



YES PREP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LEADING HOUSTON FORWARD

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2020-2021 Reopening Guide





Welcome to the 2020-21 School Year

We have been busy working on a full-scale effort to prepare for the safe return of students and staff. We remain firmly committed to the rigorous education and success of our students on their path to college, which is why we are implementing additional health and safety measures to help keep the virus out of our schools.

In this guide, you will find information on the protocols we have put in place for the 2020-2021 school year.

We've missed our students and look forward to a successful year whether learning in person at school or online at home. To all our returning families, welcome back! To all of you starting your first day ever with us, **WELCOME TO YES PREP!**

Safety Video

We know school will seem a little different this fall so we created the following video to give families a glimpse of what students can expect if they return to school for in-person instruction:



REOPENING TIMELINE & OPTIONS



TIMELINE FOR REOPENING IN PERSON

The start of the 2020-2021 school year kicked off on Monday, Aug. 24, with all students learning online from home through Friday, September 25.

For those who choose in-person learning, we are planning a phased-in campus reopening—as conditions permit—starting Monday, September 28, elementary students and students in identified subpopulations in grades 6 - 12.

This phase-in process will last several weeks until all students have the option to participate in the In Person at School learning program beginning the week of October 19.

For more detailed dates, click [HERE](#).



SELECTING LEARNING PROGRAM OPTION

We are offering families two learning programs to choose from for the 2020-21 school year: **YES Prep In Person at School**, or **YES Prep Online at Home**.

All families should complete the [YES PREP PROGRAM SURVEY](#) found in the Skyward Family Portal in order to select the preferred program option for their student. (If you do not have access to Skyward, please email skyward@yesprep.org.) The survey will open on Friday, September 11 and will close for different groups of students at different times.

For more details, click [HERE](#).



SELECTING ONLINE-ONLY OPTION FOR ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR

YES Prep Online at Home learning program will continue as an option for every family this 2020-21 school year. Instruction will be available live online, and students will be engaging in live and recorded instruction.

Once YES Prep In Person at School learning program is available, the curriculum for those learning online will be the same as those learning in person.

While we had hoped to offer an option blending in-person and online learning for families who preferred it, fluctuating local and state guidelines limit our ability to provide the hybrid option for all students.

PHASED-IN CAMPUS REOPENING
BEGINS SEPTEMBER 28, AS
CONDITIONS PERMIT.



HEALTH & SAFETY



SOCIAL DISTANCING & FACE MASKS

Social distancing will be enforced at all schools and classroom seating/space will be structured to allow for social distancing when possible. All classroom tables will be equipped with dividers for when social distancing is not possible and will allow for four (4) students per table.

YES Prep will require masks to be worn by every person for whom it is developmentally appropriate. Masks will be provided to anyone who does not have one. Students will have “mask breaks” during mealtimes and while outside.



TEMPERATURE CHECKS

Self-screening and temperature checks will be required daily for all students and staff. YES Prep staff will use contactless thermometers to take students' temperature every morning in the drop off/carpool line for car riders and at the bus entrance for bus riders.



HAND HYGIENE

YES Prep will have mandatory hygiene practices, including frequent hand washing at designated times throughout the school day. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building, at entry points and in all classrooms.



CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

Enhanced cleaning protocols have been put in place as a result of COVID-19 and are based on current local health and government guidelines.

Hand sanitizer, portable hand sanitizer dispensers, spray cleaners and disinfectant wipes will be available in various locations across each school.

We will require students to sanitize their hands at all entry points and regularly throughout the day via frequent hand washing and the use of sanitizer.



CLASSROOM

Classroom seating/space will be structured to allow for social distancing when possible. All classroom tables will be equipped with dividers for when social distancing is not possible and will allow for four (4) students per table. In order to make sure students are not congregating while on campus, students will be organized into cohorts and staggered dismissal times to reduce the number of students in large group gatherings.

To protect everyone's safety and to minimize the risk of spreading the virus, elementary students will not rotate classrooms throughout the day and secondary students (grades 6-12) will remain in the same classroom for most of the day with teachers rotating instead. When students are required to rotate for specialized classes, these courses will utilize large gathering spaces, such as the cafeteria or gym to maintain social distancing.



VISITORS

No non-essential, visitors will be allowed on any YES Prep campus. Any visitors deemed essential like support staff, will be screened, required to wear a mask and practice mandatory hygiene and social distancing.



TRANSPORTATION

When in-person learning starts, YES Prep will resume providing transportation for all students who live in the zone of their YES Prep school or who have a qualifying circumstance or need.

Buses will be cleaned and sanitized daily, and all students, drivers and monitors will be required to wear masks. All students who ride the bus in the morning will be temperature screened by a staff member upon arrival at the school.

YES Prep staff members will use a contactless thermometer to take students' temperature every morning in the drop off/carpool line for car riders and at the bus entrance for bus riders.



NUTRITION

YES Prep is committed to serving students free healthy meals via grab n' go breakfast and breakfast in the classroom, and we will serve a hot lunch to students in their classrooms or socially distanced in the cafeteria.

Curbside meals will also continue to be available for students who are enrolled in online at-home instruction and to all students 18 years or younger. Five days' worth of meals will be available every Monday each week at all non-partnership YES Prep school from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and beginning September 28, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., until further notice. Students or parents will be required to give their student's name and YES Prep ID number. Partnership families can access meal services at their district campus (Aldine or Spring Branch), or, families can choose to access the YES Prep Meal Service.



SUSPECTED CASE OF COVID-19

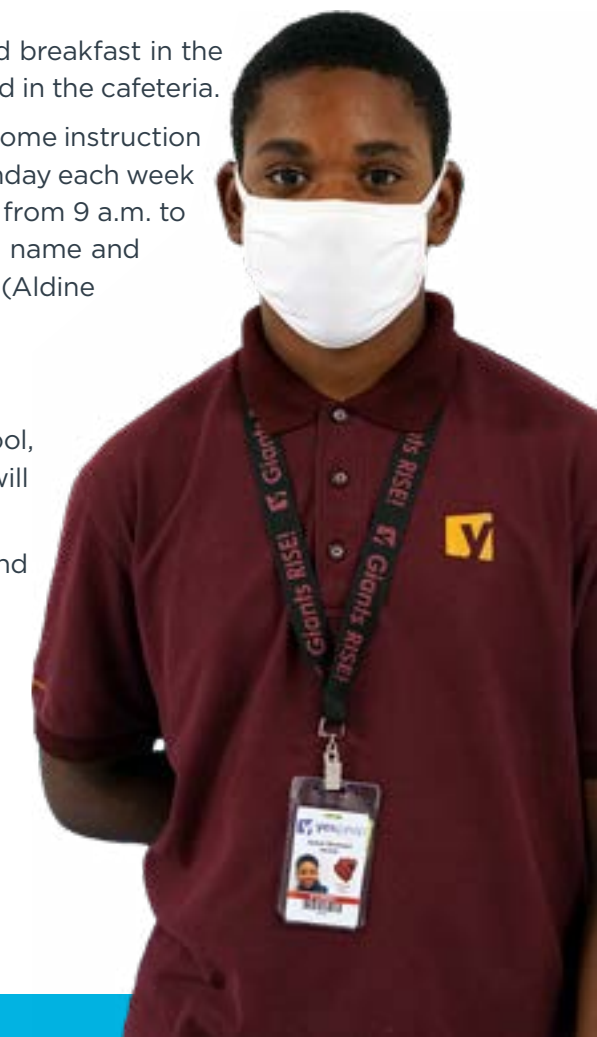
YES Prep will follow CDC guidelines. If a student has symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, the student will immediately be isolated in the designated area and their parent/guardian will be called and be expected to pick up their student(s) immediately.

Any known cases at school will immediately be reported to health officials, school staff and students and parents.



POSITIVE COVID-19 CASE

We will do everything that we can to help keep the virus out of our schools, but as highly infectious as the coronavirus is, we are preparing for every scenario. We will require strict adherence to CDC and state guidelines for isolating at home after a student or staffer is infected or exposed to someone infected. Each YES Prep school will be ready to modify plans and switch classes to distance learning if conditions require school closure for a limited or extended period.



ACADEMICS



2020-21 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Review the 2020-21 Academic Calendar Updates information [HERE](#), and the updated 2020-21 Academic Calendar is available [HERE](#) on the YES Prep website.



SCHOOL START & END TIMES

School day hours will be the same for those attending online at home or in person at school.

- The **elementary school day** will run from 7:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., Monday–Friday.
- The **secondary school day** will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Monday–Friday.
There will be no early dismissal days on Wednesdays.

The daily online schedule will be live and divided by course, just as it is in person. YES Prep teachers will provide live and recorded class instruction online with daily schedules, assignments and personalized support for every student.



ATTENDANCE

Online at Home: Attendance in synchronous sessions will be prioritized and completion of asynchronous work will be verified in order to count towards attendance.

In Person at School: Attendance will be taken for all students daily at 9:30 a.m..



ATHLETICS

Athletic Programming will be virtual at least through October 30 and will include training and E-sports. We will continue to monitor recommendations and guidelines established by the TEA, UIL, and CDC to determine when athletic activities can resume in person.



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities including ACE (Afterschool Centers on Education) afterschool clubs and athletics will be virtual at least through October 30. We will monitor recommendations and guidelines established by the TEA, UIL and CDC to determine when these activities will begin in person.



STAAR TESTING

The State of Texas recently announced that there will continue to be STAAR testing for the 2020-21 school year. At YES Prep STAAR exams will be administered on the computer; however, current state regulations state that all STAAR exams must be administered to students at school, in person. More information to come.



SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS IN SPECIAL POPULATIONS

YES Prep will continue to provide supports for students in our special populations. We will work with our students and families to provide planning, communication and instructional resources to meet the individual needs of students with disabilities, including any services, accommodations and modifications required.



TECHNOLOGY

YES Prep will offer laptops and/or WiFi to all students in grades K-12 who need them, whether they're online at home or in person at school.

If your student needs a laptop and hasn't received one already, please contact your school directly during business hours.

If you do not have access to reliable internet, please complete this [FORM](#) to request assistance with internet access.



UNIFORMS

YES Prep will waive the uniform policy for students for the Fall Semester. Students will follow the "free dress" policy as outlined in the Individual Campus Supplement for their school. Students have the option to wear a YES Prep-issued uniform. A decision for Spring Semester will be made at a later date after collecting family input.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Each campus has posted school supplies lists on their respective websites.



INFORMATION & RESOURCES



COMMUNICATIONS

We know how important communication is for our families and we are committed to keeping you informed, maintaining transparency and streamlining communications. Below is information on some of our most frequently used communications channels and ways you can stay connected with us.

SchoolMessenger: Families may receive weekly district-wide updates and/or emergency announcements via call, text and email.

Website: We will continue to update our website, yesprep.org/reignited, with weekly district-wide updates, latest developments and resources to community services.

Social Media: Follow us on social media to remain up to date on YES Prep's latest and greatest news and stories around the district. We also encourage you to follow your school's Facebook account for school-specific news and highlights.



FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

We have recently added a new Family Resource Center on our website where you can access information, tools and training to support your child's learning journey at YES Prep.

This is a dynamic space that will continue to be updated to share timely connections to community resources, training on the technology tools we will use in a virtual environment, tips on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) at home and guidance on how to use the various communication channels available.



PARTNERSHIP CAMPUSES

YES Prep works in collaboration with our partnership districts, Aldine ISD and Spring Branch ISD, to develop phase-in plans to reopen schools for our students at our partnership sites. For more information on the reopening plans at Hoffman MS, Eisenhower HS, Northbrook MS, and Northbrook HS, please reach out to your child's campus and follow them on social media.

FOR THE LATEST UPDATES AND
INFORMATION VISIT [YESPREP.ORG](https://yesprep.org)





Stay Connected

