH and CDC guidelines. If a staff member's temperature is 100.0 F or greater, the staff member will be sent home immediately and given further instructions on returning as recommended by the school nurse based on NYC DOH and CDC guidelines.

Other than staff and students, no one else will be allowed to enter the building.

We will not be conducting in person tours, intake assessments or observations. These activities will continue on a virtual platform

All deliveries will be outside the school building.

All field trips and group gatherings will be based on the guidelines in place.

If group gatherings are prohibited, trainings and meetings will be held virtually.

Even with all of the safety protocols we are taking to mitigate the risk of being exposed to coronavirus/COVID-19, we cannot eliminate all risk of possible exposure.